

# PROVIDERS' YEAR-END PROGRESS REPORT

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

March 2024

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Los Angeles County (LAC) Department of Public Health (DPH), Substance Abuse Prevention & Control (SAPC) prevention services is responsible for the administration of federal Substance Use Block Grants (SUBG) as well as the planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of effective, relevant, and culturally competent substance use prevention services and initiatives. As mandated by the federal government, SAPC aims to reduce the burden of substance abuse by reducing the individual and community level availability and accessibility of alcohol and other drugs through implementing effective, equitable, comprehensive, and culturally and linguistically competent evidence-based prevention programming countywide.

During the 2021-22 fiscal year, the burden of substance use continued to remain higher than the pre-pandemic years, among both youth and adults. LAC experienced increasing trends in alcohol Emergency Department (ED) visits, hospitalizations, and treatment admissions, compared with the previous few years<sup>1</sup>. Alcohol related overdose deaths increased by 139.4% since the start of the pandemic, March 2020 through December of 2021 compared with the previous period (March 2018-Dec. 2019)<sup>2</sup>.

Marijuana-related calls to California Poison Control have been increasing sharply since the statewide marijuana legalization, increasing by almost 292% since 2016<sup>3</sup>. The highest increases were seen among children, ages 5 or younger<sup>4</sup>. Marijuana-related Emergency Department (ED) visits and hospitalizations decreased slightly, since 2019 following steady increases since 2005. The highest rates of primary marijuana emergency visits were seen among males, between the ages of 18-24<sup>5</sup>. Marijuana treatment admission decreased gradually since 2013<sup>6</sup>.

Methamphetamine (meth)- related ED visits and hospitalizations decreased slightly following steady increases since 2007. Meth related overdose deaths increased by 103.7% between March 2018-December of 2019 and March 2020 through December, 2021<sup>7</sup>. Methamphetamine related treatment admission increased steadily since 2011 through 2021, except for a slight drop during the FY 2020-21<sup>8</sup>.

Prescription opioid-related ED visits experienced sharp increases in 2019-2021<sup>9</sup>, while hospitalizations for opioid related issues remained steady<sup>10</sup>. Opioid related treatment admissions experienced steady increases for the past 3 fiscal years. Opioid related overdose deaths increased by 127.1% between March 2018-December of 2019 and March 2020 through December of 2021.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://ph.lacounty.gov/sapc/MDU/MDBrief/AlcoholBrief.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/MDU/SpecialReport/AccidentalDrugOverdoseDeathsDuringCOVID-19Pandemic.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/MDU/MDBrief/MarijuanaBrief.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/MDU/MDBrief/MarijuanaBrief.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/MDU/MDBrief/MarijuanaBrief.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> <http://ph.lacounty.gov/sapc/MDU/SpecialReport/AnnualTxReportFY2122.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/MDU/SpecialReport/AccidentalDrugOverdoseDeathsDuringCOVID-19Pandemic.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> <http://ph.lacounty.gov/sapc/MDU/SpecialReport/AnnualTxReportFY2122.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> <https://lacountydphsapc.inzastories.com/opioids/opioid-ed-visits/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://lacountydphsapc.inzastories.com/opioids/opioid-death-test/>

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

DPH-SAPC's network of providers delivered relevant, evidence-based, and innovative substance use disorder (SUD) prevention services across Los Angeles County. Fiscal year 2021-22 started with 38 agencies in over 40 locations and 5 different contract types, providing a variety of prevention strategies and interventions throughout Los Angeles County serving an estimated 5,696 youth and adults. Our prevention services were offered through 12 Adolescent Prevention Services contracts, eight Environmental Prevention Services contracts, 33 Comprehensive Prevention Services contracts, one Friday Night Live contract, and one Prevention Media Campaign contract. Additionally, LAC funded several prevention initiatives, through partnerships with public and private sectors, such as Our SPOT Program with the LAC department of Parks and Recreations, Student Wellbeing Centers Positive Youth Development Initiative, Connecting Opportunities for Recovery and Engagement (CORE) Centers, Pathways to Health, and My Brother's Keeper<sup>11</sup>.

The prevention strategies implemented included parents and youth workshops, policy work groups, community coalitions, community prevention training, media campaigns and social media projects, peer advocacy and youth mentoring and leadership programs, marijuana public smoking and social host initiatives, and environmental strategies<sup>12</sup> including Project Sticker Shock, Merchants Committed, Retail Framework, and social host ordinances to address substance use prevention in LAC.

Addressing the need for targeted prevention programming continued to challenge prevention providers post pandemic, as social media campaigns, podcasts, and online educational opportunities remained essential for community-based outreach. Our provider network continued to engage their target populations through several popular social media platforms. The platforms most utilized included Instagram (82%), Facebook (72%), You Tube (37%), Twitter (34%), and Tik Tok (13%). The SAPC Prevention program continued to fund a successful methamphetamine media campaign to address increases in methamphetamine related emergency visits, hospitalizations, and overdose deaths.

Evidence-based programs (EBPs) and innovative strategies were used to address substance misuse through numerous interagency collaboratives countywide. Each Service Planning Area (SPA) was assigned a lead agency focused on environmental strategies and policy initiatives to address the environmental and community conditions that contribute to substance misuse and provide support to multiple other agencies predominantly within the SPA. Multiple coalitions collaborated with neighborhood councils and other external stakeholders to engage communities in policy advocacy solutions to minimize the risks and harms associated with substance use, misuse, and abuse.

The 2021-22 year-end progress report highlights key prevention strategies and initiatives implemented in LAC for the priority substances identified by a countywide needs assessment effort. The report highlights challenges experienced by our contracted providers since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, and adjustments made to regular programming to address the pandemic related challenges. Additionally, there are recommendations for next steps, in accordance with Federal and State guidelines and the Los Angeles County's Strategic Prevention Plan<sup>13</sup> to *reduce prescription drugs and over-the-counter medication misuse and abuse, reduce marijuana use by youth, decrease underage drinking and binge drinking among youth and young adults, and reduce availability of and access to methamphetamine and other illicit drugs by youth and young adults.*

**"The Opposite of addiction is not sobriety. The opposite of addiction is social connection." Johann Hari**

<sup>11</sup> <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/prevention/PV/PreventionStandardsManual.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> See Appendix C for the list and a short description of environmental strategies

<sup>13</sup> [http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/prevention/PP/Strategic\\_Prevention\\_Plan\\_072820.pdf](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/prevention/PP/Strategic_Prevention_Plan_072820.pdf)

## INTRODUCTION

The Los Angeles County (LAC) Department of Public Health (DPH) is committed to promoting health equity and ensuring optimal health and well-being for all our residents. Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC) is one of the largest divisions of LAC DPH, funding over 150 prevention and treatment community-based organizations aimed at addressing alcohol and other drug-related problems in the County through prevention initiatives and community partnerships. Through the application of inclusive and equitable best practices, SAPC aspires to prevent and reduce the burden of substance use in LAC through collaboration with multiple public and private entities. Our community partners and agencies improve substance use prevention in communities by influencing the social norms and community conditions that promote substance use in select populations and communities.

SAPC administers the operations of a network of Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)-contracted community-based agencies, overseeing the implementation of prevention services through its Strategic Prevention Plan (SPP) and the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF). SAPC works collaboratively with a network of contracted prevention providers and community partners on an ongoing basis to assess community needs and resources and develop effective and culturally responsive prevention strategies to promote community engagement and build capacity at the local level, enhancing the overall delivery of primary prevention services.

This report represents highlights, accomplishments, challenges, and opportunities encountered during the 2021-22 fiscal year. Providers' prevention service data were summarized based on agencies' self-reports to SAPC and entries into the Primary Prevention Substance Use Disorder Data Service (PPSDS) system. Effective interventions impacting substance use prevention have also been showcased within this report. Substance use prevention services continue to address individual and community-level public health issues of drug access and availability, initiation of use, and positive activities that serve as alternatives to drug misuse and abuse among youth and adults.

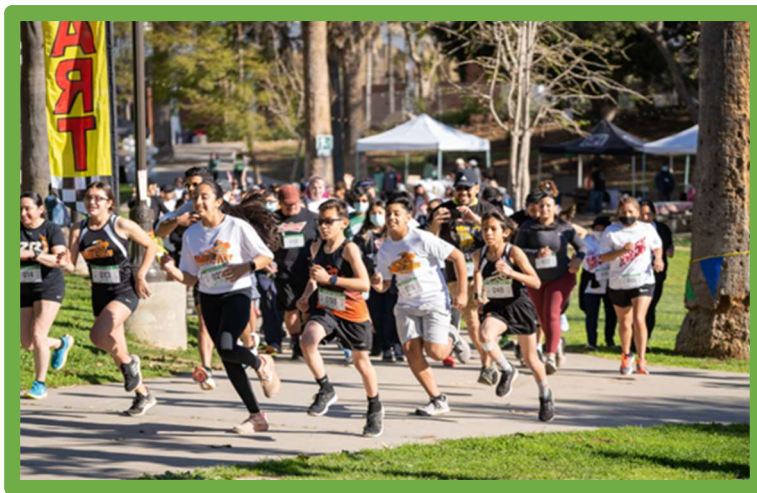


Photo courtesy of Koreatown Youth & Community Center (KYCC)

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

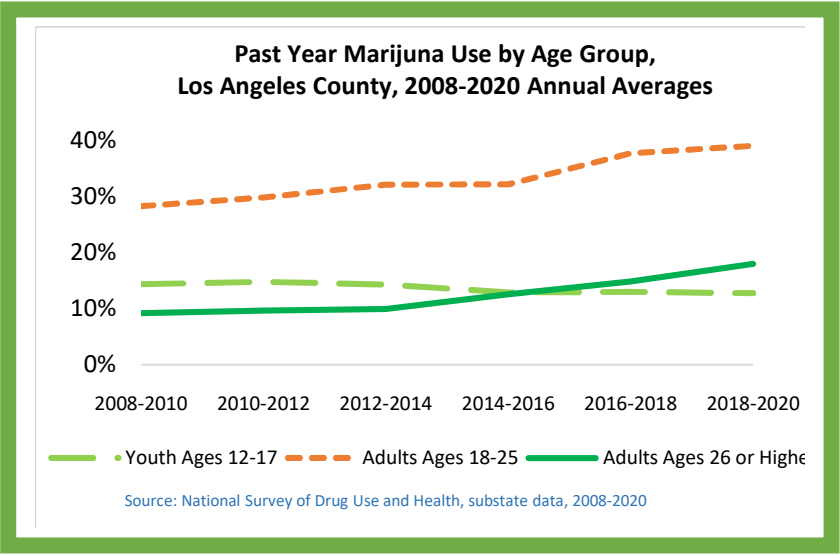
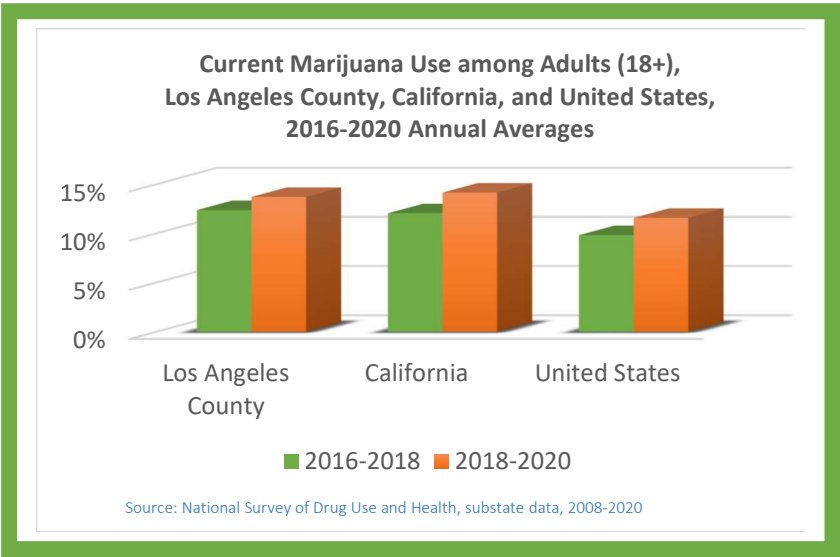
### DATA SNAPSHOT

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, substance misuse increased overall<sup>14</sup>. A review of overdose death trends, hospital admissions, emergency visits and calls to poison control centers have confirmed rising substance related harms in LAC, with concerns about methamphetamine, fentanyl, and counterfeit pills<sup>15</sup>.

Current cannabis use, among adults 18 or older is higher in Los Angeles County than the national averages (top-right figure). Highest rates of cannabis use (in the past year) were seen among young adults between the ages and 18 and 25 (bottom-right figure)<sup>16</sup>.

