



Fact Sheet:

Access to Recovery



Also known as the
California Access to Recovery Effort (CARE) Program

On March 4, 2004, the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) released a \$100 million competitive grant for the Access to Recovery (ATR) program. States were eligible to apply for up to \$15 million per year as part of a Presidential initiative to:

- Ensure genuine, free, independent client choice of treatment providers;
- Expand access to a comprehensive array of treatment options, including faith-based and other nontraditional options, increase capacity; and
- Ensure accountability and effectiveness by monitoring outcomes, tracking costs, preventing waste, fraud, and abuse.

The Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP), in collaboration with a stakeholder workgroup, designed the CARE program grant application. On August 3, 2004, SAMHSA announced that California was among the 14 states and one tribal organization awarded the ATR grant. ADP will receive \$7.6 million annually for three years from SAMHSA for the CARE program.

The CARE program provides vouchers to substance-abusing 12-20 year olds in Los Angeles and Sacramento for treatment and recovery support

services. Eligible youth are able to choose from an expanded number and type of providers, including faith-based organizations and other nontraditional providers.

Any organization in Los Angeles or Sacramento that meets the eligibility criteria may apply for the program, including public, private, nonprofit, proprietary, faith-based, and other nontraditional organizations. No organization will be discriminated against, in accordance with the federal Charitable Choice regulations (42 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 54 and 54a).

CARE program services include assessment, outpatient and short-term residential treatment, and recovery support services. Recovery support services include a wide array of activities and services to improve participation in treatment and to support continued recovery, such as educational and employment supports, mentoring, childcare and transportation. The CARE program will expire in August 2007.

For more information about the CARE program, and details on how to participate, please visit the CARE website at CaliforniaCares4youth.com.