

Improving outreach and engagement through field-based services that can meet people where they physically are

A key aim of Los Angeles County's R95 Initiative is to engage more people more meaningfully in substance use disorder (SUD) services. One important way to achieve this is by expanding field-based services (FBS) as a strategy to better reach people who are not interested or able to receive services in other settings.

As a method of service delivery, FBS provides an opportunity for SUD providers to: (1) increase access to SUD care by addressing barriers such as mobility or transportation challenges and serving people in their preferred locations, including interim or permanent housing settings; and (2) better integrate SUD treatment with necessary health and social services.

Flexible treatment approaches such as FBS and the use of patient-centered care can increase patient motivation and engagement in treatment and lead to positive outcomes.¹



The delivery of Field-Based Services (FBS) is an opportunity to better reach, engage, and serve clients and may offer the following benefits:



- ▶ Overcoming barriers such as limited mobility and lack of transportation
- ▶ Overcoming patient resistance to traditional treatment settings
- ▶ Increasing patient retention in treatment
- ▶ Re-engaging patients struggling with compliance and/or adherence to treatment

FBS may allow for SUD services to be delivered to clients in nontraditional settings, including but not limited to the following:



- ▶ Community / Drop-In / Day Centers
- ▶ Mental Health Clinics
- ▶ In-Home (e.g., encampments, shelters, interim or permanent housing settings)
- ▶ Homeless Shelters
- ▶ Board and Care / Group Home
- ▶ Harm Reduction Sites
- ▶ Schools and Alternative School Sites

¹U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. (2002). Enhancing Motivation for Change in Substance Abuse Treatment. TIP 35. Rockville, MD

The following FBS components are allowable:

- ▶ Screening
- ▶ Assessment/Intake
- ▶ Individual Counseling
- ▶ Group Counseling
- ▶ Care Coordination
- ▶ Problem List/
Treatment Planning
- ▶ Discharge Planning
- ▶ Crisis Intervention
- ▶ Patient Education
- ▶ Family Therapy
- ▶ Collateral Services
- ▶ Medication for Addiction Treatment (MAT) services
- ▶ Behavioral Health Prevention Education Services
(Peer Support Services)
- ▶ Self Help/Peer Services (Peer Support Services)

For more information on Field-Based-Services:

Standards and Practices - Method of Service Delivery Option Under the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS)

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/docs/providers/SAPC-Provider-Manual.pdf>

To review a sample of a Field Safety Plan Policy and Procedures, please visit:

<http://ph.lacounty.gov/sapc/bulletins/START-ODS/23-14/Attachment-IV-Field-Safety-Plan-Sample.pdf>

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