Perception of risk of harm is a protective factor against substance use<sup>17</sup>. Among youth (ages 12-17), the perceived risk of harm associated with once monthly and twice weekly use of marijuana increased slightly while the perceived availability of marijuana declined in the same age group<sup>18</sup>. The increased perception of harm, coupled with the decreased perception of availability has been associated with reductions in marijuana use among this age group<sup>19</sup>.

Marijuana public smoking has been a growing issue, necessitating providers to mobilize community members to encourage limits on smoking marijuana in public places to promote clean indoor air laws.



<sup>14</sup> <https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/comorbidity/covid-19-substance-use>

<sup>15</sup> [https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/dhs/1103393\\_TSAISubstanceUseDuringtheCOVID-19Pandemic.pdf](https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/dhs/1103393_TSAISubstanceUseDuringtheCOVID-19Pandemic.pdf)

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/report/2018-2020-nsduh-substate-region-estimates-tables>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/reports/rpt35323/NSDUHDetailedTabs2020v25/NSDUHDetailedTabs2020v25/NSDUHDetTabsSect3pe2020.htm>

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/reports/rpt35323/NSDUHDetailedTabs2020v25/NSDUHDetailedTabs2020v25/NSDUHDetTabsSect3pe2020.htm>

<sup>19</sup> <https://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-021-11906-2>

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

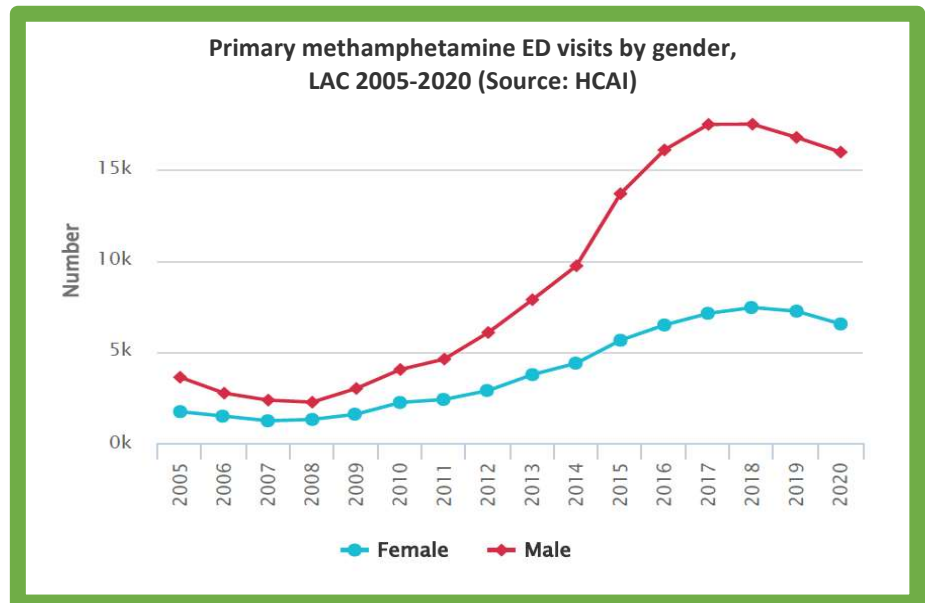
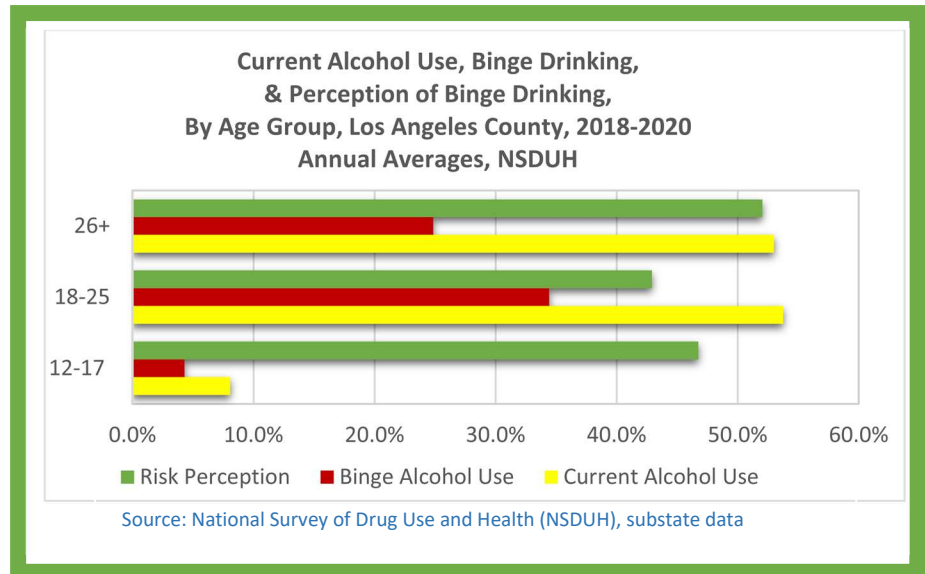
Recent trends in marijuana use among youth and during pregnancy may warrant looking further at successful cannabis labeling practices to reverse this trend<sup>20</sup>.

Alcohol is the most widely used drug and one of the leading causes of preventable deaths in the United States<sup>21</sup>. Alcohol use is highest among young adults between the ages of 18 and 25; perception of binge drinking as a health risk is lowest among this age group (top right figure).

In addition to high access and availability, low perception of risk of harm has been associated with increased alcohol use<sup>22</sup>, driving communities to address risk perception in public health policies and interventions to curb alcohol use.

Since 2013, methamphetamine (meth) has continued to be a primary public health concern in LAC. Items seized by law enforcement agencies have suggested that meth is the most common drug identified in LAC<sup>23</sup>.

About 1% of LAC residents ages 12 or older has reportedly used methamphetamine within a year of being surveyed.<sup>24</sup> Meth use was highest among adults 26 or older, followed by adults between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five.<sup>25</sup> The number of methamphetamine ED visits are higher among males<sup>26</sup>.



<sup>20</sup> <https://about.kaiserpermanente.org/our-story/health-research/news/cannabis-use-by-pregnant-women-increased-during-pandemic>

<sup>21</sup> <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/MDU/SpecialReport/AODReport2020.pdf>

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUH099a/NSDUH099a/sr099a-risk-perception-trends.pdf>

<sup>23</sup> <https://lacountydphsapc.inzastories.com/meth-availability/>

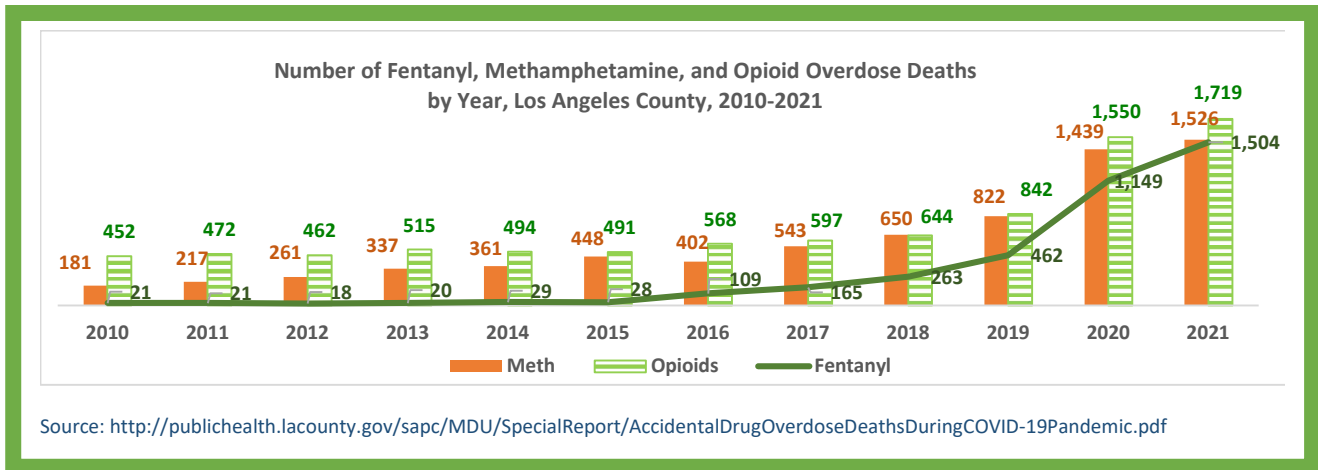
<sup>24</sup> <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/report/2018-2020-nsduh-substate-region-estimates-tables>

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/report/2018-2020-nsduh-substate-region-estimates-tables>

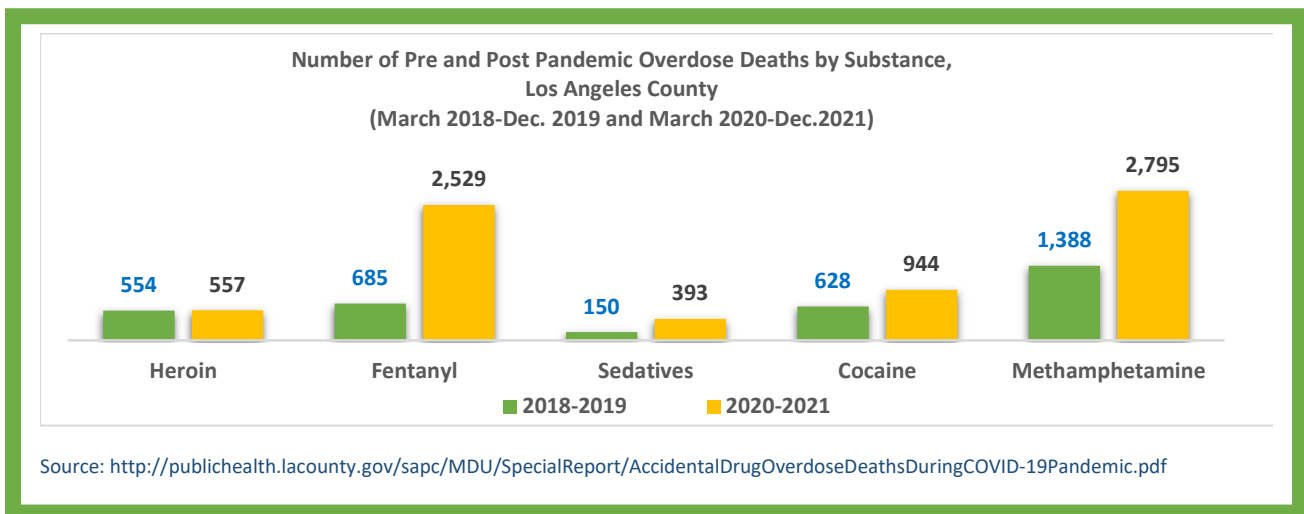
<sup>26</sup> <https://lacountydphsapc.inzastories.com/meth-ed-visits/>

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

In 2021, there were 23,064 meth-related ED visits and 5,830 primary meth ED visits in LAC, including meth poisoning, dependence, and abuse<sup>27</sup>. Meth has been involved in more accidental overdose deaths in LAC than any other drug,<sup>28</sup> contributing to over 36% of violent crimes and 32% of property crimes<sup>29</sup>.



A comparison between the number of overdose deaths prior to the pandemic (March 2018 through December of 2019) and since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic (March 2020 through December of 2021), revealed an increase of 88.5% in the number of all overdose deaths combined.<sup>30</sup> The greatest increase was seen among youth ages 12-17, with a 315.2% increase in the number of overdose deaths (not pictured).



<sup>27</sup> Department of Health Care Access and Information (previously OSHPD). Emergency Department Data Set. California Dept of Public Health. Meth-related ED visits were identified using ICD-10 codes (F15 excluding remission, and T4362) for meth-related conditions listed as a diagnosis. Primary meth ED visits were those listing a meth-related condition as the principal diagnosis.

