



# R95 WITH JUSTICE-INVOLVED CLIENTS

REACHING THE 95% - Enhancement incentive eligible

**SAPC** | Substance Abuse  
Prevention and Control



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
**Public Health**

September 18, 2025

# Agenda

**Incentive opportunities and provider support resources**

**Overview of Reaching the 95%**

**Panel discussion**

**Open discussion**

# R95 Incentives FY 25-26

## Payment Reform | Value-Based Incentives (VBI)

### 3-G R95 Policies and Agreements

\$40,000

All five (5) approvals this fiscal year

\$20,000

Fewer than five (5) approvals to complete package

### 3-F R95 Champion

\$40,000

R95 policies and agreements

+

At least one (1) eligible MAT  
activity (3-A, 3-B, 3-C)

## R95 Enhancement Activity

### R95 pathway

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85% of all client-facing staff attend  
at least one (1) eligible meeting or  
training

### Harm reduction pathway

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policy and agreement  
adoption

Agency with some prior  
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# R95 Support for Treatment Agencies

## R95 101 Training for Frontline Staff

In-person trainings per agency to address staff questions and concerns about real life application of R95 principles

Request by email or through [Booking](#)

## R95 Value-Based Incentive TA

Virtual meeting to discuss specific R95 topics and/or Value-Based Incentive deliverables

Request by email or through [Booking](#)

## R95 Consultation Line for Providers

(626) 210-0648

M-F 8:30am-5:00pm, excluding County holidays

## R95 Virtual Monthly Office Hour (3<sup>rd</sup> W, 9:00am)

Monthly Teams meeting with R95 overview and updates with dedicated time for agency questions

SAPC | Substance Abuse  
Prevention and Control  
Prevention First · Treatment Works · Recovery is Possible


Reaching the 95%



✓ SELECT A SERVICE

R95 Value Based Incentive TA ☐

Meeting with R95 staff for treatment provid... [Read more](#)

30 minutes 

R95 101 Training for Frontline Staff (per agency) ☒

On-site trainings for treatment agency fron... [Read more](#)

Free · 1 hour 30 minutes

Booking for **R95 101 Training for Frontline Staff (per agency)**

May 19

 DATE

 TIME

< > May 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

2:00 PM



Click to go to the  
Booking page

<https://tinyurl.com/R95Booking>

Month	Meeting/Training	Details	R95 Enhancement Activity eligibility	
			Harm reduction	R95
Oct	<b>Harm Reduction and Treatment Integration meeting</b>	<b>Topic:</b> Training for treatment staff on how to integrate harm reduction approaches to meet patient needs throughout the recovery journey <b>Date:</b> Wednesday, October 22, 2:00pm-4:00pm <b>Location:</b> Child & Family Center, Education Building, 21545 Centre Point Pkwy, Santa Clarita, CA 91350 <b>Registration:</b> <a href="https://sapccis.ph.lacounty.gov/registration/registration.aspx?ID=215">https://sapccis.ph.lacounty.gov/registration/registration.aspx?ID=215</a>	Yes	No
	Virtual office hour 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays 9:00am-10:00am	<b>Topic:</b> 15-minute R95 overview, followed by 15-minute open, provider-led discussion about compliant policies and agreements, clinical considerations, etc. Bring questions and hear from other agencies. <a href="#">Add series to calendar</a>	No	No
Nov	<b>Workgroup: Mixed Recovery Goal Communities</b>	<b>Topic:</b> Discussion of opportunities and challenges of separating readiness for treatment from readiness for complete abstinence <b>Date:</b> Wednesday, November 6, 2:00pm-3:30pm <b>Location:</b> Zev Yaroslavsky Family Support Center, Joshua and Sequoia Room Combo, 7555 Van Nuys Blvd, Van Nuys, CA 91405 <b>Registration:</b> <a href="https://sapccis.ph.lacounty.gov/registration/registration.aspx?ID=209">https://sapccis.ph.lacounty.gov/registration/registration.aspx?ID=209</a>	No	Yes
	Virtual office hour 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays 9:00am-10:00am	<b>Topic:</b> 15-minute R95 overview, followed by 15-minute open, provider-led discussion about compliant policies and agreements, clinical considerations, etc. Bring questions and hear from other agencies. <a href="#">Add series to calendar</a>	No	No
Dec	Due December 31, 2025: R95 Value Based Incentive Policy and Agreements			

