

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
Department of Health Services  
Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Date: October 12, 2012  
Memo Series DMHSAS 2012-09 Action

To: Listserv

For: County Departments of Human Services Directors  
County AODA Coordinators  
SAP-SIS Data Supervisors

From: Linda Harris, Administrator  
Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Subject: Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SAPTBG) Prevention Set-Aside Spending for 2013

### Document Summary

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) provides funding to the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) through the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SAPTBG). DHS uses SAPTBG funding to support all 72 county and 11 tribal human and behavioral health service agencies. The DHS, Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (DMHSAS) is responsible for collecting and reporting required data to SAMHSA through an annual Block Grant re-application.

The Federal Block Grant requires not less than 20 percent of SAPTBG funding be spent on primary alcohol and other drug abuse (AODA) prevention services. In order to provide more accurate data to SAMHSA on prevention programming, DMHSAS collects information from counties using the Substance Abuse Prevention-Services Information System (SAP-SIS). As listed in the State County Contracts, collection of these data is required to meet Federal SAPTBG and National Outcomes Measurement System (NOMS) reporting requirements.

### Background

Since SAP-SIS data reporting began in 2008, data collection and quality has improved across the state. However, one area that is still a concern is the appropriate use of the 20 percent prevention set-aside. These monies are intended to provide primary prevention services to Wisconsin residents. Many organizations have struggled to fund appropriate programs or services that meet the requirements for primary prevention services. The SAPTBG provides the following clarification concerning prevention expenditures: *The Federal Block Grant requires that SAPTBG recipients provide primary prevention programs **for individuals who do not require treatment** for substance abuse. Such programs and activities may include education, mentoring, and other activities designed to reduce the risk of substance abuse by individuals* (for more information and definitions, please see the attachment, *Types of Prevention Strategies*).

Over the past several years, there have been several proposed changes to the SAPTBG, including reducing Block Grant funding to states. As such, it is more important than ever to assure that Wisconsin is being fiscally responsible with Block Grant funds. Based on the above Federal definition, **DMHSAS is requiring that all primary prevention services provided with SAPTBG funding fall within Federal parameters.**

There are several resources available for selecting evidence-based prevention strategies for community implementation. The following resources provide listings of prevention strategies that can be funded with the SAPTBG prevention set-aside. Strategies not found on one of these lists may be used in the community as a part of the overall, comprehensive prevention system, but may not be funded with

SAPTBG prevention dollars without prior approval (approval form attached). Only **substance abuse prevention** strategies found on these lists are appropriate for funding with the SAPTBG prevention set-aside.

- SAMHSA's National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices (NREPP) is a searchable online registry of more than 240 interventions supporting mental health promotion, substance abuse prevention, and mental health and substance abuse treatment that have been reviewed and rated by independent reviewers. The purpose of this registry is to assist the public in identifying scientifically based approaches to preventing and treating mental and/or substance use disorders that can be readily disseminated to the field. <http://www.nrepp.samhsa.gov/>
- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP's) Model Program Guide (MPG) is designed to assist practitioners and communities in implementing evidence-based prevention and intervention programs that can make a difference in the lives of children and communities. The MPG database of over 200 evidence-based programs covers the entire continuum of youth services from prevention through sanctions to reentry. The MPG can be used to assist juvenile justice practitioners, administrators, and researchers to enhance accountability, ensure public safety, and reduce recidivism. The MPG is an easy-to-use tool that offers a database of scientifically-proven programs that address a range of issues, including substance abuse, mental health, and education programs. <http://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/Default.aspx>
- Wisconsin's State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (SCAODA) Alcohol Culture and Environment (ACE) report, published April of 2010, is designed to assist communities in changing Wisconsin's alcohol environment which has become too accepting of alcohol misuse. This report identifies environmental strategies to positively impact the negative aspects of Wisconsin's alcohol culture. <http://scaoda.state.wi.us/>
- SCAODA's Reducing Wisconsin's Prescription Drug Abuse: A Call to Action Report, published in 2012, examines the rising use of prescription drugs for non-medical purposes and provides recommendations for action in curtailing the prescription drug abuse epidemic. <http://scaoda.state.wi.us/>

In addition to the prevention strategies that are found in the resources above, DHS strongly encourages County Human Service Agency staff to participate in local substance abuse prevention community coalitions. The Alliance for Wisconsin Youth (AWY) has over 100 local coalitions around the state, bringing together individuals and resources for the common goal of preventing substance abuse and other health concerns affecting young people through the promotion of positive youth development. Staff time spent participating in coalition work or on multi-agency collaborative groups focused on the prevention of substance abuse are allowable expenses under the SAPTBG prevention set-aside.

Some examples of strategies that have been reported in SAP-SIS that will no longer be approved for SAPTBG prevention funding include:

- Consumer recovery services
- Relapse prevention
- In/outpatient treatment
- Suicide or Domestic Violence prevention programs
- Parenting teens case management

Although these programs are important components of a comprehensive community approach to reducing substance use, they are not appropriate for spending under the SAPTBG prevention set-aside. If SAPTBG prevention funding is spent on services that do not fall under the requirements of this announcement, counties risk a reduction in their funding.

In order to assist counties that would like further training in primary prevention, DHMSAS has scheduled two one-day training opportunities. These trainings will take place in **Minocqua, WI on Wednesday, November 7 and in Madison, WI on Thursday, November 8. Each session is scheduled from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Please see the registration form for further information.**

## **Action Summary**

Please complete the attached registration form indicating which date you would like to attend and return it to Christine Niemuth [Christine.niemuth@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Christine.niemuth@wisconsin.gov) by **October 29, 2012**.

### **Attachments:**

Prevention Programming Approval Form:

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forms/F0/f00659.doc>

Types of Prevention Strategies

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/substabuse/sapsis/index.htm>

Training Registration Form

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/substabuse/sapsis/index.htm>

For training and technical assistance with SAP-SIS reporting, please contact Christine Niemuth (contact information listed below).

### **CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT:**

Christy Niemuth  
Department of Health Services  
Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse  
1 West Wilson St. Room 850  
Madison, WI 53707  
Telephone: (608) 261-7655  
Email: [Christine.niemuth@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Christine.niemuth@wisconsin.gov)

### **Memo Websites:**

DLTC/DMHSAS Memo Series web page

[http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/dsl\\_info/index.htm](http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/dsl_info/index.htm)

The Division information and numbered memos are distributed electronically via a Listserv. The Listserv is free, but does require an active e-mail address. The memos are posted in both PDF and html formats. DLTC and DMHSAS Memo Series E-mail Subscription Services web page.

[http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/dsl\\_info/signup.htm](http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/dsl_info/signup.htm)