<sup>28</sup> <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/MDU/SpecialReport/AccidentalDrugOverdoseReportJuly2021V2.0.pdf>

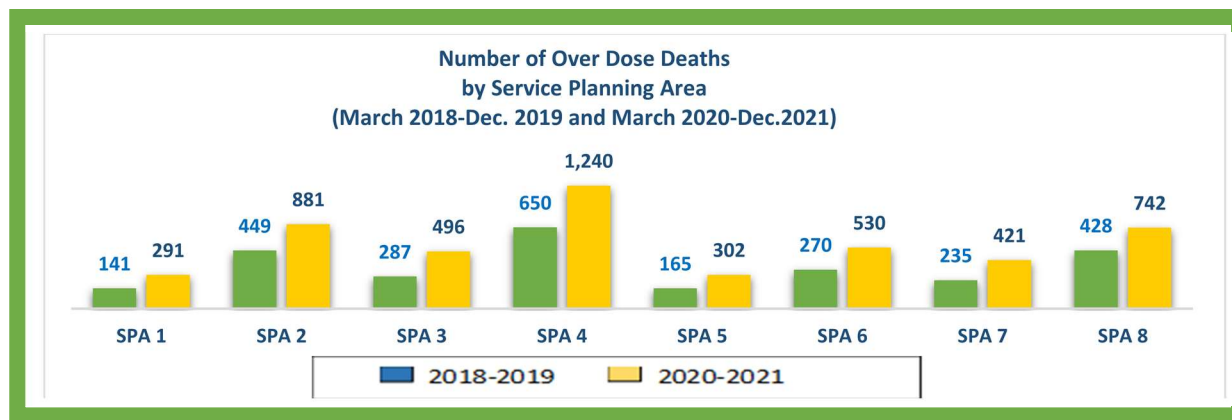
<sup>29</sup> [https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/2018-07/DIR-040-17\\_2017-NDTA.pdf](https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/2018-07/DIR-040-17_2017-NDTA.pdf)

<sup>30</sup> <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/MDU/SpecialReport/AccidentalDrugOverdoseDeathsDuringCOVID-19Pandemic.pdf>



## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

The number of fentanyl-related overdose deaths increased by 271.5%, sedative related deaths increased by 167.8%, and methamphetamine-related overdose deaths increased by 103.7% (below). Furthermore, an analysis of LAC drug overdose deaths by Service Planning Area revealed a noticeable increase in the number and rate of drug overdose deaths in all 8 Service Planning Areas (SPA). The highest number of deaths in 2020-2021 were seen in SPA 4 (1,240), SPA 2 (881) and SPA 8 (742). The highest death rates (number of deaths per 100,000 persons) were seen in SPA 4 (93.5), SPA 1 (77.2) and SPA 6 (51.3) respectively.<sup>31</sup>



Decedent Characteristics	Pre-pandemic March 2018 - Dec 2019		Pandemic March 2020 - Dec 2021		Rate Change	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Absolute Change	Relative Change
<b>Service Planning Area (SPA)</b>						
SPA 1	141	36.1	291	77.2	41.1	113.6%
SPA 2	449	18.6	881	37.9	19.3	103.4%
SPA 3	287	15.2	496	27.1	11.9	78.5%
SPA 4	650	49.2	1,240	93.5	44.3	90.0%
SPA 5	165	23.0	302	43.3	20.2	87.9%
SPA 6	270	26.7	530	51.3	24.6	91.9%
SPA 7	235	17.2	421	31.2	14.0	81.6%
SPA 8	428	25.5	742	45.2	19.8	77.7%

Source: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/MDU/SpecialReport/AccidentalDrugOverdoseDeathsDuringCOVID-19Pandemic.pdf>

Rates are age-adjusted using the direct method and the 2000 U.S. standard population, except for age-specific and area poverty crude rates. All rates are per 100,000 population. Rates for the pre-pandemic period March 2018 – December 2019 were calculated using 2018 population estimates, and rates for the pandemic period March 2020 – December 2021 were calculated using 2020 population estimates.

Absolute rate change is the difference between rates during the March 2018 – December 2019 and March 2020 – December 2021 periods. Relative rate change is the absolute rate change divided by the March 2018 – December 2019 rate, multiplied by 100. Nonoverlapping confidence intervals based on the gamma method were used if the number of deaths was <100 in the March 2018 – December 2019 or March 2020 – December 2021 period, and z-tests were used if the number of deaths was ≥100 in both the March 2018 – December 2019 and March 2020 – December 2021 periods. Rate changes were statistically significant (p-value <0.05) for all SPAs.

<sup>31</sup> <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/MDU/SpecialReport/AccidentalDrugOverdoseDeathsDuringCOVID-19Pandemic.pdf>

## PREVENTION FRAMEWORK

To achieve comprehensive, effective, and culturally competent AOD prevention services, SAPC uses a combination of the following three frameworks:

1. Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) planning process.
2. SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) prevention strategies.
3. Institute of Medicine (IOM) classification system.

The use of these frameworks is required by the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and is part of the mandatory reporting requirements for the web-based Primary Prevention Substance Use Disorder Data Service (PPSDS) System.

### **SAMHSA'S Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF)<sup>32</sup>**

The SPF is a five-step planning process that systematically guides the development of prevention services and includes two guiding principles to ensure cultural competency and sustainability:

- o Step 1: Assess Needs: What is the problem, and how can I learn more?
- o Step 2: Build Capacity: What do I have to work with and how can I make it stronger?
- o Step 3: Plan: What should I do and how should I do it?
- o Step 4: Implement: How can I put my plan into action?
- o Step 5: Evaluate: Is my plan going as intended and is it succeeding?



By addressing each step, prevention services would address the needs of their target communities and populations by reducing risk factors and enhancing protective factors, build community capacity and collaboration, develop goals and measurable objectives, and evaluate their efforts to ensure the prevention program achieves the intended outcomes.

<sup>32</sup> Strategic Prevention Framework. (n.d.). Retrieved from: <https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/20190620-samhsa-strategic-prevention-framework-guide.pdf>

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

### Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) Strategies and Activities<sup>33</sup>

The SAMHSA Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) has classified prevention strategies into six major categories. An effective prevention program utilizes these strategies and activities to comprehensively address the needs of the target communities through evidence-based interventions and services.

1. **Environmental Strategy** – establishes and/or changes community standards, codes, and attitudes, thereby influencing the prevalence of alcohol and other drug use within the community through engaging a broad base of community partners, interventions, and policies.
2. **Community-Based Process Strategy** – enhances the community’s capacity to address AOD issues through organizing, planning, collaboration, coalition-building, and networking.
3. **Information Dissemination Strategy** – improves awareness and knowledge of the effects of AOD issues on communities and families through “one-way” communication with the audience, such as speaking engagements, health fairs, and distribution of print materials.
4. **Problem Identification and Referral Strategy** – identifies individuals who have infrequently used or experimented with AOD who could change their behavior through education. The intention of the screening is to determine the need for indicated prevention services, not treatment services.
5. **Education Strategy** – encourages “two-way” communication between the facilitator and participants. This strategy aims to improve life- and social skills, such as decision-making, refusal skills, and critical analysis.
6. **Alternative Strategy** – redirects individuals from potentially problematic situations and AOD use by providing constructive and healthy events/activities.

### Institute of Medicine (IOM) Classification System<sup>34</sup>

The prevention classifications are subdivided into universal, selective, and indicated categories. The IOM category is assigned by looking at the risk-level of the individual, or group, receiving the service. Federal prevention funding allows for the delivery of services for universal, selective, and indicated populations. The funding is not intended for those who need or receive AOD (ab)use treatment or recovery services.

#### Universal

Universal prevention targets the entire population (national, local community, school, and/or neighborhood) with messages and programs aimed at preventing or delaying the (ab)use of AOD. All members of the population share

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<sup>33</sup> Center for Substance Abuse Prevention Strategies and CSAP Activities Definitions (Approved July 24, 2017, Updated August 17, 2017). Retrieved from: <http://www.ca-cpi.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/CSAP-Strategies.pdf>

<sup>34</sup> Center for Applied Research Solution | Fred Springer, J., & Phillips, J. (n.d.). The Institute of Medicine Framework and its Implication for the Advancement of Prevention Policy, Programs, and Practice. Retrieved from: [http://ca-sdfc.org/docs/resources/SDFC\\_IOM\\_Policy.pdf](http://ca-sdfc.org/docs/resources/SDFC_IOM_Policy.pdf)

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

the same general risk for substance (ab)use, although the risk may vary among individuals. Universal prevention programs are delivered to large groups without any prior screening for substance abuse risk.

- **Universal Direct**

Interventions directly serve an identifiable group of participants but who have not been identified based on individual risk (e.g., school curriculum, afterschool program, parenting class). This also could include interventions involving ongoing or repeated contact (e.g., coalitions).

- **Universal Indirect**

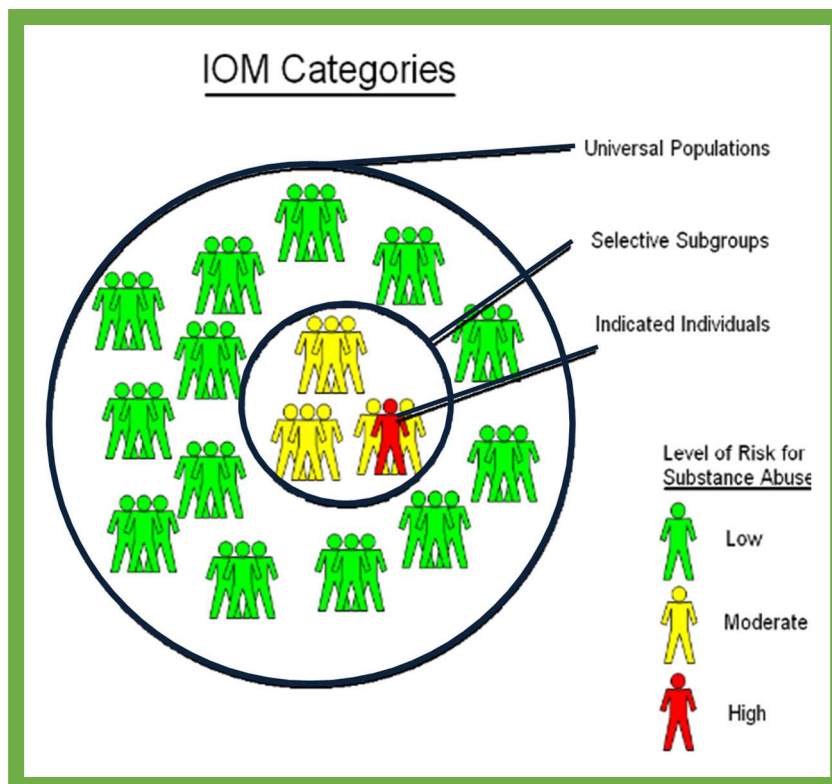
Interventions supporting population-based programs and environmental strategies (e.g., establishing ATOD policies, modifying ATOD advertising practices). This may include programs and policies implemented by coalitions.

### Selective

Selective prevention targets subsets of the total population at risk for substance abuse by virtue of their membership in a particular population segment. Selective prevention targets the entire subgroup, regardless of the degree of risk of any individual within the group.

### Indicated

Indicated prevention is designed to prevent the onset of substance abuse in individuals who do not meet Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders Fifth Edition (DSM-V) criteria for abuse or dependence, but who are showing early danger signs, such as failing grades and consumption of alcohol and other gateway drugs. The mission of indicated prevention is to identify individuals who are exhibiting potential early signs of substance abuse and other problem behaviors associated with substance abuse, and to target them with special programs.



## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

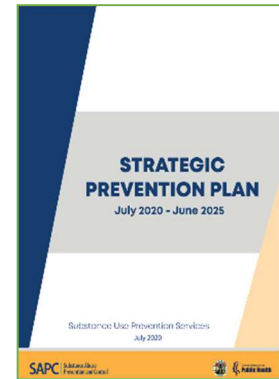
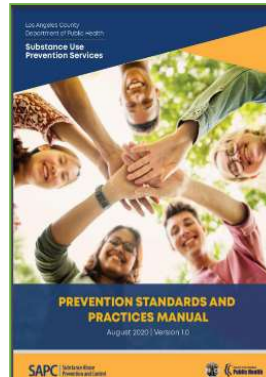
### OUR VISION AND MISSION

#### SAPC’s Vision:

Healthy communities that are safe and free from substance use problems.

#### SAPC’s Mission

To Implement effective prevention initiatives, guided by best practices and data, to systematically reduce community substance use problems.



[SAPC Strategic Prevention Plan](#)  
[SAPC Prevention Provider Manual](#)

### LOS ANGELES COUNTY PREVENTION GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The AODPS-contracted prevention providers addressed the following four priority area goals and objectives. SAPC collaborated with the contracted providers to design and implement data-driven and community-based strategies, addressing priority AOD related issues and their associated risk factors in the target communities.

Goals	Objectives
1. Decrease Alcohol Use Among Youth	Proportion of youth who perceive underage alcohol use as harmful will increase by 3% as measured by CHKS or other surveys. Reduce retail availability of alcohol to teens by 3% as measured by Alcohol Beverage Control infractions. Youth resiliency for underage drinking will increase by 3% as measured by pre/post surveys.
2. Decrease Marijuana Use Among Youth	Youth will increase their perception of the harms of underage marijuana use by 3% as measured by CHKS data or other survey. Reduce retail availability of marijuana to teens by 3% as measured by pre-post surveys. Youth resiliency for marijuana use will increase by 3% as measured by pre/post surveys.
3. Decrease Methamphetamine Use Among Youth and adults.	Increase community awareness of methamphetamine by 3% as measured by pre/post surveys. Youth resiliency for methamphetamine use will increase by 3% as measured by pre/post surveys.
4. Decrease Prescription Drug Misuse or Abuse Among Youth and Adults	There will be a 5% decrease in prescribing of opioid drugs for adults as measured by PDMP. There will be a 3% reduction in youth access to Rx drugs, as measured by CHKS or other survey. Youth resiliency for prescription drug use will increase by 3% as measured by pre/post surveys.

