



Annual Report on Federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant Expenditures

As Required by

**Senate Bill 1, 87th Legislature,
Regular Session, 2021 (Article II,
HHSC, Rider 59)**

Health and Human Services

Commission

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1. Executive Summary

The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) submits the *Annual Report on Federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SABG) Expenditures* in compliance with the 2022-23 General Appropriations Act, Senate Bill 1, 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021 (Article II, HHSC, Rider 59). Rider 59 requires the Executive Commissioner of HHSC to submit a report no later than December 1, 2021, that provides information about actual annual expenditures of federal SABG funds received by HHSC, including supplemental and one-time awards.

This report includes all expenditures for programs that received SABG funds during fiscal year 2020 (September 1, 2019 - August 31, 2020). HHSC funds a variety of substance use programs across the substance use service continuum of care. These substance use programs use SABG funds to offer a comprehensive array of prevention, intervention, and treatment services.

In fiscal year 2020, HHSC expended regular SABG funds totaling \$128,362,310. Of the total, HHSC expended \$37,009,258 (29 percent) for prevention, \$15,670,659 (12 percent) for intervention, and \$75,682,393 (59 percent) for treatment, which includes funding for substance use recovery services.

For all SABG funded programs, the third and fourth fiscal quarters of fiscal year 2020 required providers to adapt to the changes brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many providers were able to transition to telephone and virtual services which decreased barriers for many people previously unable to attend services due to transportation or childcare issues, allowing for program expenditures to continue. However, for certain services which required people to attend in-person, such as residential substance use treatment, periodic spikes in COVID-19 cases, decreased capacity due to social distancing requirements, and staffing shortages meant fewer clients could be served and fewer funds expended.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, HHSC is dedicated to helping substance use service providers successfully serve people in Texas and expend SABG funds while ensuring the safety of clients and provider staff.

2. Introduction

Rider 59 requires the Executive Commissioner of HHSC to submit to the Legislative Budget Board, Governor’s Office, Senate Finance Committee, House Appropriations Committee, and permanent committees in the Senate and House of Representatives with jurisdiction over Health and Human Services a report that provides information about actual annual expenditures of the federal SABG funds received by HHSC, including supplemental and one-time awards.

This report provides a summary of programs funded with SABG funds and of those, which ones were funded by one-time federal COVID-19 funds or regular block grant funds as well as a description of each program.

As Table 1 below shows, HHSC expended regular SABG funds totaling \$128,362,310 in fiscal year 2020. Of the total, HHSC expended \$37,009,258 (29 percent) for prevention, \$15,670,659 (12 percent) for intervention, and \$75,682,393 (59 percent) for treatment, which includes funding for substance use recovery services.

Table 1. FY 2020 Expenditures for SABG Funds by Substance Use Program Type

Substance Use Program Type	FY 2020 SABG Expenditures
Substance Use Prevention	\$37,009,258
Substance Use Intervention	\$15,670,659
Substance Use Treatment ¹	\$75,682,393
Total SABG Funds Expended	\$128,362,310

¹ Includes Peer and Recovery Services Programs

3. Background

HHSC funds a variety of substance use programs across the substance use service continuum of care. These substance use programs use SABG funds to offer a comprehensive array of prevention, intervention, and treatment services.

Prevention programs range from direct services in schools and communities, to data collection and population-based strategies. Intervention programs focus on reducing the impact of substance use by assisting people who are at risk for, or have been diagnosed with, a substance use disorder (SUD) to access education, case management, and community linkage services. Intervention services are provided in both community and home-based settings. Treatment programs focus on people currently diagnosed with a SUD, while peer and recovery programs focus on people who are currently or previously diagnosed with a SUD. Treatment programs are provided in community-based and residential settings.

To ensure substance use programs are available statewide, HHSC uses a state-level, centralized contracting process to distribute SABG funds through contracts with community-based providers, state licensed treatment providers, and governmental agencies. HHSC currently uses block grant funds to directly contract with three SUD entities meeting the requirements of Charitable Choice.²

Substance Use Prevention Programs

HHSC funds a variety of programs focused on substance use prevention. The following five program types were most recently procured for funding for fiscal years 2020-2024:

- Youth Prevention Universal
- Youth Prevention Selective
- Youth Prevention Indicated
- Community Coalition Partnerships
- Prevention Resource Centers

² Charitable Choice is government funding of religious organizations to provide a social service.

