

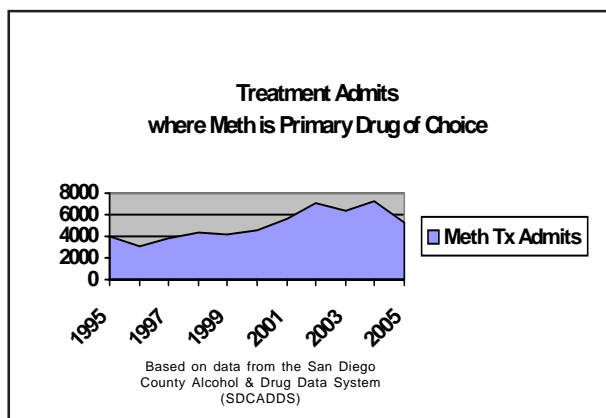
Deputy Director's Message

Susan Bower, Acting Deputy Director

During the past year, Alcohol and Drug Services (ADS) has continued to work in partnership with our providers and the community to provide alcohol and drug prevention, treatment and recovery services to the residents of San Diego. Thanks to the commitment and dedication of our Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board, our service providers, and community stakeholders, we continue to provide safe, healthy alternatives to individuals and families to prevent the continued devastation of substance abuse. Some of our new initiatives in the upcoming year will expand our services. The Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral and Treatment initiative highlighted on page 2, will provide early intervention services to people accessing

health care services and will strengthen our relationship with our primary health care system. An exciting new expansion to our services is the implementation of problem gambling treatment for those who are struggling with the havoc that is created when a normally enjoyable pastime becomes out of control. Under the leadership of the County of San Diego's new Behavioral Health Director, Dr. Jennifer Schaffer, ADS will continue to expand services for individuals with co-occurring disorders.

Methamphetamine: ADS Fights the National Epidemic in San Diego



Alcohol and Drug Services (ADS) and the community recently celebrated the 10 year anniversary of the **Meth Strike Force (MSF)**, a multi-disciplinary task force composed of approximately seventy member organizations and agencies that attack the Meth problem through prevention, intervention, treatment, and interdiction. Some of the MSF initiatives include: 1) Tracking the key indicators of meth problems via the annual MSF Report Card; 2) Informing the public and policymakers of the dangers of meth by having a comprehensive media strategy; 3) Expanding our system's capacity to perform interventions at earlier points and in community settings; 4) Educating the public and policymakers about the needs, effectiveness and cost benefits of treatment; 5) Seeking stable funding for expanded services and 6) Providing a Meth Hotline for improved access to care and expansion of community policing strategies.

Recent accomplishments of the Meth Strike Force include the Speed into Recovery campaign targeting incarcerated women who may need meth treatment, and the Crystal Mess campaign targeting gay male meth users. Other accomplishments include the seizure of 8,000 illegal meth pipes, an enhanced website, the recent update of the MSF report card and the increase in the number of credit cards protected from identity theft due to truncated account numbers on customer receipts. ADS is committed to the ongoing effort to combat the effects of methamphetamine in our local community. To this end, we are continuing our involvement in the **Drug Endangered Children (DEC)** initiative – where law enforcement, child welfare social workers and health professionals work together to ensure that children found in meth homes are safely removed, assessed and provided treatment while attempting to minimize the stress on the child. We are partners in the **Stop Meth Associated Crime (SMAC)** effort to protect consumers from identity theft at government, business and residential levels. San Diego is better equipped to fight the meth challenge thanks to the collaborations between ADS, our prevention and treatment providers, law enforcement, child welfare, social service, public health, judiciary, education and other agencies.

For more information contact the Meth Strike Force at 1-877-No2Meth or www.no2Meth.org.

CASBIRT

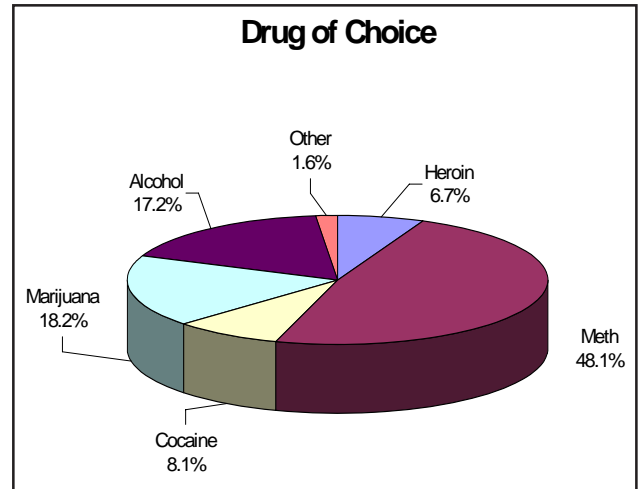
California Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral and Treatment

Alcohol and Drug Services has awarded a contract for the California Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral, and Treatment Services (CASBIRT) to the SDSU Foundation. CASBIRT will utilize screening, brief intervention and brief treatment methods in primary care, emergency and trauma settings throughout the County. CASBIRT is a nationally recognized best practice, and San Diego is a leader in this endeavor.