## OUR PREVENTION PROVIDER NETWORK

### Adolescent Prevention Services (APS)

APS services are directed at reducing risk factors and increasing protective factors for youth who are at high risk for substance abuse. APS providers ensure that primary prevention programs and activities are aimed at informing and educating individuals on the risks associated with substance use and providing programs and activities to reduce these risk factors.

### Environmental Prevention Services (EPS)

EPS coalitions aim to change the policies, ordinances, and practices that facilitate substance use, and develop methods to ensure that efforts are enforced and sustained once implemented. The selection of environmental strategies is data-driven and designed to specifically address the highest priority substance use issues and their associated contributing factors for the target communities. This includes addressing where and how substances are sold and marketed, sales to minors, passage of substance-related ordinances/policies, and compliance with local regulations. Integral to the success of these environmental efforts is active and sustained involvement of local community residents (youth and adults), leaders, non-AOD focused businesses, AOD service providers, and others who are knowledgeable of the local issues and who are committed to engaging in data-driven solutions. A list of SPA Coalitions are presented in Appendix B.



Photo courtesy of Avalon Carver, Shield for Families, South Central Prevention Coalition (SCPC), Watts HCF, in collaboration with South Los Angeles Movement (SLAM) Prevention Coalition

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

### Comprehensive Prevention Services (CPS)

CPS provides culturally competent and evidence-based prevention programs and activities that focus on both community and individual level efforts to impact the social norms and community conditions that contribute to AOD use within the target population(s) and/or communities.

The selection of services is data-driven and designed to specifically address the highest priority AOD related problems and contributing factors for the target communities.

This includes changing the local environment and conditions that facilitate AOD use, including the knowledge and behaviors of youth and adults that contribute to community norms about AOD use. CPS contractors appropriately engage community members and leaders throughout the process to best identify, implement, and sustain prevention efforts.



Photo courtesy of Asian American Drug Abuse Program (AADAP) in collaboration with South Bay Communities Creating Change (SBC3)

### Friday Night Live (FNL)/Club Live (CL), & FNL Kids

FNL builds partnerships for positive, healthy youth development, and engages youth as active leaders, mentors, and advocates to reduce access to and availability of alcohol and other drugs. Services are provided in selected middle and high schools. Youth-adult partnership activities include educating policy-making officials, providing safe social outlets for youth, and hosting trainings and conferences on issues from leadership to social factors that contribute to substance abuse.

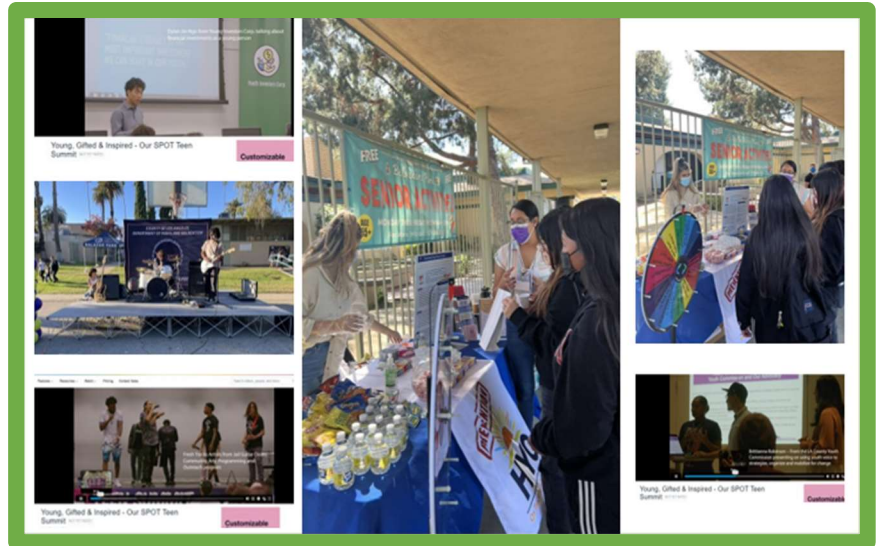


Photos courtesy of Helpline Youth Counseling (HYC) and Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), and Friday Night Live (FNL) In collaboration with Southeast Community Alliance (SECA).

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

### County-Operated Prevention Programs

LAC directly provides specific prevention programs and activities at selected public parks and eligible educational settings to provide CSAP prevention strategies, such as information dissemination, education, alternative programs, problem ID and referral, as well as community-based process. These directly operated County programs offer coordinated, county-wide prevention programs dedicated to serving youth, young adults, and the community at-large, implementing evidence-based community and individual-level substance abuse prevention education and positive youth development programming, aimed to empower individuals to resist risky behaviors and choose healthier alternatives.

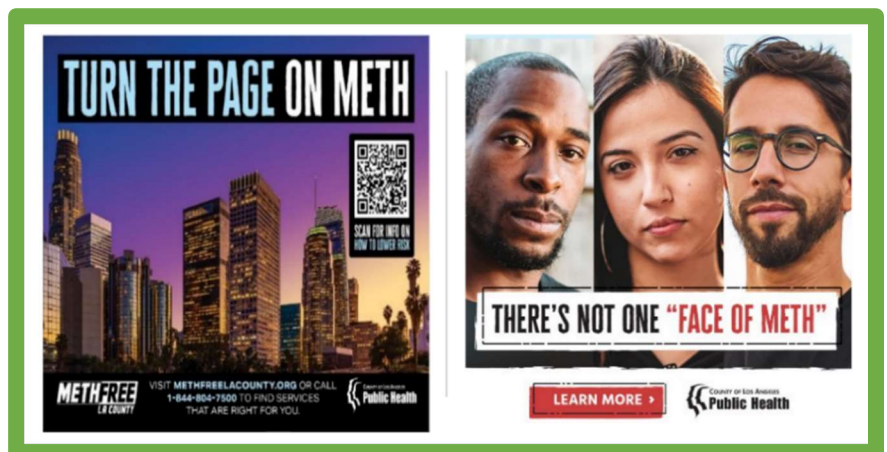


Photos courtesy of LAC Dept. of Parks and Recreation

### Prevention Media Campaigns (PMC)

SAPC Prevention media campaigns provide countywide awareness and education regarding priority substances that affect Los Angeles County communities. These data driven media campaigns utilize a multipronged approach to provide messaging that involve the most relevant forms of media, including both general and targeted messaging and a significant call to action.

Culturally competent campaigns focus on highlighting emerging public health concerns including increased availability within communities and the potential health impacts such as risk of overdose or negatively altering adolescent and young adult brain development. These efforts align with the County goals and objectives, and significantly increase capacity of existing prevention media efforts from individual County providers and community coalitions.



Source: DPH SAPC Media Campaign

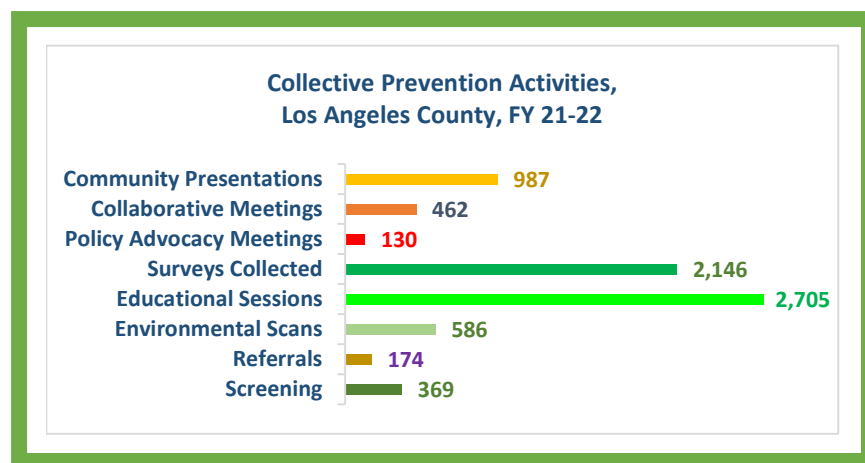


## OUR PREVENTION SERVICES AND COMMUNITIES SERVED

In the 2021-22 fiscal year, many of our providers restarted in-person services following the COVID-19 pandemic stay-at-home orders. Overall, through our contracted prevention providers, we were able to serve 69,552 unique residents. This included 27,824 students and 41,359 adults, both virtually and in person. Fifteen of our providers (39.5%) had youth advisories or worked closely with a youth advisory board within their local communities.

### Prevention Activities:

A total of 2,030 student education sessions and 675 parent education sessions were offered through 156 school-based programs. A total of 369 screenings were performed, with primarily youth to determine if further SUD prevention services were needed, which led to 174 referrals to prevention and in some cases, treatment providers. Our partner agencies performed a total of 586 environmental scans, collected 2,146 surveys, attended 130 policy and advocacy sessions, offered 987 community presentations, distributed 340,767 printed materials, and participated in 462 community events<sup>35</sup> across the county.



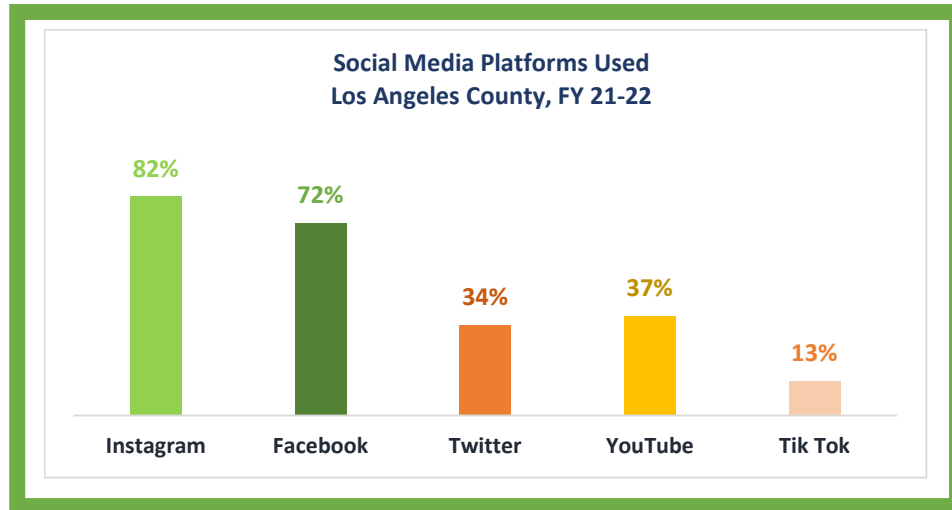
### Social Media and Online Activities:

In terms of reaching communities through social media, the most frequently used platform was Instagram (82%), followed by Facebook (72%), YouTube (37%), Twitter (34%), and TikTok (13%). Over 80% of our agencies had a website, indicating 526,241 website traffic for 226,968 sessions. An estimated 11% of the agencies had used podcasts to engage their target populations, with 57 followers collectively. YouTube was

<sup>35</sup> May include virtual; may have been reported more than once.

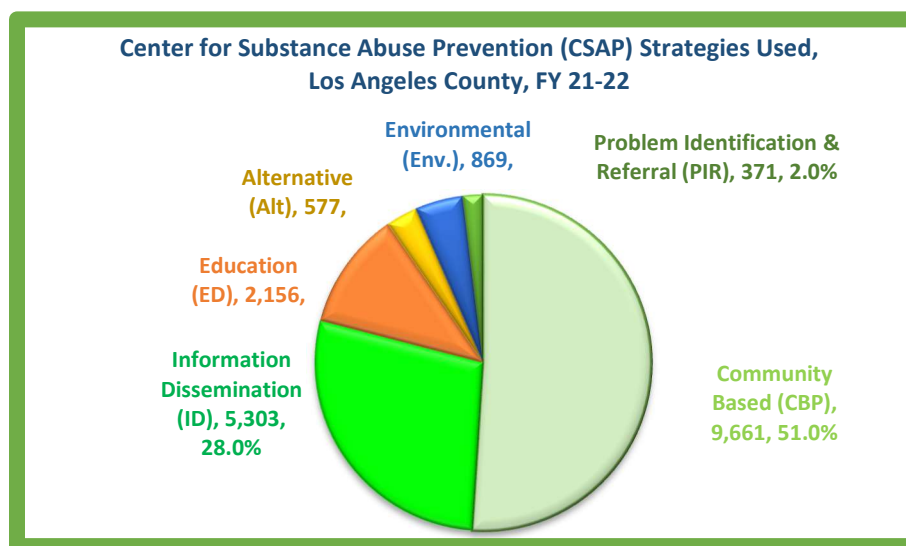
## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

used by 36% of our contracted agencies with 1,574 followers. An estimated 13% of agencies were actively using Tik Tok, produced 261 posts, 2,506 likes and 220 followers.



