

**Contra Costa County
Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board
2012 ANNUAL REPORT**

Meeting Time and Location: Generally on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 4:00 to 6:15 pm in Martinez; except when the Board meets within each supervisorial district to outreach to those residents.

Board: 18 members; 3 from each supervisorial district plus 3 at large. Each member is appointed by the Board of Supervisors to one, two or three year terms..

Chair: Doug Sibley

Staff: Fatima Matal Sol

Mission (as approved by the Board of Supervisors on August 28, 2012): *The mission of the Contra Costa County Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board is to assess family and community needs regarding prevention and treatment of alcohol and other drug-related problems. Resultant findings and recommendations are forwarded to the Health Services Department and the Board of Supervisors. The Board also serves as an advocate for these findings and recommendations to the communities that we serve.*

Activities:

During this calendar year, in addition to updating our Bylaws, we continued our goals and priorities of (1) Improve Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Services for 55+; (2) Reduce Underage Drinking and Youth Access to Alcohol; (3) Increase Awareness About Prescription Drug Abuse (PDA); and (4) Increase Understanding about AOD Related Reentry Needs. Likewise, in the spirit of reaching out to residents, we met at the Bay Area Rescue Mission in Richmond and at the Concord Police Department.

As in previous years, we sponsored annual campaigns to celebrate recovery and recognize those who combat substance abuse. On May 8, the Board of Supervisors (BOS) recognized five individuals and one organization with our "People Who Make a Difference Awards," then our Board presented one individual with a Letter of Achievement. In September we joined local and national efforts to celebrate National Recovery month. We supported Support4Recovery's resolution from the BOS recognizing September as National Recovery Month and we staffed a booth at the 8th Annual Recovery Walk. The month concluded with our Board recognizing two new Champions of Recovery: Roberta White, Program Coordinator at the Ozanam Center and the Bay Area Rescue Mission. In 2012, the Board devoted significant attention to strengthen efficiency and collaboration with other stakeholders. We submitted updated Bylaws to the Board of Supervisors which they approved on August 21. We continued our liaison with the Tobacco Prevention Coalition, and have actively participated on the Behavioral Health (BH) Division Integration process in various ways. Since the integration process started, we have maintained a progress report as a standing item on our agendas which is provided by a Board member who represents us at the BH Steering Committee. The Chair of the Board has met with the BH Division Director on quarterly basis and made a significant effort to liaison with the Mental Health Commission & the Inter-jurisdictional Council on Homelessness. In collaboration with other stakeholders, we recommended that the new county clean and sober residential facility adjacent to Discovery House be named in honor of former Supervisor Gayle Uilkema.

Accomplishments:

Goal 1. Improve AOD Services for 55+. Our assessment efforts to better understand the needs of this population involved a second visit to St Mary's in Oakland which provides BH and housing services to older adults. The visit was conducted by the Community Awareness Committee along with Mental Health staff.

Goal 2. Reduce Underage Drinking and Youth Access to Alcohol. We continued to monitor alcohol licenses including the Moraga Rheem Theater's application to the Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) to serve alcoholic beverages in a portion of their facility. In October, the Youth & Family Committee took the lead to receive the annual Red Ribbon Week Proclamation from the BOS in recognition of the on-going prevention efforts focusing on the dangers inherent in alcohol and drug abuse, including prescription drug misuse. Lastly, in November we held a panel presentation highlighting Driving Under the Influence through enforcement, prosecution and treatment. Unrelated to this goal, In January, Dr. Ken Saffier gave a presentation regarding Buprenorphine a new treatment for opioid addiction which was later televised on CCTV.

Goal 3. Increase Awareness about Prescription Drug Abuse (PDA). In July our Board heard a panel discussion by waste disposal agencies on the impact and the current methods of disposing of prescription medications within Contra Costa. Our Board, along with the PDA Workgroup, has been monitoring Alameda County's adoption of the Safe Disposal Ordinance created to provide safe disposal of old and unused medications to prevent these substances from getting in to our water supply and away from youth. With the assistance of CCTV, we produced a PDA informational trailer which is posted on our web page and participated in the DEA's Take Back event. We are pleased to report that the prescription drugs project, has promoted coordination and collaboration with the County Hazardous Materials Commission, the Public and Environmental Health Advisory Board (PEHAB), and Supervisor Piepho' staff.

Goal 4. Increase Understanding about AOD-Related Reentry Needs. At our February meeting, Philip Kader, Chief Probation Officer, presented at overview of AB 109 and the County's Reentry Plan.

Advisory Board Challenges: Prior to the preparation of this report which excludes December, we met during 9 of the months this year. No quorum appeared for our April or May meetings. Keeping seats filled has been a challenge. At one point we had only 10 appointed members to our 18 member Board. We have been working with County staff to ensure that the Maddy Book reflects accurate membership and expiration dates of appointments.

Training and Certification: Upon appointment, new members received an orientation, which included internal functioning of the Board, the Brown Act and Better Government Ordinance, confidentiality laws, & AOD services, etc. Last April, staff along with new members attended the training sponsored by County Counsel and the Clerk of the Board. All members certified viewing the available Brown Act information video.

Proposed Work Plan/Objectives for 2013: We plan to proactively pursue our current goals and priorities under guidance provided by the Board of Supervisors. The members of AOD Advisory Board are grateful to be of service to the Board of Supervisors and the people of Contra Costa County.