All programs are structured according to the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) Strategic Prevention Framework and incorporate the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention’s six strategies to ensure a comprehensive continuum of prevention and behavioral health promotion (PBHP) services. In addition to the services listed above, HHSC also funds a statewide media campaign and a statewide training program. Table 2 below shows the Substance Use Prevention Services expenditures by program type for fiscal year 2020.

Table 2. FY 2020 Expenditures for Substance Use Prevention by Program Type

Program	Service Type Category	Agency Budget Strategy	Summary Description	FY 20 SABG Expenditures
Youth Prevention Programs	SUD Services-Prevention and Behavioral Health Promotion	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Prevention programs for youth deliver evidence-based curricula to universal, selective, and indicated populations, as defined by the Institute of Medicine. These programs provide prevention education, positive alternatives, information dissemination and problem identification, and referrals at schools and community sites.	\$28,115,821

Program	Service Type Category	Agency Budget Strategy	Summary Description	FY 20 SABG Expenditures
Community Coalition Partnerships	SUD Services-Prevention and Behavioral Health Promotion	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Community Coalition Partnerships are collaborative partnerships of people and organizations that strive to address one or more of the state’s prevention priorities. Based on community needs assessments and trends identified by local, state, and federal data, Community Coalition Partnerships utilize SAMHSA’s Strategic Prevention Framework model to mobilize communities and implement promising and evidence-based environmental strategies with a primary focus on changing policies and influencing social norms related to substance use and behavioral health promotion.	\$4,798,345
Prevention Resource Centers	SUD Services-Prevention and Behavioral Health Promotion	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Prevention Resource Centers act as the central hub for their region’s data, behavioral health promotion, and prevention training. Prevention Resource Centers increase the capacity of the statewide PBHP system by enhancing community collaboration, increasing community awareness and readiness, and providing pertinent data to prevention providers within their respective regions.	\$2,608,253
Statewide Media Campaign	SUD Services-Prevention and Behavioral Health Promotion	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	The Statewide Media Campaign is an ongoing public awareness campaign that engages Texas youth, young adults, parents, and communities through multiple media platforms, including social media, public service announcements on TV and radio, billboard and other print materials and text messaging. The campaign advances behavioral health by promoting healthy strategies for coping with trauma and stress.	\$397,582

Program	Service Type Category	Agency Budget Strategy	Summary Description	FY 20 SABG Expenditures
Texas Prevention Training	SUD Services-Prevention and Behavioral Health Promotion	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Texas Prevention Training is a statewide coordinated system of prevention training and technical assistance services to support and enhance behavioral health workforce development in Texas. Training is based on up-to-date prevention science and public health approaches designed to support the effective implementation of evidence based PBHP across the state.	\$774,945
Texas School Survey for Drug and Alcohol Use	SUD Services-Prevention and Behavioral Health Promotion	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	The Texas School Survey of Drug and Alcohol Use collects self-reported tobacco, alcohol, and substance use data among Texas public school students in grades 7-12. The survey is sponsored by HHSC and administered by the Public Policy Research Institute. The Texas School Survey is annually offered to all schools throughout the state. The Public Policy Research Institute actively recruits about 20% of Texas public schools with grades 7 through 12 to participate in the statewide assessment during the spring of even-numbered years.	\$314,312
Total				\$37,009,258

Substance Use Intervention Programs

In fiscal year 2020, SABG funds were used to fund an array of intervention programs. These programs focused on assisting people at risk for or diagnosed with a SUD by reducing the impact of substance use.

Services offered through HHSC substance use intervention programs include gender specific education services for parenting males and females; community- and home-based services for persons who reside in rural border

areas or Colonias;³ linkage and retention services for historically marginalized and underserved communities; and a targeted combination of outreach, motivational interventions, and referrals to connect people to local and statewide substance use treatment and community supports services. Table 3 below shows the Substance Use Intervention Services expenditures by program type for fiscal year 2020.