## Prevention Strategies

In terms of CSAP strategies referenced on page 11, providers used mainly community-based activities (CBP, 51%), followed by information dissemination (ID, 28%), education (ED, 11.4%), environmental (Env., 4.6%), alternative (Alt, 3%) and problem identification and referral (PIR, 2%). These prevention strategies have been an integral part of our services and are based on recommendations by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to create supportive, drug free, and healthier communities.

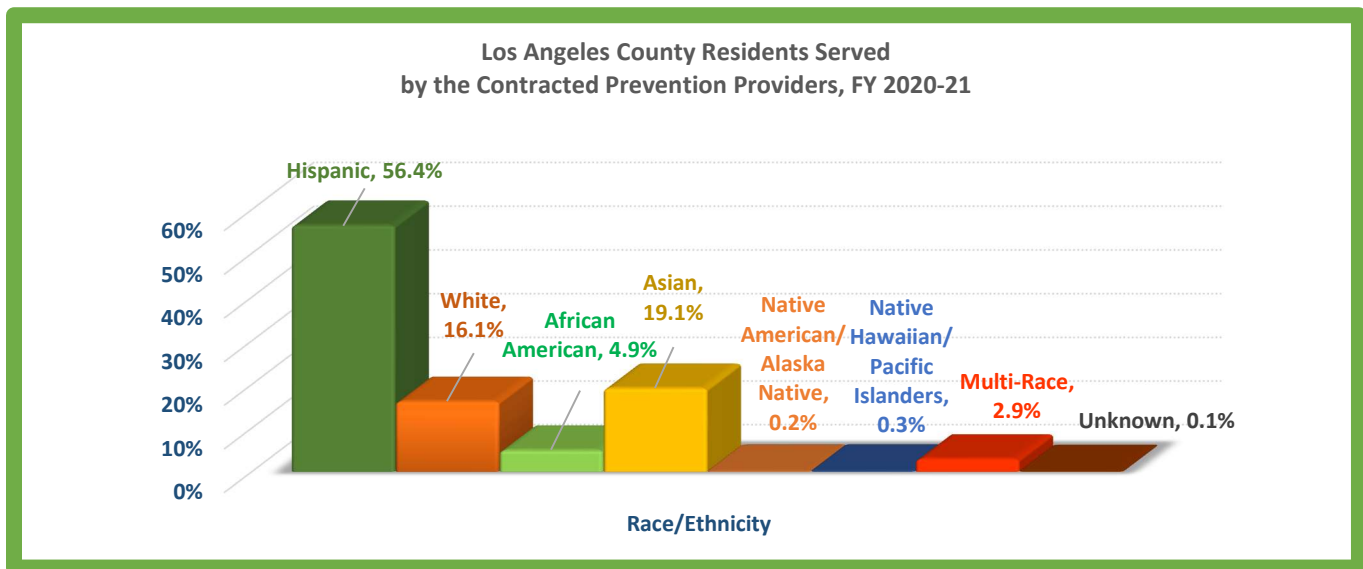
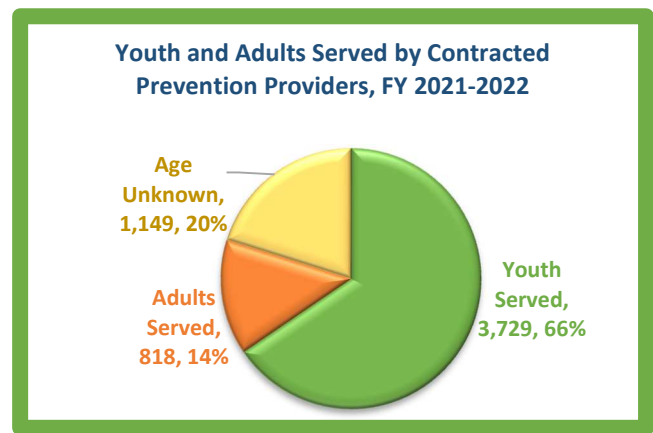
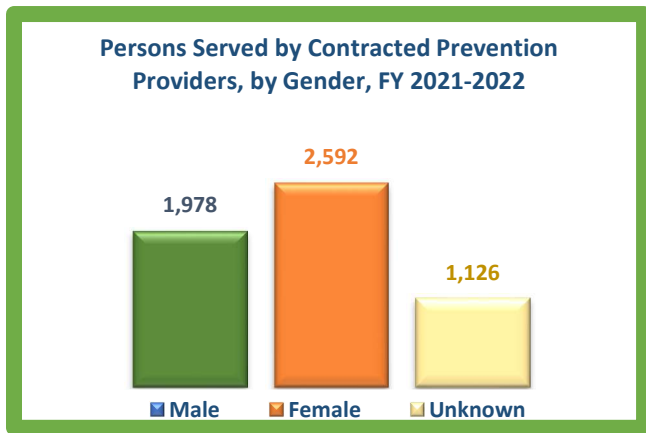


## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

### Demographic Data

During FY2021-21, SAPC-contracted prevention providers served 5,696 Los Angeles County residents, including 3,729 youth through our session-based interventions. This included 1,978 males and 2,592 females, which included 3,729 youth and 818 adults. Gender was unknown for 1,126 residents served during this fiscal year.

More than half (56.4%) of residents served, were identified as Latino, 16.1% white<sup>36</sup>, 4.9% African American<sup>27</sup>, 19.1% Asian<sup>27</sup>, 0.2% American Indian/Alaska Native, 0.3% Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders, and 3% were identified as multi-racial/other.



<sup>36</sup> May include Hispanic

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

### PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Our prevention providers used a variety of evidence based and local innovative programs to address the prevention needs of their communities. For FY 21-22, 65% of our educational services used evidence-based interventions, while 35% used local innovative programs to address the educational needs of their respective communities.

Environmental prevention approaches were used to reduce retail access and availability of alcohol to underage youth. These strategies included 'Knock & Talk visits' with their local alcohol retailers to introduce the Merchant Committed<sup>37</sup> program. Through these “knock and talks”, providers sought to enlist support from several merchants for the Responsible Alcohol Beverage Service (RBS)<sup>38</sup> training. Providers offered to educate potential and current alcoholic beverage servers, offering them the skills to serve alcoholic beverages more responsibly, to help reduce alcohol related harms. Several SAPC contracted prevention agencies have successfully offered RBS trainings to the alcohol retailers within their local communities. Many of our network prevention providers have also engaged alcohol retailers to improve the monitoring and compliance with Lee Law regulations, which supports mandatory signage to deter youth from accessing alcoholic products.

Select agencies have focused on supporting local, city, county, and state-wide policy initiatives as well as community education and outreach campaigns to impact alcohol prevention strategies from a public health and



Photos courtesy of HealthRIGHT 360 - Prototypes, Pacific Clinics, and Day One in collaboration with Rethinking Alcohol and Other Drugs (RAD)



Photo courtesy of Korean American Youth & Community Center in collaboration with Coalition for Prevention and Awareness in LA Metro (COPALM)

<sup>37</sup> <https://butteyouthnow.org/merchant-committed/#:~:text=The%20Merchant%20Code%20of%20Conduct,increasing%20alcoholic%20beverage%20establishment%20compliance>

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.abc.ca.gov/education/rbs/>

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

safety perspective. Additional efforts included working on Deemed Approved Ordinances (DAO), regulating 3rd Party alcohol delivery, and supporting the administrative regulatory decisions throughout LAC.

Our prevention providers' advocacy efforts to address substance use related policies included informing the community on the nature of the bills, providing testimonials, engaging elected officials, and encouraging communities to be involved in conversations with their local representatives to advocate on behalf of their communities. Our provider network and their associated community coalitions informed their local constituencies, created policy advocacy campaigns, and provided comments at official hearings.

Several coalitions, workgroups, and alliances have been created and maintained to collaborate with community partners to advance substance use prevention strategies, especially among youth and other vulnerable populations. Our prevention providers continue to educate and raise community awareness of cannabis and alcohol-related harms, discuss the social and economic factors that contribute to addiction, and encourage civic participation and advocacy efforts to support alcohol and cannabis use prevention.

To increase social connection, our providers planned various activities to bring community members together to celebrate local and national events, such as the Red Ribbon Week, Alcohol Awareness Month, and Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) National Prescription Take Back Day, among others.

By using evidence based and local innovative programming, contracted community prevention providers used positive youth development strategies to help equip youth with better coping skills to live healthier lives away from substance use/misuse. For example, through collaboration with LAC Department of Parks and Recreation,



Photos courtesy of Clare Matrix, and the Institute for Public Strategies (IPS) in collaboration with the Westside Impact Project.



Photos courtesy of Tarzana Treatment Center (TTC) & Pueblo y Salud (PyS), in collaboration with Antelope Valley Marijuana, Alcohol, & Pharmaceutical Prevention Coalition (AVMAPP)

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

local youth participated in alternative activities to connect with one another and enjoy healthier activity choices that excluded substance use.

To address safer prescription drug storage and disposal, our local providers hosted several DEA National Prescription Drug Take Back events countywide, which led to the collection of thousands of pounds of unused prescription drugs.

Act Now Against Meth (ANAM) coalition was reinitiated in 2021 to confront the meth epidemic in Los Angeles County. Following a virtual Act Now Against Meth Community Summit in March 2022, the coalition established a workgroup to draft the Los Angeles County Platform Addressing the Meth Epidemic. The workgroup drafted a list of recommendations to better address crystal meth in LAC, reflecting the needs of community members and stakeholders expressed throughout the past two years.

The Safe West Hollywood Community Coalition (SWHCC) created a four-part methamphetamine risk reduction recommendation for West Hollywood City Council to expand risk reduction services in West Hollywood and create a sobering site to connect meth users to treatment, supplemental rent programs, and alcohol-free community gathering spaces to foster a shift in social norms away from drug use at West Hollywood's bars and clubs.

## OUR COALITION EFFORTS

Los Angeles County substance use prevention providers worked with community agencies and residents through various coalitions, including Rethinking Access to Marijuana (RAM), Los Angeles Drug and Alcohol Policy Alliance (LA DAPA), and Service Planning Area (SPA) coalitions<sup>39</sup> throughout the county. Through innovative projects, these coalitions and their community partners addressed substance use issues through advocacy efforts to increase community awareness and mobilize the community to act on their own behalf and advocate for safer, youth-friendly regulations that reduces access and availability of alcohol, marijuana, and other substances within their communities.

Antelope Valley Marijuana, Alcohol, & Pharmaceutical Prevention coalition (AVMAPP) coalition agencies, led by Tarzana Treatment Center and supported by Pueblo y Salud (PyS), worked on educating the residents and local officials about alcohol density and its negative consequences on community health. AVMAPP joined local health care providers and law enforcement agencies to host 2 major Drug Take Back events in SPA 1.

The San Fernando Service Planning Area (SPA 2) coalition (Communities in Action) agencies included Child and Family Service Center of Santa Clarita, National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of the San Fernando Valley, Inc. (NCADD SF), Tarzana Treatment Center, Phoenix House of Los Angeles, and San Fernando Valley Partnership (SFVP). Through the leadership of the SFVP, the coalition implemented innovative strategies, such as the *Responsible Alcohol Delivery Project (RADP)*, and *Let's Make a Difference (LMD)*, and the smoke shop initiative to address underage alcohol use, prescription drug misuse, and underage marijuana use, respectively. The RADP engaged alcohol off-sale retailers to increase their understanding of the importance of responsible alcohol

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<sup>39</sup> See appendix B

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

retailing practices to reduce youth access to alcohol'. LMD highlighted how access contributed to use, the dangers of Rx misuse, and the harms associated with sharing medications. The smoke shop initiative focused on identifying smoke shops close to middle and high schools and educating them about the ramifications of selling to minors and address availability of cannabis products, such as delta 8, to youth.

The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of the San Fernando Valley (NCADD-SFV) implemented *Project Sticker Shock*, visiting various off-sale alcohol outlets with a group of high school volunteers to address alcohol availability. Phoenix House worked on raising awareness and building capacity (via public education and community engagement strategies) about the provisions of the *Adult Use of Marijuana Act (AUMA)* related to marijuana public smoking. Pueblo Y Salud, Inc. provided *Restaurant Beverage Service (RBS)* training and mobilized local youth to present their *Spoken Word/Slam Poetry* art, regarding alcohol outlet density as a detriment in their community.

