

The Co-Occurring Disorders (COD) Unit at the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) is funded under the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ADP and the Department of Mental Health (DMH). The MOU directs the COD Unit in a wide range of COD-related work at ADP.

- a. Brief summary of the major COD-related activities from January through June, 2009.
  - As part of its Veterans Awareness Initiative (VAI), ADP launched web pages focusing on veterans' concerns. These public information pages feature colorful graphics, user-friendly navigating tools, dynamic links, and specialty pages, including a suicide prevention page and a women veterans page (with a feature on Military Sexual Trauma). In addition to service-related substance use information, the site highlights Post Traumatic Stress Disorders and Traumatic Brain Injury and provides a listing of numerous veterans' services and resources links.

ADP is collaborating with the California Department of Veteran Affairs as well as other stakeholders on this effort and with the VAI. The COD Unit has assisted with the VAI in general and, particularly, in the analysis of Web site needs and the development of the Web page material.

- The COD Unit developed and disseminated the electronic circulars that inform the field on a range of COD subject matter. The *COD E-Circular* seeks out, integrates, and summarizes information on recent research, evidence-based practices in COD treatment and upcoming trainings. The *E-Circular* is designed to provide resources and inform and educate the field concerning numerous COD-related issues, including the needs of special populations with COD. The two editions issued so far in 2009 focused on Youth and COD. The next issue will focus on Veterans.

- Completed the field work for the second phase of the Dual Diagnosis Capability in Addiction Treatment (DDCAT) Pilot Project (sample certificate of appreciation for participation attached). The DDCAT is an assessment tool that assesses substance abuse and mental health providers' capability for COD Treatment. The final report analyzing the results of the work of the pilot project and interpreting the statistical results from the twenty-one pairs of providers' DDCAT assessment is pending.

Additionally, MHSA-funded staff developed a DDCAT training program and trained over 100 people in a series of trainings on the DDCAT.

The COD Unit continues to participate in a national DDCAT collaborative. The DDCAT is endorsed by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the Co-Occurring Joint Action Council (COJAC), which is the body that advises the ADP and DMH Directors on COD issues. The DDCAT is currently being used in 20 other states.

- Continued to provide support to the COJAC. Assisted the COJAC committees in various ways, including helping in the development of an updated COD State Action Plan as well as other committee documents. (Two major documents produced by the committees – the Funding Matrix for COD Services and the Compendium of Housing Models That Meet the Needs of Persons with COD – are attached.)
- Continued the development and maintenance of the COD and the COJAC Web sites, including assessing the needs of providers and the public in order to identify possible new content to be developed by the COD Unit. The sites provide links to documents and resources, information, and announcements of conferences and training opportunities. These Web sites are a resource for counties, providers and other stakeholders in developing, implementing and supporting integrated services.
- Worked continuously with the Interagency Agreement contract to validate the COJAC Screening Tool for COD. Determined relevance of deliverables to contract requirements and evaluated appropriateness of proposed contact amendments to the ongoing University of California San Francisco Interagency Agreement. The COJAC Screening Tool is a simple tool with nine questions that may be used in a variety of settings, i.e., primary care, mental health and substance abuse providers, to screen for COD. It was developed by COJAC and, if it proves to be a valid tool, ADP could promote it statewide.
- Continued collaboration with the Department of Aging on substance abuse and depression screening among older adults. Staff attended a conference and assorted constituency meetings.

- Attended a variety of other COD-related meetings, conferences, workshops, and trainings to build on COD Unit knowledge of COD issues and information, to gain provider and consumer perspectives on COD concerns, and to provide other attendees with COD resource information.
- b. Highlights of ADP and COD Unit work that help further the intent of the MHSA
- The Compendium of Housing Models That Meet the Needs of Persons with COD is a step toward two COJAC goals:
    - Develop a common lexicon between the mental health and substance abuse fields.
    - Develop opportunities to ensure state housing partnerships are cognizant of COD issues.
  - The Funding Matrix for COD Services allows providers of COD services to readily review likely funding sources, both for alcohol and other drug services and for mental health services.
  - ADP's leadership in the collaborative efforts with the California Department of Veteran Affairs and other stakeholders led to the organization of the VAI. The VAI effort helps coordinate the work and resources of numerous bodies and agencies; it supports early intervention in developing mental health problems and prevention of behaviors known to be risk factors for suicide and mental illness, such as domestic violence and substance abuse.