# Overview of the R95 lower barrier philosophy





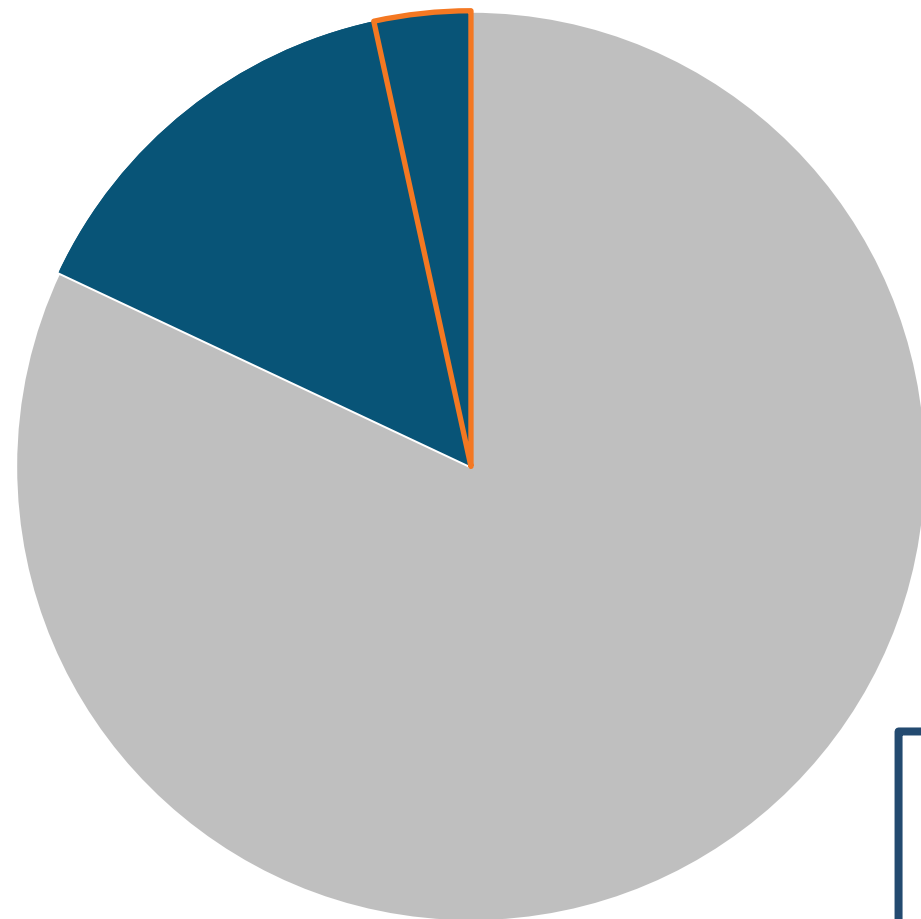
# Reaching the 95% Initiative

## Fundamental R95 Goals

1. Ensure specialty SUD systems are designed not just for the ~5% of people with SUDs who are already interested in treatment, but also the ~95% of people with SUDs who are not.
2. To lower barriers to care in the hearts and minds of the SUD community and public by disconnecting readiness for treatment from abstinence.
3. To communicate – through words, policies, and actions – that people with SUD are worthy of our time, attention, and compassion, no matter where they are in their readiness for change or recovery journey.

The R95 Initiative was launched by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC) in 2023 to reach more people by expanding outreach and lowering barriers to care