Rethinking Alcohol and Other Drugs (RAD) coalition, with the leadership of Day One, inc. implemented *Project Sticker Shock*, coordinating efforts to reduce youth's retail access to alcohol across the San Gabriel Valley. RAD partner agencies including City of Pasadena Recovery Center, Day One, Inc., NCADD of East San Gabriel and Pomona Valley, Inc., Pacific Clinics, and Prototypes worked with their local youth, alcohol retailers, and community partners, placing stickers on alcohol multipacks to promote safer retail practices and reduce retail access to alcohol across SPA 3. RAD members coordinated efforts to encourage safe storage and disposal of medications and increase access to naloxone. They helped increase awareness of risks associated with marijuana use through their work



Photo courtesy NCADD of SFV & San Fernando Valley Partnership (SFVP) in collaboration with Communities I Action (C.I.A.)



Photos courtesy of Koreatown Youth & Community Center, Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA), The Wall Las Memorias Project, and Social Model Recovery Systems in collaboration with Coalition to Prevent Alcohol-Related Harms in LA Metro (COPALM)



Photos courtesy Tarzana Treatment Center (TTC), Pueblo y Salud (PyS), and Phoenix House, in collaboration with Communities in Action

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

with Rethinking Access to Marijuana (RAM), by educating the community and elected officials about marijuana's effects on the developing brain of youth and young adults (between the ages of 12-26).

Koreatown Youth and Community Center (KYCC) led Metro SPA's (SPA 4) prevention efforts through *Coalition to Prevent Alcohol-Related Harms in LA Metro (COPALM)*, a partnership with Social Model Recovery Systems (SMRS), Children's Hospital of Los Angeles (CHLA), Behavioral Health Services (BHS) of Hollywood, The Wall Las Memorias Project (TWLMP), Jewish Family Services of Los Angeles, and their community partners. KYCC developed safe Rx prevention kits that included a deactivation pouch, an educational brochure that detailed safe Rx practices, and a pill box to encourage safe medication practices. A total of 350 kits were shared with diverse community members at multiple events, including the National Drug Take Back Day. To reduce exposure to alcohol/marijuana advertising, Social Model Recovery Systems (SMRS) implemented an educational campaign urging the LA City Board of Public Works to limit alcohol marketing, which led to the adoption of the Skid Row counter-marketing program which offered alternative advertising in five public restroom facilities within Skid Row.

TWLMP focused efforts on advocating for *Alcohol Restricted Use Subdistrict (ARUS)*, *Restaurant Beverage Program (RBP)*, and Deemed Approved Ordinances to address alcohol availability in their communities. ARUS is a city motion to allow communities and their representatives to identify vulnerable areas in city council districts where restrictions could be applied to the future issuances of off-sale or on-sale alcohol licenses.

The Restaurant Beverage Program (RBP) is an administrative review process available for qualifying restaurants requesting to serve alcoholic



Photo courtesy of Community Coalition (CoCo), South Central Prevention Coalition (SCPC), and Special Services for Groups (SSG) in collaboration with South Los Angeles Movement (SLAM) Prevention



Photo courtesy of Asian American Drug Abuse Prevention program, Cambodian Association of America, in collaboration with the South Bay Communities Creating Change (SBC3)



Photos courtesy of Helpline Youth Counseling (HYC) and Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) In collaboration with Southeast Community Alliance (SECA)



## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

beverages. The RBP eliminates the need for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP), reducing processing time and costs associated with the approval process. The Institute for Public Strategies (IPS) collaborated with the City of West Hollywood on harm reduction strategies to reduce the burden of alcohol and other drugs in West Hollywood and surrounding communities.

IPS led the prevention efforts in SPA 5 through the Westside Impact Project (WIP), with support from Clare Foundation Inc., DiDi Hirsch, and other local partners, advocating for additional funding for specific programs in West Hollywood, to prevent harms associated with methamphetamine use. Additionally, IPS engaged in the advocacy rollout of the *Neighborhood Empowerment Tool (NET)*, an LA DAPA-sponsored ordinance intended to control alcohol outlet density in sensitive use, high crime, and high-density areas. IPS assisted in developing briefings to support this effort and developed a rollout plan for its execution, from July through December of 2022.

In the South Service Planning Area (SPA 6), under the leadership of the Community Coalition for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment, the South LA Movement (SLAM) Prevention Coalition agencies (Avalon Carver, Shields for Families, South Central Prevention Coalition, Special Services for Groups, Volunteers of America, Watts Health Foundation, Inc.) worked on reducing alcohol availability and prescription drug misuse. Avalon-Carver hosted two drive-through Take Back events. The coalition conducted social media campaigns and implemented *Project Sticker Shock* at three different local alcohol retailers, capitalizing on community activism, cooperative efforts, and collective responsibilities to combat underage drinking and its related problems. Through this project, the coalition members educated the residents, local businesses, and community agencies about underage drinking and the regulations in place to address this issue.

The Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) FNL program worked with the Southeast Community Alliance (SECA) coalition in SPA 7 (East SPA) on marijuana paraphernalia environmental scans. Partner agencies, including SPIRITT Family Services, worked with youth councils at high schools and community colleges, including Rio Hondo and Mt. San Antonio colleges, to continue to address access and availability of marijuana in their communities. They visited multiple liquor outlets, verifying that campaign stickers were placed on the refrigerator doors. TWLM led the effort to address *Alcohol Restricted Use Subdistrict (ARUS)*, the *Restaurant Beverage Program (RBP)* and Deemed Approved Ordinances (DAO) to reduce alcohol availability within LA City limits.

Asian American Drug Abuse Program (AADAP), Inc. led the environmental efforts in the South Bay Service Planning Area (SPA 8). *South Bay Communities Creating Change (SBC3)* Coalition members, including Behavioral Health Services (BHS), Cambodian Association of America, addressed alcohol and marijuana by advocating for Social Host Liability Ordinances within their local communities. Coalition partners provided local outreach and education, hosted Rx take back events, and presented to the community about safe keeping of Rx drugs, as well as the disposal of unused or expired medications to limit Rx misuse.

AADAP provided *Restaurant Beverage Service (RBS)* training for local on-sale alcohol retailers and participated in the collective work of RAM, where the Park Banner campaign amended no-smoking ordinances and public signage to include marijuana smoking and vaping. SBC3 accomplished amending tobacco/alcohol-prevention based laws to include marijuana/vaping. For example, City of Carson amended the flavored tobacco ban to include vape flavors and amended their Social Host ordinance to include marijuana/vaping.

## PREVENTION EFFORTS BY PRIORITY SUBSTANCE

### Methamphetamine

During the 21-22 fiscal year, the Methamphetamine Prevention Committee developed a Resource Inventory Survey to help identify existing methamphetamine prevention services and resources throughout Los Angeles County. This effort helped determine service needs and utilization for at risk populations, and guide community efforts on the expansion and improvement of methamphetamine prevention services in Los Angeles County.

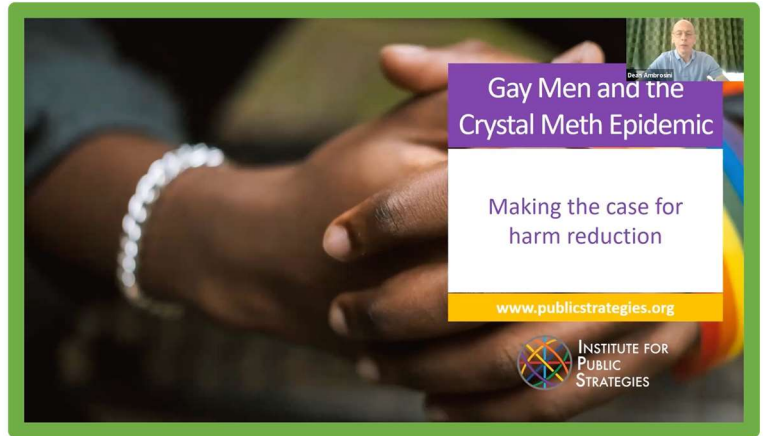


Photo courtesy of the Institute for Public Strategies (IPS)

Beginning August 2021, the Methamphetamine Prevention Committee assisted in the development of a second Community Needs Assessment as an ongoing effort to assess Los Angeles County residents’ attitudes and behaviors towards marijuana, prescription medications misuse, methamphetamine, and alcohol to support the County’s data-driven prevention programs and initiatives.

Our providers utilized their social media platforms to amplify methamphetamine campaign messages, collaborating with coalitions such as the West Hollywood (WeHo) Community Coalition to recommend augmenting risk reduction services. Suggestions included creating a trauma-informed sobering site, funding for additional syringe services programs, providing rent assistance for people entering treatment, and designating an AOD-free community space. Select providers conducted community presentations on methamphetamine prevention and launched media campaigns to increase awareness on the harms associated with methamphetamine use. From July 19 through November 5, SAPC launched the second, more targeted meth use prevention media campaign (Meth Free Los Angeles 2021).



Source: DPH SAPC Media Campaign

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

Select prevention providers have worked diligently to reduce methamphetamine-related harms in their communities through community education and awareness-building strategies involving youth and adults. For example, The Institute of Public Strategies (IPS) and TWLMP staff worked with the Safe West Hollywood Community Coalition, on recommendations for the West Hollywood City Council. Their proposed recommendations supported strategies to mitigate drug overdose, reduce bloodborne infections, advocate for supplemental rent programs to assist meth users entering treatment, and create additional trauma informed sobering sites and substance free community gathering spaces to foster a shift in social norms away from drug use at West Hollywood's bars and clubs. Similarly, through providing public health education and awareness about the increasing trends in methamphetamine and other illicit substances to the Skid Row Park Advisory Board (Board), the Board adopted a motion requiring that Los Angeles City Recreation and Parks staff to make naloxone available in Skid Row area parks. Additionally, TWLMP's "Act Now Against Meth" Coalition developed a Los Angeles County Platform, which includes a comprehensive list of recommendations to better address the current meth crisis in LAC.

### *Alcohol*

Through multiple community-based collaborations, our prevention providers advocated for healthier alcohol-related policies, including the Lee Law storefront advertising restrictions for alcohol retailers, Healthy Retail Framework for converting corner stores into healthy retailers that stock fresh fruit and vegetables, Conditional Use Beverage permits (CUB) for the sale of alcoholic beverages, Liam's Law for reducing BAC from .08 to .05 for DUI, and Project Sticker Shock (PSS).

Our partner agencies provided educational programs to youth and families to help them build resiliency and experience healthy alternative activities that are free from substance use. They also educated the community stakeholders about the negative impact of excessive alcohol use, empowering them to represent their communities against permissive alcohol policies and increases in alcohol outlet concentration, especially in vulnerable and underserved communities.

Through various projects, such as the Responsible Alcohol Delivery Project (RADP), our partner agencies in SPA 2 helped increase third-party delivery drivers' awareness about the importance of checking identification and demonstrating retailer commitment to preventing the sale of alcohol to underage youth, and ensuring that off-sale retailers comply with the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control regulations.

Through extensive advocacy efforts, our contracted agencies mobilized community residents to address liquor store overconcentration, helped regulate alcohol sales, mitigated alcohol-related harms, and helped support communities in establishing social host ordinances in various municipalities. For example, the City of Pomona passed a social host ordinance to minimize private property gatherings where alcoholic beverages are served to and consumed by underage persons. Alcohol Counter Marketing campaigns were implemented to reduce alcohol consumption among youth and increase knowledge of the risks associated with alcohol use, binge drinking, and driving under the influence.

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

Many of our community prevention partners worked on alcohol advocacy<sup>40</sup> efforts by educating the public and elected officials about the harms associated with increased alcohol access and availability, advocating for the inclusion of more restrictive local policies on alcohol. Some of the local policies addressed during this fiscal year include City of LA's Restaurant Beverage Program (RBP)<sup>41</sup>, Senate Bill (SB)-58<sup>42</sup>, expanded hours of on-sale premises, SB314 (Weiner) Expanded Footprint (outdoor, sidewalk dining expansion), SB389 (Dodd) Permanent Cocktails To-Go, SB 980 (Weiner) Alcoholic Beverage Licenses, AB61 (Gabriel) Expanded Outdoor Dining Permissions, AB 1330 Alcohol Delivery Regulation, and Local Deemed Approved Ordinances (DAO), such as City of Pomona, ordinance no. 4126.



Photo courtesy of San Fernando Valley Partnership in collaboration with Communities in Action

## Cannabis (Marijuana)

During FY 2021-2022, many of our partner agencies participated in various prevention campaigns to curb cannabis industry marketing efforts directed towards underage youth and educated community stakeholders on relevant cannabis related issues. For example, prevention providers worked with their respective local authorities to address unlawful cannabis activity and helped establish safer retail practices including testing hemp products and properly labeling cannabis products, such as edibles, which could potentially lead to overdose and accidental poisoning incidents, emergency visits, and hospitalizations among youth.

