

## Section I: Introduction

This document describes how States spend the funds allocated to them by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA's) Block Grant Program for substance abuse prevention and treatment services and how States allocate their own funding for these services. Policy officials can use the information in this document to assist in the review of the effectiveness of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant. Reviewing expenditures data can contribute to the development of policy formulation for future expenditures.

While recognizing the significant time lag associated with some of the data in this document—the actual expenditures that States report in their Block Grant application cover a period of time that occurred 3 years prior to the submission year—there remains utility in analyzing this information. It provides a wealth of details on how the States implement and fund prevention and treatment programs. For example, substance abuse prevention efforts vary widely by State. Medicaid funding is being used for treatment services by 27 States. Some States are not contributing their own funds to prevention efforts.

One policy issue of concern is how best to get States to spend formula grant money effectively and to replicate their own best efforts. In addition, policymakers are interested in information from the States that conduct evaluations and analyze outcomes. Policy officials are concerned with identifying and promoting effective programs. For example, SAMHSA's National Outcomes Measures (NOMS) initiative is beginning to provide outcome data on prevention and treatment programs funded by the Block Grant.

It is hoped that policy officials at the State and Federal level will find this document useful as they examine and review programs and make future funding decisions.

### **ONDCP and the National Drug Control Strategy**

Congress has long recognized that substance abuse is a problem with profound consequences for individuals and families and the long-term well-being and stability of the Nation. In 1988, with the passage of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act, Congress established the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).<sup>5</sup> The principal purpose of ONDCP is to coordinate the anti-drug efforts of the various agencies and departments of the Federal government, to consult with States and localities and assist their anti-drug efforts, and to formulate and promote the National Drug Control Strategy.

As part of his first National Drug Control Strategy in 2002, President Bush established 2- and 5-year goals to reduce drug use among both youth and adults by 10 percent in 2 years and by 25 percent in 5 years. Data for youth use show that efforts are succeeding and that the Nation is on track to achieve the 5-year goal this year.

The 2006 National Drug Control Strategy<sup>6</sup> retains these specific goals and focuses on three priorities for achieving them—stopping illegal drug use before it starts, treating America's drug users, and disrupting the market supply of illegal drugs. This balance of prevention, drug treatment, and supply reduction highlights the multiple avenues of effort needed to achieve the single goal of reducing drug use.

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<sup>5</sup> ONDCP Food and Drugs 21 CFR Section 1401.2 (2006)

<sup>6</sup> Office of National Drug Control Policy, The White House, February 2006. *The President's National Drug Control Strategy*.

## Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment

Single State Agencies (SSAs) have the major responsibility for overseeing the delivery of substance abuse prevention and treatment services using an array of funding sources. The federally funded Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant program allocates funds on a formula basis for the prevention and treatment of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse. This mechanism allows SSAs to use SAPT Block Grant resources on the basis of local need while holding States responsible for addressing clear requirements. The SAPT Block Grant program has been the foundation for building the States' capacity to plan for, develop, and support the policies and services necessary to address community needs.

States apply for SAPT Block Grant funds each year. They provide a comprehensive plan for meeting specific grant program requirements, and they report on expenditures and activities undertaken in previous years. Grant program requirements include expending at least 20 percent of grant funds on primary prevention activities, expending at least 5 percent on substance abuse treatment services for pregnant women and women with dependent children, and providing substance abuse treatment services for injection drug users.

In addition to SAPT, funds from Medicaid, State and local sources, and discretionary awards from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) generally flow through SSAs as part of the overall SSA budget.

### Documenting Anti-drug Efforts

A key ONDCP responsibility is to document how Federal and other funding resources are used to prevent and treat substance abuse. The Administration has also set a high priority on performance results. Program information and key indicators of performance are increasingly assessed to understand how SSAs expend Federal, State, and other resources to reduce substance abuse. Programs and efforts that do not reduce substance abuse may be restructured or eliminated to ensure that taxpayer money is used wisely.

This 2006 *Inventory of State Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Activities and Expenditures* provides a succinct, State-by-State overview of SAPT Block Grant and other funding and activities. It updates ONDCP's initial 1999 *Inventory of State Prevention Activities Funded Under the 20 Percent Block Grant Prevention Set-Aside* prepared by the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors by providing current substance abuse prevention expenditure and activity information reported in SAPT Block Grant applications for fiscal years 2003–2006. It also expands the scope of the previous Inventory by incorporating information for treatment services, clients, activities, and expenditures, as well as SAMHSA demonstration and discretionary grant funding.

The substance abuse expenditure data are supplemented with descriptions of State strategies, services, and performance information. For each State profile, the Inventory includes:

- An overview of the structure and function of the State agency responsible for delivering substance abuse prevention and treatment services
- A brief overview of substance abuse prevention and treatment services in the State
- Expenditures on treatment and prevention activities from various funding sources, including the SAPT Block Grant, Other Federal, State funds, Medicaid, and other sources<sup>7</sup>
- SAPT Block Grant Expenditures on CSAP six core prevention strategies and on resource development activities for prevention and treatment

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<sup>7</sup> This Inventory does not include expenditure or financial information from private third-party payers such as commercial health insurers.

- Treatment statistics by admission, type of program, and need for service
- A brief description of resource and infrastructure development activities, including planning and needs assessment, evaluation, and training

Preceding the State profiles is a section on Aggregate Findings which outlines trends in State substance abuse prevention and treatment expenditures funded by the SAPT Block Grant and other funding sources; a snapshot of prevention and treatment services and activities; resource development strategies; and treatment client information. The Aggregate Findings section provides policymakers and other interested parties with a concise perspective on the national substance abuse prevention and treatment system and offers a picture of the substantial resources being committed across the Nation to reduce the level of substance abuse. This section also highlights the array of substance abuse prevention and treatment strategies and services in place. By looking across communities, we can better assess the existing structural, program, and funding strengths and the remaining needs.

The 2006 *State Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant Inventory* is designed to share information about our national substance abuse prevention and treatment system and to be a reference guide for Federal and State officials, service providers, and members of the public with an interest in the resources and services offered. Hopefully, the information contained in this Inventory will benefit those who plan for and build the system and, ultimately, those it must effectively serve.