## Very few people with SUD seek treatment



■ **18%** of people age 12+ in the U.S. have a SUD  
*(+1% from 2023)*

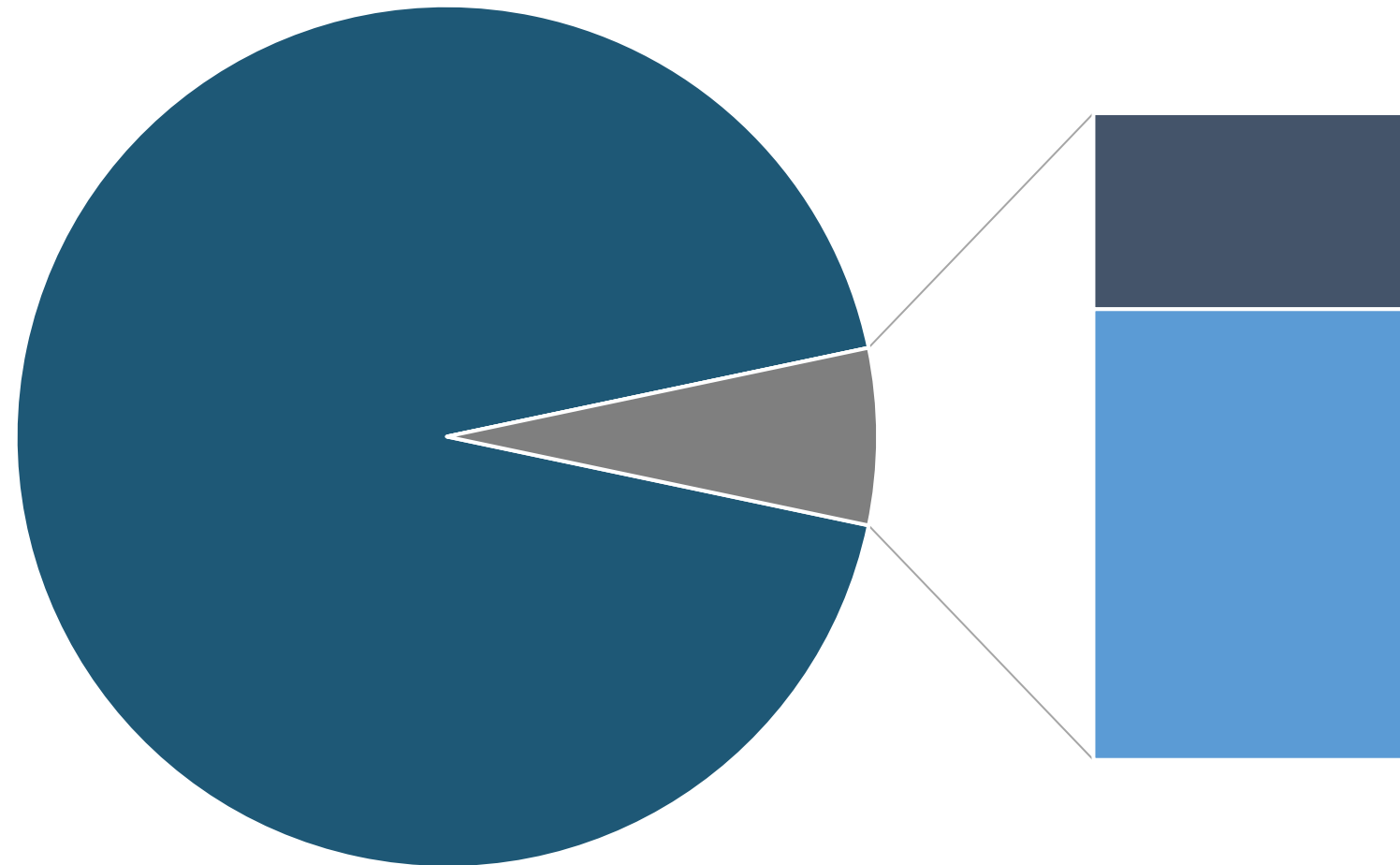
■ **19%** of those received treatment when including all settings, such as specialty treatment, primary care, telehealth, withdrawal management, prison, jail, or juvenile detention center

**81%** of people age 12+ in the U.S. with SUD received no treatment in the past year

# It's time to improve access by reaching out to those we've missed

*Of people age 12+ with SUD  
that did not access  
treatment...*

**93%** did not seek  
treatment and **did  
not think they  
needed** treatment  
*(-2% from 2022)*



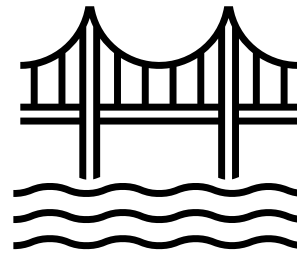
**2%** thought they should get  
treatment and  
**unsuccessfully** sought  
treatment  
*(+1% from 2022)*