This effort promoted stronger warnings on cannabis products to reduce use among vulnerable populations such as youth, young adults, and pregnant or breastfeeding women. By informing the city officials of cannabis outlet research findings, many of our contracted agencies supported safer cannabis sales policies.



Photo courtesy of Behavioral Health Services (BHS) in collaboration with South Bay Communities Creating Change

<sup>40</sup> <https://www.abc.ca.gov/new-laws-2021-22/>

<sup>41</sup> [Restaurant Beverage Program \(RBP\) | Los Angeles City Planning \(lacity.org\)](https://www.lacity.org/planning/restaurant-beverage-program)

<sup>42</sup> [https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=2019202005B58#:~:text=This%20bill%2C%20beginning%20January%201,would%20authorize%2C%20with%20or%20without](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=2019202005B58#:~:text=This%20bill%2C%20beginning%20January%201,would%20authorize%2C%20with%20or%20without)

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

Our SPA 1 prevention partners participated in education efforts on ordinances in select municipalities, for smoke free outdoor areas. SPA 3 partners helped support the expansion of Pasadena's smoke free zone in multi-unit housing and shared spaces. SPA 4 partners proposed ordinances that included prohibition of new cannabis businesses in the Skid Row neighborhood. Several agencies advocated for enhanced cannabis enforcement in Los Angeles, calling for stronger enforcement of illegal marijuana business closures. They also created educational social media messaging and billboard advertisements in partnership with media companies to educate local communities about the negative impacts of cannabis use on the health, productivity and brain development of youth and young adults, and safety risks associated with cannabis use.

In collaboration with organizations, such as Youth Forward, our SPA 6 partners advocated against cannabis tax reductions and provided insight about the needs of their respective communities. Many agencies provided community education about marijuana restrictions and supported limiting the number of marijuana dispensaries, sales, and delivery options in select cities. For example, SPA 8 agencies worked together to limit marijuana sales in Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, and Redondo Beach. They also advocated for a cannabis retail dispensary ordinance to ensure the placement of safety labeling on cannabis products.

Our provider network provided public comments at City Council meetings, coordinated and prepared youth and adult coalition members for public comments, and provided information and educational opportunities in response to challenges by outside investors who encouraged marijuana sales. Additionally, they assisted in the development of Responsible Cannabis Server Training to advocate for the implementation of a mandatory comprehensive curriculum on safe retail practices for staff at licensed cannabis dispensaries.

Prevention agencies in SPA 1 worked together with community stakeholders to ban flavored vaping products SPA-wide. In SPA 2, agencies addressed several cannabis issues and policies including cannabis and hemp product testing and delivery (SB 292<sup>43</sup>), civil engagement action for aiding unlicensed cannabis activity (AB 1138<sup>44</sup>), removal of cannabis tax penalty (AB 725<sup>45</sup>), imposing tax on non-cannabis cannabinoids sold (AB 1435<sup>46</sup>), cannabis use in food



Photos courtesy of Day One in collaboration with Rethinking Alcohol and Other Drugs (RAD) coalition

<sup>43</sup> <https://openstates.org/ca/bills/20212022/SB292/>

<sup>44</sup> [https://sjud.senate.ca.gov/sites/sjud.senate.ca.gov/files/ab\\_1138\\_blanca\\_rubio\\_sjud\\_analysis.pdf](https://sjud.senate.ca.gov/sites/sjud.senate.ca.gov/files/ab_1138_blanca_rubio_sjud_analysis.pdf)

<sup>45</sup> <https://openstates.org/ca/bills/20212022/AB725/#:~:text=AUMA%20imposes%20an%20excise%20tax,a%20cannabis%20retailer%2C%20as%20specified>

<sup>46</sup> <https://openstates.org/ca/bills/20212022/AB1435/>

## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services (AODPS)

establishments (AB 1034<sup>47</sup>), security and transportation guidelines (AB 1014<sup>48</sup>), industrial hemp products (AB 45<sup>49</sup>), commercial cannabis billboards: placement restrictions (AB 1302<sup>50</sup>), and cannabis products labeling and advertisement (SB 1097<sup>51</sup>).

Several agencies participated in environmental scans of smoke shops within 1,000 feet of youth sensitive locations that may illegally sell unregulated cannabis and hemp products to youth. Providers collaborated with local law enforcement agencies, the LAC Tobacco Control Program, advocacy groups, and faith-based organizations on enacting flavored tobacco and vaping product sales ban within their communities. Additionally, they provided their respective communities with information to assist them in their efforts to reinstate the 2019 vaping ordinance that includes a ban on concept flavors<sup>52</sup>.

## Prescription Drugs

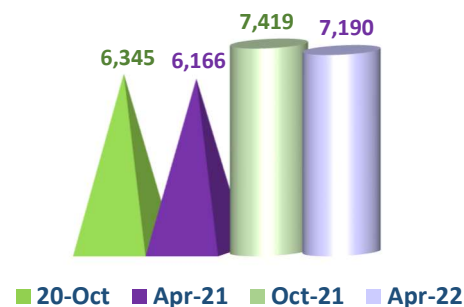
For the past several years, our providers, their local coalitions, and law enforcement agencies have partnered with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), for its bi-annual National Take Back Day (NTBD) campaigns, in support of promoting safe storage and disposal practices and preventing prescription drug misuse and abuse. Providers engage in extensive outreach to communities for the planning and execution of county-wide Drug Take Back Day events occurring on the last Saturday in April and October.

Many agencies developed prescription drug kits including educational brochures that encouraged safe use, storage, and disposal practices, pill boxes, and deactivation pouches. Moreover, several agencies launched campaigns to raise awareness of the risks and harms associated with opioid misuse and abuse and informed community members about availability of naloxone, the Sharps Disposal Program, and expanded the network of take-back day collection sites. A total of 14,608.91 pounds of prescription drugs waste s was collected during



Photo courtesy of the Institute for Public strategies (IPS) in collaboration Westside Health Impact coalition.

**Pounds of Medication Collected  
DEA Take Back Events  
LAC, FY 20-21 and FY 21-22**



<sup>47</sup> <https://openstates.org/ca/bills/20212022/AB1034/>

<sup>48</sup> <https://trackbill.com/bill/california-assembly-bill-1014-cannabis-retailers-delivery-vehicles/2039946/>

<sup>49</sup> <https://openstates.org/ca/bills/20212022/AB45/>

<sup>50</sup> <https://openstates.org/ca/bills/20212022/AB1302/>

<sup>51</sup> <https://openstates.org/ca/bills/20212022/SB1097/>

<sup>52</sup> Concept flavors refer to products with names that do not explicitly identify a flavor, such as Swisher's "Wild Rush" and Altria's "Jazz," even though they are flavored. See <https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/assets/factsheets/0383.pdf>.

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the fiscal year 2021-22 Drug Take Back Day events, an increase of 2,097.81 pounds or 16.8% from the previous fiscal year.

LAC SPA coalitions provided public comment for SB 212 to provide public health commentary on the benefits of establishing safe and convenient collection and disposal options for specified drugs and home-generated sharps waste. Many agencies submitted written public comments as well as recommendations to inform the community and local legislators about the public health impacts of proposed regulations. Pueblo Y Salud, Inc. focused on the creation of a commission, sanctioned by both cities of Lancaster and Palmdale, to oversee and address the overprescribing practices of opioids and benzodiazepines in both cities. The Institute for Public Strategies (IPS) provided information on the expanded Drug Take Back Day resources to all participating community members at the April 2022 DEA Takeback Events in Santa Monica and Westwood. SPA 8 agencies worked with the community to include prescription medications in the current Social Host Ordinance.

## EVENTS

Prevention agencies across the County either hosted or participated in over 400 community events, to engage their communities and bring awareness to unhealthy cultural norms as well as identify individual and environmental practices that lead to increased alcohol and drug use. These included the Drug Take Back Day events, National Prevention Week, Red Ribbon Week, Recovery Month, and Drug Overdose Prevention Day, collaborating with local parks, schools, faith-based agencies, pharmacies, and community medical providers to enhance prevention goals across the county.

Over 400,000 printed materials were distributed throughout LAC to help engage and educate the community about substance use related issues within their communities. One of our major events included a youth summit for 100 South LA youth by the South Los Angeles Metro (SLAM) Coalition. This annual youth leadership summit was designed to provide opportunities for youth to become SUD prevention ambassadors in their community and schools. The summit held several workshops on the risks of self-medicating, SUD prevention, health and wellness, and safe alternatives to drug use.

South Central Prevention Coalition (SCPC) provided a holistic resource fair (Culture Cures Resource Fair) where select service providers from the South Los Angeles area convened to address community needs, especially the residents that were negatively impacted by the COVID pandemic. South Central Youth Empowered through Action (SCYEA) used a youth development model to engage the community youth and mobilize them into becoming community leaders.



Photos courtesy of Pueblo y Salud, Prototypes-HealthRIGHT 360, Cambodian American Association, Tarzana Treatment Center, and The Wall Las Memorias.

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To address the fentanyl overdose crisis, providers collaborated with local law enforcement agencies, local city and county departments, and community healthcare providers to raise awareness and inform residents about this issue. For example, SPA 8 agencies collaborated with the Hermosa Beach Police department to engage the community and explore how the fentanyl epidemic impacts their community, the role of social media, the impact of naloxone on reversing overdoses, and how to have productive conversations about this problem.



Photo courtesy of AADAP, Day One, KYCC, and SLAM coalition.

The Ninth Annual BOOM event was successfully planned and implemented to support changing social norms away from methamphetamine and problematic alcohol use. This alcohol-free New Year's Eve event for the West Hollywood (WeHo) community featured local celebrities and was widely promoted through email, printed materials, and social media, as well as in local newspapers. Councilmembers from the City of West Hollywood attended the event, which attracted over 375 attendees.

## CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Los Angeles County's dedicated contracted prevention providers continued to cultivate existing relationships and explore new partnerships with community stakeholders, school administrators, faith-based community, and decision makers, to enhance community connections and reinforce regulations to limit availability and access to substances.

Some of the largest challenges identified by our contracted providers included increasing patterns of alcohol and other drug use, as well as increases in the drug-related overdose deaths. Post COVID compensatory regulations around alcohol sales and consumption, which were intended to stimulate the economy, likely resulted in increased access and availability of alcohol within many vulnerable communities that are already over concentrated with alcohol and marijuana businesses. This, in addition to pervasive socioeconomic issues such as poverty, unemployment, homelessness, and social isolation, have inevitably increased the overall burden of substance use and abuse countywide.

Community coalition engagement and retention, staffing transitions, and Zoom meeting fatigue posed as tangible challenges in providing optimal services. Limited access to reliable internet and devices, especially in communities experiencing higher poverty levels, lower socioeconomic standings, or those with lower literacy levels or technical acuity remained challenging. Our service providers continued engaging communities through online platforms, such as Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter, You Tube, podcasts, and Tik Tok. Live podcasts were coupled with in-person events to increase community participation, offering educational opportunities and creative new ways to connect.



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Addressing the individual and community-level risk factors for substance use, such as poverty, violence, low neighborhood attachment and pride, favorable alcohol laws, and the social norms that encourage substance use is vital in improving community conditions that protect against substance misuse. LAC prevention providers worked diligently to increase community engagement, learning opportunities, as well as prospects for collaboration and policy support through both in person and online platforms. Additionally, SAPC offered a robust media campaign to address methamphetamine countywide. Our providers worked closely with their local partners to improve community-level protective factors, connect residents with available community resources, and strengthen the community-based interventions that improve resiliency and overall wellbeing.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

This report represents a snapshot of key prevention strategies and initiatives implemented in Los Angeles County, the challenges imposed since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the adjustments made to traditional prevention programming to address post pandemic restrictions.

Recommendations for the next steps, in accordance with federal and state guidelines and the Los Angeles County's Strategic Prevention Plan, is to continue engaging local populations, to promote social connection and community pride, address negative health and societal impacts of substance misuse, and increase access to supportive services for youth and families to enhance resiliency and improve overall health. Offering youth opportunities to engage and access healthier alternatives to substance misuse, can inspire them to tap into their own creativity and resiliency to rise above substance misuse, continue to make healthier choices, and move their communities forward by improving the health and productivity of its members.

Environmental prevention approaches, which include policy initiatives, are among the most effective prevention strategies used to reduce access and availability of alcohol and other substances. Informing residents and mobilizing them to advocate on behalf of their own communities can successfully address access and availability, especially among underage youth and other vulnerable populations. Advocating for more protective regulations that reduce the availability to alcohol and other substances empowers communities to improve their local conditions, enabling communities to live healthier and more productive lives.

