



Fact Sheet:



Alcohol and Drug Treatment for Youth

Background

The first alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment funding in California specifically designated for youth was authorized by Assembly Bill 1784 (Baca, Chapter 866, Statutes of 1998). This project utilized Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) funds for youth AOD treatment programs in 20 counties. It also provided for the development of youth treatment program standards. This funding has been incorporated into the Net Negotiated Amount contracting process and is available to all California counties. In Fiscal year 2005-06, \$7.3 million were allocated to counties statewide. Of these funds, \$100,000 provides for a Youth Treatment Technical Assistance contract to help improve access to, and quality of, treatment services to California's youth.

Youth Treatment Services

Youth treatment funds are allocated to counties to provide services such as outreach, early intervention, low and high intensive outpatient treatment, residential treatment (in group home settings and juvenile detention facilities), and continuing care. The focus of services varies by county, depending upon local need and priorities.

Youth Treatment Guidelines and Standards

The Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) established a multi-disciplinary workgroup to develop standards for youth treatment. In 2000, the workgroup completed the *Youth Treatment Guidelines*, a set of best practices, to ensure that youth treatment services are safe, appropriate, and cost-effective. The guidelines are posted on ADP's website at www.adp.ca.gov.

California Access to Recovery Effort (CARE) Program

In 2004, the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration awarded California \$22.8 million for the CARE program. CARE provides vouchers for treatment and recovery support services to substance abusing youth in Los Angeles and Sacramento Counties. The CARE program is demonstrating a model youth treatment program and encourages the involvement of faith-based and other nontraditional providers. The CARE program will expire in August 2007.

Additional information about the CARE program is available at www.californiacares4youth.com.