**5%** thought they should get  
treatment but **did not seek** it  
*(+1% from 2022)*

# Lower barrier care

## Traditional Approach

- Defining **readiness for treatment** as readiness for abstinence
- Focusing on **program rules** to define the terms of treatment engagement
- Discharging clients who **relapse**



## R95 Approach

- Being open to admitting people into treatment who are **interested** in care, even if they may not be ready for complete abstinence
- Focusing on **client preferences** to inform the terms of treatment engagement
- Looking for ways to **maintain** clients in treatment who relapse

## Enhancing outreach and engagement

- Expanding field- and street-based services
- Increasing efforts to interface with other areas of health and social systems
- Expanding low barrier and low judgement services such as harm reduction
- Expanding offerings of Addiction Medication (Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT))
- Optimizing reimbursable outreach and engagement services for people prior to formal diagnoses or assessments







## Establishing lower barrier care

- Performing customer experience assessments at the SUD provider level to focus on implementing strategies to make the care environment more inviting
- Lowering the bar of admissions policies to expand the spectrum of readiness levels of people admitted into SUD treatment
- Raising the bar of discharge policies so that there are more nuanced considerations before someone is discharged from treatment because of relapse, which is a symptom of addiction
- Strengthening bidirectional referrals between harm reduction and SUD treatment agencies

## R95 approach to: Admissions



- We welcome clients with a **range of treatment goals**, wherever they are on their treatment journey.



- **Toxicology tests and results** are not required for admission, whether positive or negative.



- Whenever possible, we provide **same day** admission and services.



- Agencies are truly **accessible** through language assistance, cultural competency, non-judgmental language, and responsive approaches.



- Clients are admitted even if **Medi-Cal** is not active or assigned to LA County, as this can be done during/after admission using the reimbursable care coordination benefit.

## R95 approach to: Discharges



- Clients are not automatically discharged only because of a **positive toxicology test result**.



- Clients are not discharged when **health benefit lapses** for those that remain eligible. Provider agencies should use the care coordination benefit to help prevent clients from losing Medi-Cal during the treatment episode.



- Provider agencies ensure a **warm handoff** when clients step up or down levels of care.



- Provider agencies provide informational materials at discharge about **overdose prevention and safe use**, including naloxone.



## R95 approach to: Toxicology testing



- Toxicology tests are clinical tools to gather **information** and facilitate discussion with clients around their substance use, triggers, treatment progress, and linkage to additional supports.



- A **positive** toxicology test result or **refusal** to submit a sample for testing is not a reason for automatic discharge.



- Toxicology testing is grounded in a **trauma-informed, culturally responsive** approach that prioritizes respect, safety, and accuracy.



- Providers will **inform clients** about the testing process, the benefits of testing, client expectations, client rights, and potential consequences.

# The R95 approach with our justice-involved clients



# Welcome, panelists!

**Morgan Edwards**, Pax House

**Fraissy Guijarro**, Safe Refuge

**Bill Tarkanian**, Los Angeles Center for Drug and Alcohol Abuse

**Rocio Quezada**, Helpline Youth Counseling

## Panel discussion



**Demographics:** What does your client community look like?

How many are justice-involved (Probation, DCFS, etc.)?



**Policies:** How have you navigated implementation with LA County Departments?

How did the R95 policies impact your justice-involved clients, specifically the toxicology and discharge policies?



