



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Board of Supervisors

DATE: October 5, 2006
BOARD MEETING DATE: November 7, 2006
SPECIAL NOTICE/HEARING: No
VOTE REQUIRED: Majority

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: Rich Gordon ^{RM} and Rose Jacobs Gibson ^{RJG}
SUBJECT: Alcohol and Other Drugs Strategic Directions 2010

RECOMMENDATION:

We recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve the Alcohol and Other Drugs Strategic Directions 2010 and its implementation

VISION ALIGNMENT:

Commitment: Ensure basic health and safety for all.

Goal: 8. Help vulnerable people-the aged, disabled, mentally ill, at-risk youth and others-achieve a better quality of life.

Commitment: Responsive, effective and collaborative government.

Goal: 20. Government decisions are based on careful consideration of future impact, rather than temporary relief or immediate gain.

BACKGROUND:

It is well documented and recognized that alcohol and other drug related problems reaches far and wide in our county. The harmful affects are seen daily in our child welfare system, our hospital emergency rooms, our jails and criminal and juvenile justice system, our homeless population, and schools. Significant public resources are directed toward responding to these collateral consequences.

Over time, resources from federal, state and local funding authorities aimed toward alleviating these problems have been relatively stagnant, while the providing

services becomes more challenging.

It is estimated that as many as 20,000 persons in San Mateo County are in need of and could benefit from AOD treatment in the public sector. However, only approximately 4,000 persons receive treatment.

DISCUSSION:

As part of planning process many significant challenges were identified that must be addressed in the near and longer term future if we are to realize any significant improvements. Among these challenges includes: improving access to services, responding to the chronic nature of addiction, breaking the cycle of familial addiction, reducing environmental factors contributing to use and abuse, maximizing resources and effort, and tracking and reporting progress.

Over the past two years increasing attention has been given to addressing these problems. For example, in June of this year, the Board of Supervisors approved the "Roadmap for Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Prevention: A Guide for Community Action". The Roadmap embraces a full range of approaches to ATOD prevention, founded upon the acknowledgement of individual communities' assets and needs. Other related efforts include: the co-occurring system transformation project, jail re-entry, HOPE, HOME, System Improvement Project, Partnership for Safe and Healthy Children, and the G.I.R.L.S. program.

Desired Results for Strategic Directions 2010

Three strategic directions with related outcomes are identified:

1. Priority Populations-consisting of families with young children, youth, homeless, and adults in the criminal justice system.
Outcomes: sobriety and recovery, stable finances and housing, improved occupational/school performance, utilization of primary healthcare, connection to pro-social activities
2. Systems Improvement-consisting of cultural responsiveness, integration, co-occurring disorders, methamphetamine impact, access, and data collection/reporting
Outcomes: enhance community health and well-being, decrease collateral costs, decrease multi-generational addiction, establish partnerships, improve connections among individuals, peers, families, and communities
3. Building Capacity- consisting of resource development and sustainability
Outcomes: use existing funds and resources more effectively and efficiently, increase access to a larger number and broader range of clients

FISCAL IMPACT:

1. There is no fiscal impact for Fiscal Year 06-07

2. Resources required to implement Strategic Directions 2010 commencing in FY 07-08 will be comprised of
 - existing funds used more efficiently through better coordination, streamlining and integration and;
 - local funds to leverage state and federal resources