**Alcohol and Other Drug  
Prevention Services  
(AODPS)**

## APPENDICES

### Appendix A

FY2021-2022 PREVENTION PROVIDER NETWORK  
SUBSTANCE MISUSE PREVENTION SERVICES CONTRACTED PROVIDERS

No.	Contracted Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Services Providers	CPS	EPS	APS	Special Projects
1	Asian American Drug Abuse Program	X	SPA	X	
2	Avalon Carver Community Center	X			
3	Behavioral Health Services, Inc.			X	
	• Beach Cities	X			
	• Torrance	X			
	• Hollywood	X			
4	California Hispanic Commission on Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	SPA	X	
5	Cambodian Association of America	X			
6	Child and Family Center – Santa Clarita			X	
7	Children's Hospital of Los Angeles	X		X	
8	City of Pasadena Recovery Center	X			
9	Clare Foundation Inc.	X			
10	Community Coalition for Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment	X	SPA		
11	Day One, Inc.	X	SPA		
12	Didi Hirsch Psychiatric Services			X	
13	Rescue Agency				PMC
14	Helpline Youth Counseling, Inc.	X		X	
15	Institute for Public Strategies	X	SPA		
16	Jewish Family Services of Los Angeles	X			
17	Koreatown Youth & Community Center	X	SPA		
18	Los Angeles County Office of Education	X			FNL
19	Los Angeles County Our SPOT Program				MOU
21	NCADD of East San Gabriel and Pomona Valley, Inc.	X			
22	NCADD of San Fernando, Inc.	X			
23	Pacific Clinics	X			
24	People Coordinated Services of Southern California	X		X	
25	Phoenix House of Los Angeles	X			
26	Prototypes a Center for Innovation	X			
27	Pueblo Y Salud, Inc.				
	• San Fernando	X			
	• Palmdale	X			
28	San Fernando Valley Partnership, Inc.	X	SPA		
29	Shields for Families, Inc.	X			
30	Social Model Recovery Systems, Inc.			X	
31	South Central Prevention Coalition	X			
32	Special Services for Groups	X			
33	SPIRITT Family Services, Inc.			X	
34	Student Wellbeing Centers				X
35	Tarzana Treatment Center	X	SPA	X	
36	The Wall Las Memorias Project	X			
37	Volunteers of America	X			
38	Watts Health Foundation, Inc.	X			



## Appendix B

### FY2021-2022 PREVENTION PROVIDER NETWORK

### SPA COALITIONS

There were many community coalitions at work, including Service Planning Area (SPA) Coalitions, neighborhood councils, and youth coalitions. Other collaboratives included youth and adult leadership groups, the Los Angeles Drug and Alcohol Policy Alliance (LA DAPA)<sup>[2]</sup>, community prevention councils, “Manos Unidos con la Esperanza para la Comunidad” (MUEC)<sup>[6]</sup>, Marijuana Public Smoking Initiative (MPSI)<sup>[7]</sup>, and Rethinking Access to Marijuana (RAM), to name a few.

<b>SPA 1: Antelope Valley Marijuana, Alcohol, &amp; Pharmaceutical Prevention Coalition (AVMAPP)</b>
<b>SPA 2: Communities in Action</b>
<b>SPA 3: Rethinking Alcohol and Other Drugs (RAD)</b>
<b>SPA 4: Coalition to Prevent Alcohol-Related Harms in LA Metro (COPALM)</b>
<b>SPA 5: Westside Impact Project</b>
<b>SPA 6: South LA Movement Prevention Coalition (SLAM)</b>
<b>SPA 7: South-East Community Alliance (SECA)</b>
<b>SPA 8: South Bay Communities Creating Change (SBC 3)</b>



<sup>[2]</sup> <https://alcoholjustice.org/projects/ladapa>

<sup>[6]</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/manosunidascucuta/>

<sup>[7]</sup> <http://ph.lacounty.gov/sapc/public/data-reports-and-briefs.htm?hl>

## Appendix C

### ENVIRONMENTAL PREVENTION STRATEGIES

#### **Alcohol Delivery Project**

The Alcohol Delivery Project aims to address youth access to alcohol and minimize citations issued to alcohol retailers by the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) for selling alcohol to minors via third party delivery services (alcohol delivery apps). It engages and establishes working relationships with off-sale retailers to increase their understanding of the importance of responsible alcohol retailing practices to reduce youth access to alcohol while reducing retailers' ABC citations. Participating stores will utilize "We Verify ID" decals, sales counter stickers, and signs at the "point of pick-up" for alcohol deliveries. QR code decal placed on alcohol deliveries originating from participating stores, will document retailer participation and levels of 3rd party delivery driver identification verification. Alcohol delivery scan document will capture both process and outcome measures. Clerk training will increase delivery driver engagement to ensure identification verification via QR code on all alcohol deliveries.

#### **Alcohol Restricted Use Sub-Districts (AURS)**

City motion (Council File 17-0117) instructs the Planning Department, in consultation with the LA City Attorney, to prepare a report on the feasibility of establishing a process to create Alcohol Restricted Use Sub-districts (ARUS). ARUS would allow communities and their representatives to identify vulnerable areas in city council districts where restrictions could be applied on the future issuances of off-sale or on-sale alcohol licenses. ARUS zones will protect communities and families while encouraging healthier retail options to open up in the area.

#### **Civil Social Host Liability Laws**

Civil liability ordinances are designed to deter underage drinking parties. Through civil social host liability laws, adults can be held responsible for underage drinking parties held on their property, regardless of whether they directly provided alcohol to minors. To date, more than 150 cities or counties have social host liability ordinances in place. The research on this strategy is still emerging, but findings currently show that social host liability reduces alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes as well as other alcohol-related problems.[4]

#### **Community Events Policies on the Promotion, Sales and Service of Alcohol**

Alcohol restrictions at community events include policies that control the availability and use of alcohol at public venues, such as concerts, street fairs and sporting events. These policies may reduce youth access and the occurrence of alcohol-related problems such as binge drinking, sales to minors, traffic crashes, vandalism, fighting, and other public disturbances.

#### **Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Ordinances**

CUPs can be used to effectively address problems of crime and violence by structuring land use to allow less density of outlets and by holding merchants accountable for operating conditions in and around their premises. The CUP is a powerful tool in regulating the availability of alcohol by requiring spacing or distance requirement between outlets, regulating proximity to sensitive land uses such as a schools, churches, parks, and residential neighborhoods, and allowing outlets only in specific areas of the city or county.

#### **Deemed Approved Ordinance (DOA)**

DAO is a nuisance abatement tool designed to address public health and safety problems created by alcohol outlets, both on-sale (bars, restaurants) and off-sale (markets, supermarkets, drugstores, etc.). It changes the legal status of existing

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alcohol beverage establishments, granting them “Deemed Approved” status, permitting them to operate as usual as long as they do not create a public nuisance or violate any state or local laws.

### **Let’s Make a Difference (LMD)**

The overall purpose of the LMD program is to reduce the impact of prescription drug misuse. The program highlights how access contributes to use, the dangers of Rx misuse, the harms associated with sharing medications and how to communicate 3-core messages/behaviors. Activities include engaging pharmacies (large and small scale) and other strategic partners (medical groups, LAUSD schools/parent centers, childcare centers, and other strategic partners) to “Let’s Make a Difference” through the distribution of “safe home pledge cards” and promotion of the overall campaign to their constituents/target communities. Measuring impact/reach is done by documenting the number of participating pharmacies, organizations, schools, and potential partners, number of pledge cards collected at each location, number of Rx medications collected at DEA take back events within the geographic area of campaign and documenting increase in disposal boxes at smaller pharmacies, along with increased utilization of LAC Safe Centers within the initiative implementation areas.

### **Merchant Committed**

Merchant Committed campaign encourages retailers to fully adopt preventive practices as part of their business operations, and Policy Development campaigns encourage the city to improve its oversight of off-sale outlets through community policing and CUP administration. The goal of this strategy is to reduce underage drinking and youth access to alcohol by increasing alcoholic beverage establishment compliance.

### **Minor Decoy Operations**

The Decoy Program allows local law enforcement agencies to use persons under 20 years of age as decoys to purchase alcoholic beverages from licensed premises. As of 10/01/04, the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) has used decoys to regulate businesses selling alcohol to underage individuals. The Decoy Program has been recognized as a method to attack the problems associated with the unlawful purchase and consumption of alcoholic beverages by young people.

### **Preventing Prescription Drug Misuse (Safe Med LA)**

Safe Med LA addresses the prescription drug abuse epidemic in the County, guided by its five-year strategic plan. Safe Med LA employs a “9-6-10” approach organized into 9 Action Teams focusing on 6 priority areas with 10 objectives. AODPS are members of the Community Education Action Team they provide community education and awareness of the risk of prescription drug misuse/abuse, safe use/storage, and available resources for help with disposing their medications.

### **Project Sticker Shock**

Capitalizes on community activism, cooperative efforts, and collective responsibilities to combat underage drinking and its related problems. The project not only educates citizens, businesses, educational institutions, health organizations, law enforcement and governmental authorities on the problems of underage drinking, but also ensures a consistent message about the law exists, increasing efforts to bring about change.

### **Responsible Alcohol Delivery Project (RADP)**

The emergence of alcohol delivery services has raised concerns about the increased accessibility and availability of alcohol to underage youth. The ease of ordering alcohol online and having it delivered to one’s doorstep has created new opportunities for youth to obtain and consume alcohol, bypassing traditional age verification methods. The Responsible Alcohol Delivery Project aims to document and address youth access to alcohol via third-party delivery services

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originating at off-sale retail outlets. The project is shaped by three key elements, including retailer engagement, in-store signage, and documenting compliance for retail alcohol deliveries, combined to prevent youth access to alcohol and reduce citations for sales to minors.

### **Responsible Beverage Server (RBS)**

RBS training is a community-based approach to promote public safety and to reduce risks associated with the retail alcohol environment. RBS has three essential elements: the adoption of alcohol-service policy for ABC-licensed establishments; the providing of server education and guidance; and the development of partnerships between law enforcement, local government, and community groups.

### **Restaurant Beverage Program (RBP)**

The Restaurant Beverage Program (RBP)<sup>53</sup> offers qualifying sit-down restaurants, within LA City Council designated RBP-Eligible geographic areas<sup>54</sup>, special provisions to serve alcoholic beverages, assuming they comply with 50 community friendly standards which includes limited hours of operation, outdoor seating limitations, and other noise and security requirements. RBP approval is also based on robust enforcement requirements to provide community protections, such as mandatory inspections and enforcement, to ensure that after three violations are issued within two years a restaurant would be disqualified from the program for a period of five years. The RBP eliminates the need to obtain a Conditional Use permit (CUB), reducing cost and required processing time to obtain which significantly shortens the processing time and lowers the cost of obtaining the City's approval.

### **Retail Framework**

The Retail Framework provides a gradual, eight stepwise approach that methodically documents problems at the outlets, recruits' retailers to participate directly in prevention actions, mobilizes concerned community groups to act, and approaches city agencies to carry out their oversight responsibilities for off-sale alcohol outlets.

### **Rethinking Access to Marijuana (RAM)**

The RAM Coalition was formed in 2015. The RAM Coalition educates elected officials, parents and other caregivers as well as those with relationships with young people such as teachers, coaches, and others about marijuana's effects on the developing brain of youth between the ages of 12-26.

### **Social Host Ordinance (SHO)**

Preventing Underage Drinking Parties- Social Host Ordinances (SHO) prevent underage drinking parties by holding the host (e.g., parents or other adults) accountable for the negative alcohol related issues resulting from these parties. A social host ordinance sends the clear message to parents and other adults that it is not acceptable to give alcohol to teens.

### **Sticker Shock Project**

This project capitalizes on community activism, cooperative efforts, and collective responsibilities to combat underage drinking and its related problems. This includes adults providing alcohol to minors. The project not only educates citizens, businesses, educational institutions, health organizations, law enforcement and governmental authorities on the problems of underage drinking, but also ensures a consistent message about the existing laws, increasing efforts to bring about change.

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<sup>53</sup> [Restaurant Beverage Program \(RBP\) | Los Angeles City Planning \(lacity.org\)](https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/777a537e-bb22-4571-ae8f-e01f2ce838f6/RBP_City_Wide_SP.pdf)

<sup>54</sup> [https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/777a537e-bb22-4571-ae8f-e01f2ce838f6/RBP\\_City\\_Wide\\_SP.pdf](https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/777a537e-bb22-4571-ae8f-e01f2ce838f6/RBP_City_Wide_SP.pdf)

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