



**County of San Mateo
Drug and Alcohol Advisory
Board (DAAB)**

Annual Report

December 2006



Final Report

This is the last report of the Drug and Alcohol Advisory Board. The recently approved Strategic Plan calls for a revised structure.

DAAB Structure and Operations

This Annual Report of the County of San Mateo Drug and Alcohol Advisory Board (DAAB) has been prepared and submitted in accordance with the Procedural Rules of this body. It summarizes activities and recommendations in 2006, in accordance with the DAAB Annual Work Plan.

Mission Statement:

Advise the Board of Supervisors on alcohol and drug programs to meet the needs of the community by fostering a comprehensive system of care and to assure quality of Alcohol and Other Drug Services in San Mateo County.

DAAB currently is composed of 6 members, not including two members from the Youth Commission.

DAAB established ten major activities for its annual Work Plan, as of January 2006.

- 1. Provide the Board of Supervisors with advice and counsel on Drug and Alcohol related issues.*
- 2. Support the strategic plans of the Human Services Agency and Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drug Services by participating in Needs Assessment and identifying and implementing specific Board actions.*
- 3. Develop a structure for advocacy on ATOD related issues.*
- 4. Review AOD budget and spending and provide public comment and input.*
- 5. Increase community (including youth awareness of ATOD issues).*
- 6. Review ATOD programs based on clients served, outcomes achieved, and cost effectiveness.*
- 7. Conduct on-site visits to prevention, non-residential and residential providers.*
- 8. Monitor and comment on reauthorization of SACPA (Prop 36).*
- 9. Foster youth participation and input in ATOD programs and increase youth awareness of drug and tobacco related issues.*
- 10. Improve and maintain an effective Board.*

2006 was a year of transition and change for AOD and DAAB. DAAB members Geraldine O'Connor, Nancy Bain and Dr. Sang-ick Chang left the board and Charles Hall and Joyce Berenstein were added.

Since it remained unclear whether financial disclosure by DAAB members was required, the Procedural Rules regarding financial disclosure continued to be suspended per a resolution of the DAAB in 2005.

The DAAB 2005 Annual Report was presented to the Board of Supervisors, whose support and encouragement is appreciated.

Strategic Planning

During 2006, three breakthrough plans were prepared. The first was HOPE, which addressed homeless and housing. The second was ROADMAP, which addressed prevention. The third was a new STRATEGIC PLAN, which addresses treatment and integrates recommendations from the ROADMAP. This plan included the results of the Needs Assessment started in 2005 involving all stakeholders in the process. It was reviewed by DAAB, which made several recommendations incorporated in the plan. Included in these recommendations were the need for an executive committee because the initially proposed steering committee was very large as well as a stipend in consideration of the fact that participation by government employees was assured because they were compensated, while other participants were not. DAAB and the Board of Supervisors have endorsed and approved this plan. **DAAB supports and encourages the implementations of this plan.**

Key points in this plan include:

- 1. Treatment is underfunded and is trending to worsen.**
- 2. There are approximately 57,000 San Mateo County residents with drug abuse problems.**
- 3. Approximately 20,000 residents are in need of publicly funded treatment.**
- 4. Only approximately 4,000 residents receive publicly funded treatment.**

Alcohol/Drug Treatment System

For the first time detailed data regarding cost per client, provider funding, and prevention and treatment spending were presented to the DAAB. Much of this data was incorporated into the new Strategic Plan. The DAAB had been searching for this data for many years. In summary, San Mateo County spends somewhat more

than \$15 million total or a little more \$2 million net County spending on drug and alcohol abuse treatment and prevention:

- 1. Less than \$2 million is spent on Prevention**
- 2. Approximately \$13 million is spent on treatment.**
- 3. Cost per client is approximately \$3750.**
- 4. County administrative costs are 14%.**

DAAB continues to be concerned about maintaining the current level of treatment services, given current budget realities. Of particular concern is the financial viability of providers and county administrative costs.

Providers continue to report that working with AOD was the most effective it has been in many years.

Proposition 36

The DAAB applauds the efforts of County staff to respond to funding challenges. However, concerns remain whether the current treatment mix is effective with Proposition 36 clients. In addition, there are ongoing concerns about the limited ability to enforce program guidelines with participants. **The Prop 36 program should be continuously monitored for effectiveness. The DAAB supported the enforcement provisions enacted by the State Legislature in the 2006 State Budget. These provisions, however, are not currently in effect, pending court review.**

Other Matters

Human Services was reorganized in 2006, including the transfer of Tobacco Programs to Health Services. Subsequently, Health Services regularly attended DAAB meetings. This brought increased focus on better integration of Health and Human Services, co-existing disorders, and medical detox, but tobacco issues were largely ignored. DAAB did support an increase in tobacco sale licensing fees in the City of San Mateo. **DAAB recommends the continued better integration of Health and Human Services and also a continued focus on tobacco issues.**

During 2006, the DAAB reviewed various pending state legislation and made recommendations to the County regarding support of several measures. **DAAB**

recommends that a mechanism for feedback regarding legislative recommendations and their status be established.

In 2005 DAAB Chair, Fred Koehler, working with AOD and other county staff completed a broad presentation package on Drug and Alcohol Abuse in SMC. Community presentations were well received, but there was no follow up in 2006 due to other priorities. **DAAB recommends that presentations be included in the community involvement aspects of the Strategic Plan Implementation.**

DAAB Vice Chair, Nancy Bain, continued to raise awareness of the issue of fetal alcohol syndrome (FASD). However, little focus was devoted to this due to other priorities. **DAAB recommends an increased focus on FASD in SMC.**

DAAB has requested AOD to prepare a plan to address steroid use, particularly among youth. This was not pursued in 2006 due to other priorities. **DAAB recommends that steroid use, particularly by minors, not be ignored.**

Earlier efforts has been made to implement a website comparable to other counties, were disregarded due to other priorities. **DAAB encourages more attention to the AOD website.**

Youth Commission member participation was excellent for the first half year, but eroded substantially in the second half year due to graduations and administrative problems. **DAAB encourages the continued involvement by youth in drug, alcohol and tobacco related programs.**

The support of the past and present members of DAAB, the AOD leadership and staff, and the Board of Supervisors is gratefully recognized.