

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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## **SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER – TRAUMA-INFORMED PARENT SUPPORT PROGRAM, INCLUDING USE OF CLIENT ENGAGEMENT AND NAVIGATION SERVICES STAFF AND OTHER ENTRYWAYS TO SUD TREATMENT FOR DCFS-SERVED ADULT PARENTS**

This For Your Information (FYI) bulletin provides information on the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Substance Abuse Prevention and Control's (DPH-SAPC) System Transformation to Advance Recovery and Treatment Organized Delivery System (START-ODS) that became effective as of July 1, 2017. There are three (3) components that benefit DCFS clients and that Children's Social Workers (CSWs) can effectively use. These are:

1. The Client Engagement and Navigation Services (CENS)
2. The CENS Areas Offices, formerly known as Community Assessment Service Centers (CASCs), and
3. The Online Service and Bed Availability Tool (SBAT).

This FYI includes detailed information on the [CENS staff](#) co-located in the DCFS regional offices.

**Note:** At present, the [CENS staff](#) are co-located in some DCFS regional offices. When space becomes available, additional CENS staff will be co-located until every DCFS regional office has a co-located CENS staff.

The co-location of CENS staff is for a new program known as the Substance Use Disorder--Trauma-Informed Parent Support (SUD-TIPS) Program. Below is key information needed by CSWs and SCSWs in order to maximize the CENS staff services for any DCFS-served adult parent suspected of having Substance Use Disorder (SUD) issues.

### Overview of the SUD-TIPS

This project is a partnership between DPH-SAPC, DCFS, and the Department of Mental Health (DMH). The purpose of SUD-TIPS is to co-locate CENS staff in DCFS regional offices to ensure greater access to trauma-informed (SUD) services and MH prevention and early intervention services for DCFS-served adult parents. The services are intended to link DCFS families with timely and responsive support services to address any substance use/mental health need.

### Target Population

The target population is any DCFS-served adult parent who has a referral or case involving actual or suspected substance use. Parents are referred by CSWs to the CENS staff for screening, referral, prevention, and/or early intervention services.



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### Services Provided

All services provided are trauma-informed. An overview of the services provided by CENS staff in DCFS regional offices are, as follows:

- Outreach and Engagement of the Target Population
- Client Education
- Medi-Cal and My Health LA eligibility and enrollment
- Screening using the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Triage Tool
- Referral to SUD assessment and treatment services
- Services Navigation
- Linkages to Ancillary Services
- Prevention and early intervention for mental health concerns

### Co-located CENS Staff Activities

The following are the co-located CENS staff's activities in addressing the needs of DCFS-served adult parents:

1. Maintain a current directory of community partners including SUD and HIV/AIDS providers.
2. Refer screened participants to the appropriate DPH-SAPC network of Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) contracted treatment providers based on DCFS-served parent proximity, type, and level of service/(s) needed
3. Request DCFS-served parent's consent to release information to share his/her treatment planning and progress information with DMH, DCFS, and the State. Such releases adhere to all [confidentially laws](#).

### Referring DCFS-served parents to the SUD-TIPS Program

The following information is to guide CSWs on the process for accessing CENS services for clients:

The [SUD-TIPS Program Referral form \(Referral Form\)](#) is to be completed manually until it becomes available on the LA Kids DCFS Referral Portal. For the time being, each time a CSW wants to refer a client to a co-located CENS staff, (s)he should first check the DCFS Referral Portal for availability of the Referral Form.

- 1) The CSW is to manually complete Sections A and B of the Referral Form and hand-deliver the form to the co-located CENS staff within his/her respective regional office.
  - This process shall remain in place until such time as the Referral Form becomes available online.
- 2) The CENS staff coordinates the parent's appointment for screening as follows:

- Within 48 hours of receiving the referral, the CENS contacts the DCFS-served parent.
  - The CENS staff records the scheduled screening appointment information, or any unsuccessful attempts to contact the parent, in Section C of the Referral Form.
  - If the parent does not show up to the screening appointment, the CENS staff attempts to make contact and re-schedule an appointment.
  - The CENS staff will make three (3) total attempts (initial appointment and two follow-ups) to engage the DCFS-served parent. After two (2) attempted contacts to schedule an appointment, the CENS staff updates the referring CSW and his/her SCSW via e-mail.
- 3) The CENS staff will screen the parent using the ASAM Triage Tool and complete Section D of the Referral Form.
  - 4) If the DCFS-served parent screens as having a possible SUD, the CENS staff links the parent to the appropriate SUD treatment provider for full ASAM assessment within three (3) business days and records the assessment information in Section E of the Referral Form.
  - 5) The CENS staff secures all necessary consents before submitting screening results to the referring CSW or the SUD treatment provider.
  - 6) If the DCFS-served parent refuses, or does not show for, a scheduled appointment after three (3) attempts, the CENS staff will report the no-show to the CSW by completing Section D of the Referral Form.
  - 7) The CENS staff submits the completed Referral Forms to the referring CSW and his/her SCSW via encrypted emailing.
  - 8) Each month, CENS staff submits copies of each completed Referral Form, via encrypted email, to DPH SAPC.

Note: CSWs who have clients that meet the DCFS Time Limited Family Reunification (TLFR) Program eligibility requirements can complete the DCFS 6006a form and submit it to the DCFS TLFR drop box at [DCFS-TLFR@dcs.lacounty.gov](mailto:DCFS-TLFR@dcs.lacounty.gov). The TLFR Program eligibility requirements are, as follows:

1. Children must be in out-of-home care for less than fifteen (15) months
2. The case must be served in Family Reunification
3. The children must not be placed with a parent, and
4. The case cannot be voluntary

Concurrently, CSWs should send the evaluated 6006a form to the CENS staff in their respective DCFS regional office.



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Further, at present, CSWs whose DCFS regional offices have a [Dependency Drug Court \(DDC\) Program](#) should continue to refer eligible parents to the DDC Program based on the eligibility criteria while recognizing that the co-located CENS staff who may be co-located in their regional office may perform a screening of the parent’s substance use.

**For DCFS staff who Do Not have co-located CENS in their regional offices:**

Below is more useful information on other START-ODS components for referring DCFS participants to SUD treatment.

**Client Engagement and Navigation Services (CENS) area offices:**

To improve access to SUD services, there are CENS area offices located in each of the eight (8) Service Planning Areas (SPAs). The CENS area offices goal is to connect clients referred by health, social services, and criminal justice entities to SUD treatment services. This is accomplished:

- Determining Medi-Cal or My Health LA eligibility and assisting the client in the enrollment process
- Conducting a SUD screening using the ASAM Triage Tool to determine whether the client may have a SUD and the most appropriate provisional level of care for treatment
- Scheduling a Full ASAM assessment and intake appointment with an appropriate SUD provider
- Assisting clients in navigating the SUD system of care
- Reporting and documentation

The [CENS area offices](#) providers (formerly CASC locations) are as follows:

| SPA | Provider                                           | SPA | Provider                                                                     |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1   | Tarzana Treatment Centers                          | 5   | Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services                                           |
| 2   | San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center | 6   | Special Services for Groups Homeless Outreach Program Integrated Care System |
| 3   | Prototypes                                         | 7   | California Hispanic Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse                     |
| 4   | Homeless Health Care Los Angeles                   | 8   | Behavioral Health Services                                                   |

To utilize the [CENS area offices](#), a referral to one of the eight (8) CENS area offices can be made by completing the DCFS 6006a form:

1. The CSW shall complete Section A, and
2. The DCFS-served client shall complete Section C and hand-carry the form to the CENS area office.

Completion and submission of this form by the DCFS-served client will facilitate exchange of information between the CSW and the provider on their mutual client’s participation and progress in SUD treatment.

**Online Service and Bed Availability Tool (SBAT)**

Note: In utilizing the SBAT, CSWs may find it helpful to review the numerous filters available and select the one filter, or several, that they find most useful in terms of assisting a DCFS-served client in accessing SUD treatment.

The SBAT tool is intended to be used by anyone potentially seeking SUD services in Los Angeles County (e.g., general public, patients, providers, CENS, County partners, etc.). The web-based tool provides a dashboard of available substance use services throughout Los Angeles County, including: outpatient and intensive outpatient treatment, different levels of residential treatment, withdrawal management, Opioid Treatment Programs (methadone clinics), Recovery Bridge Housing, and DUI programs. Service availabilities identified through the SBAT are updated on at least a daily basis and are subject to assessment by health professionals to determine appropriate and necessary services.



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