CASBIRT services will play an important role in improving the health and welfare of San Diego County residents. Research has shown that, when at-risk patients understood the risks associated with alcohol and drug use/misuse, their consumption of alcohol and drugs decreased by more than 70%, with a significant reduction in emergency room visits as well. Through the use of screening and brief intervention, individuals gain an understanding of the benefits of decreasing or stopping their alcohol and/or drug use. Left unchecked, the individual as well as the health care system will suffer.

For more information on Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral, and Treatment go to the SAMHSA website at:
http://www.samhsa.gov/SAMHSA_News/VolumeXIV_1/

ADS Demographics



In fiscal year 05-06, ADS served 12,783 clients* with the following demographic breakdown:

- **Race/Ethnicity:** 52% White, 13% Black, 26% Latino, 4% Asian and 1.5% Native American
- **Service Modality:** 46% Non-Residential, 37% Residential, and 18% Detoxification

*Excludes DUI participants

Celebrating Success: SIP

The Serial Inebriate Program (SIP) not only saves lives...it is cost effective! A recent study by San Diego State University Institute for Public Health showed that the program reduced associated healthcare costs by almost 20 million dollars. In the past, San Diego County spent millions of dollars providing police, EMS, and medical care to chronic homeless inebriates without addressing the primary problem of alcoholism. At that time, homeless alcoholics would require police and paramedic intervention, and then be returned to the streets to start the cycle over again.

In 1999, two San Diego police officers realized that there had to be a better way. The officers presented their idea to Alcohol & Drug Services, who worked with the Superior Court to endorse a trial program. The program, operated by Mental Health Systems/Mid-Coast Regional Recovery Center, provides treatment and case management in lieu of jail time, similar to the Drug Court model. Today, the Serial Inebriate Program is a collaborative effort comprised of numerous service providers including Casa Raphael, Freedom Ranch, Volunteers of America, St. Vincent de Paul Medical Village and many others.

Recently, San Diego's Serial Inebriate Program received national recognition when it was spotlighted by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as one of the top ten strategies for dealing with chronic homelessness.

*Contributor: Deni McLagan, Program Manager
MHS Mid Coast Regional Recovery Center (619) 523-8121

Alcohol and Drug Services

Vision

*Safe, healthy and thriving
communities
free of alcohol and drug problems*

Mission

*Lead the County of San Diego in
reducing alcohol and other drug
problems through community
engagement*

Core Values

*Respect and Trust
Collaboration
Open and Honest Communication
Personal Responsibility
Staff Recognition and Investment*

Juvenile Drug Court: 45 Youth Graduate at Annual Ceremony

The San Diego County Juvenile Drug Court (JDC) program provides intensive case management for juvenile probationers assessed with extensive alcohol and drug issues. The JDC is a collaborative effort on behalf of the HHSAA Alcohol and Drug Services, Probation, Superior Court, District Attorney, Public Defender, and Mental Health Systems, Inc. On an annual basis, JDC has a graduation ceremony. The Annual JDC graduation ceremony was held on February 1, 2007 at the County Administration Center. Geni Cavitt, weather forecaster from 10 News KGTV, was this year's mistress of ceremony.

The ceremony's program included inspirational keynote speaker, Maria Reyes, who was one of the original freedom writers portrayed in the current movie, "Freedom Writers." The movie is about a group of troubled youth who overcame the negative expectations of a school system that had given up on them and turned their lives around from a history of gang and drug involvement. Dignitaries, such as Supervisor Greg Cox, Judge Amalia Meza, Judge Lawrence Kapiloff, and Referee Michael Imhoff, were in attendance at the event and distributed the graduation certificates. Graduates in attendance also received certificates from the office of Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny. This year, there were forty five youth eligible to be recognized and twenty of those youth participated in the ceremony. Congratulations to our JDC graduates and their families!

Gambling Counselor Training

For most people, gambling is an occasional, enjoyable and problem free entertainment experience. However, for some individuals gambling leads to serious problems that can result in harm to themselves, to the people close to them and to the broader community in which they live. A problem gambler, including an individual diagnosed as a pathological gambler, is a person who has lost control over his or her gambling activities such as playing more often, with more money and for longer periods than planned.

There is a large gap in San Diego between the need for problem gambling treatment and the availability of qualified counselors to provide such treatment services. The County of San Diego, in collaboration with Barona, Sycuan, and Viejas, are addressing the potential financial, health and legal issues associated with problem gambling. Alcohol and Drug Services is providing leadership in collaboration with Mental Health Services to implement a Gambler Counselor Training and Certification Program. The goal of the project is to train 80 alcohol, drug and mental health counselors to become certified in the identification, assessment and treatment of problem gamblers.

Calendar of Events

National Alcohol Screening Day Thursday April 5, 2007

National Alcohol and Drug Recovery Month: September 2007

California Department of Alcohol and Drug Services National Alcohol and Drug Recovery Month Kickoff: September 5, 2007

Recovery Happens San Diego: Friday, September 14, 2007 10am-2pm
<http://recoveryhappens-sandiego.org/aboutus.htm>

Red Ribbon Week: Oct. 23-31, 2007

National Methamphetamine Awareness Day: Proclaimed by the President of the United States to be November 30, 2007

3D Month-Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month December 1-31, 2007



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