**Relationships and retention:** How has the R95 approach impacted your therapeutic relationship with your clients?



## Additional questions?

### **DON'T FORGET TO SIGN IN**

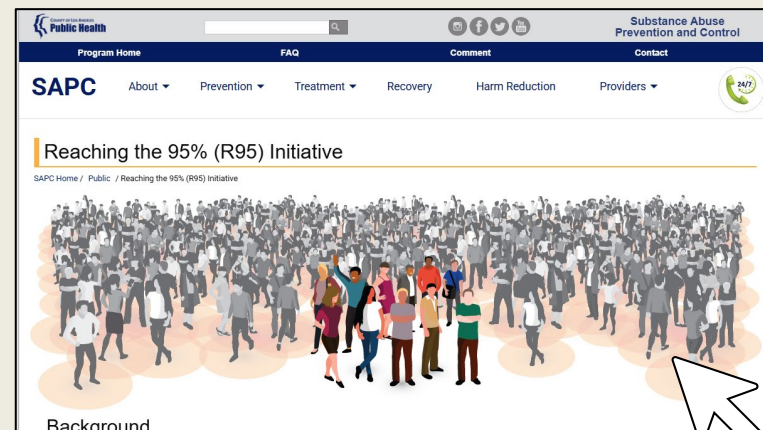
Scan with your phone camera  
or use a web browser:  
[forms.office.com/g/jd39MSBEat](https://forms.office.com/g/jd39MSBEat)





# Reaching the 95% resources

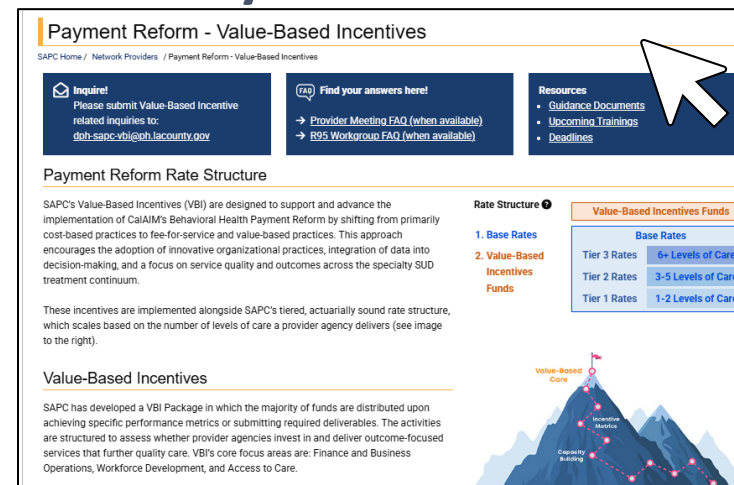
## R95 website



**R95 Consultation Line**  
**(626) 210-0648**

M-F 8:30am-5:00pm, excluding  
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## SAPC Payment Reform VBI



## **NEW:** Electronic Deliverable Submission Form

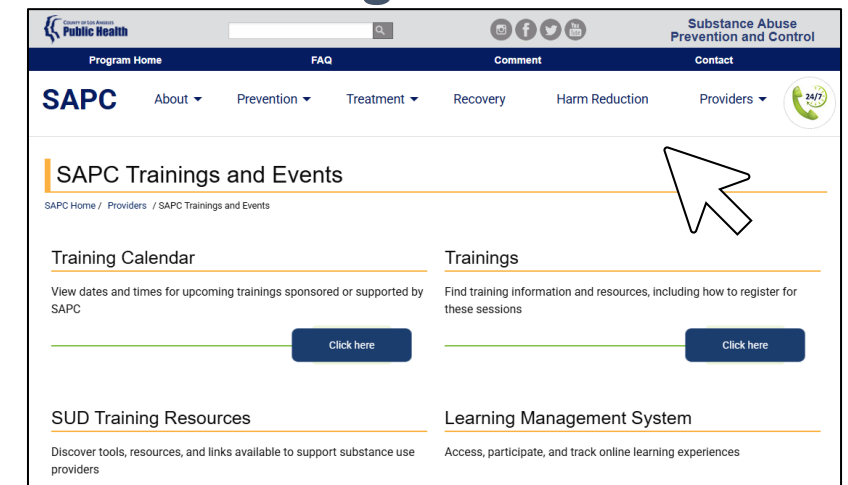


**Email**

**R95:** SAPC-R95@ph.lacounty.gov

**Payment Reform (VBI) :** DPH-SAPC-VBI@ph.lacounty.gov

## SAPC Trainings and Events





**Thank You!**

# About SAPC

- The Department of Public Health's Bureau of Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (DPH-SAPC) oversees the most diverse and comprehensive continuum of SUD services in California.



- SAPC is committed to innovative, equitable, and quality-focused substance use **prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services.**