Table 3. FY 2020 Expenditures for Substance Use Intervention by Program Type

Program	Service Type Category	Agency Budget Strategy	Summary Description	FY 20 SABG Expenditures
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Early Intervention	SUD Services- Intervention	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	HIV Early Intervention services (HEI) increase linkage and retention for Texas residents in medical services who are using substances. This program was phased out by the end of FY 2020. In 2018 SAMHSA notified HHSC that SABG set-aside funds designated for HIV/HEI programs would be phased out by fiscal year 2020 due to the decrease in incidence of AIDS cases in Texas below the federal threshold. In addition, the 21st Century Cures Act eliminated the SABG state HIV designation and related set-aside requirements as of 2020.	\$3,606,231

³ A residential area along the Texas-Mexico border that lacks basic living needs, such as potable water and sewer systems, electricity, paved roads, and safe and sanitary housing. Colonias, while frequently found in unincorporated areas of the counties, are also found within city limits. [26 TAC §321.55](#)

Program	Service Type Category	Agency Budget Strategy	Summary Description	FY 20 SABG Expenditures
Pregnant, Postpartum Intervention	SUD Services- Intervention	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Pregnant, Postpartum Intervention services provide community-based, gender-specific services for pregnant, postpartum, and parenting women who are at risk of developing substance use disorders or who have substance use disorders.	\$4,330,856
Parenting Awareness and Drug Risk Education Services	SUD Services- Intervention	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Parenting Awareness and Drug Risk Education Services provide community-based, gender-specific intervention services for parenting males and expecting fathers at risk for involvement or currently involved with Department of Family and Protective Services with substance use disorders or who are at risk of developing substance use disorders.	\$117,017
Rural Border Intervention	SUD Services- Intervention	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Rural Border Intervention services offer community and home-based substance use prevention and intervention services in remote rural border areas. These programs operate in the Colonias.	\$633,457
Outreach, Screening, Assessment, and Referral	SUD Services- Intervention	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Outreach, Screening, Assessment, and Referral services assist people in accessing services along the substance use continuum of care by providing screenings and/or assessments, education, information dissemination, risk reduction education, case management coordination, referral to treatment and other appropriate support services.	\$5,559,158

Program	Service Type Category	Agency Budget Strategy	Summary Description	FY 20 SABG Expenditures
Community Health Worker	SUD Services- Intervention	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Community Health Worker services decrease behavioral health disparities and increases access to services for historically marginalized and underserved communities by addressing social determinants of health in these communities.	\$1,423,940
Total				\$15,670,659

Substance Use Treatment Programs

The SUD treatment services support outcomes for people admitted into services designed to improve overall quality of life; increase access to support services in the community; provide case management, counseling, education, and support services; and offer individualized care based on specific client needs.

Substance use treatment programs ensure people entering treatment receive placement in accordance with established guidelines based on the American Society of Addiction Medicine levels of care and based upon clinical recommendations of substance use treatment clinicians. The American Society of Addiction Medicine levels of care offered by HHSC contractors span a broad treatment continuum of outpatient services, varying intensities of residential treatment, medically monitored withdrawal management, and opioid treatment services. HHSC SUD treatment services are available for adults and adolescents,⁴ and specialized female treatment services are available for pregnant women and women with dependent children.⁵ Upon completion of an HHSC-funded SUD program, eligible people may apply to reside in Oxford Houses for recovery housing. Oxford Houses of Texas assists in establishing and maintaining housing opportunities for people in recovery. Table 4 below shows the Substance Use Treatment Services expenditures by program type for fiscal year 2020.

⁴ Ages 13 to 17 years.

⁵ Specialized females are pregnant women and women with children (including women whose children are in custody of the state).

[Substance Use Disorder Program Guide](#)

Table 4. FY 2020 Expenditures for Substance Use Treatment by Program Type

Program	Service Type Category	Agency Budget Strategy	Summary Description	FY 20 SABG Expenditures
Treatment for Adults	SUD Services-Treatment	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	SUD treatment services for adults engage people and families in recovery efforts through the continuum of care. Treatment approaches are evidence-based, holistic in design, and emphasize coordination of care across the continuum.	\$39,779,022
Treatment for Females	SUD Services-Treatment	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	SUD specialized female treatment services promote recovery from SUD for pregnant and parenting women meeting clinical criteria. Treatment is designed to promote stable recovery from substance use disorders. Specialized female services provide gender-specific, evidenced-based, and trauma-informed services.	\$13,666,710
Treatment for Youth	SUD Services-Treatment	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	SUD treatment services for adolescents (ages 13-17 years) engage people and families in recovery efforts through the continuum of care. Treatment approaches are evidence-based, holistic in design, and emphasize coordination of care across the continuum.	\$8,782,895
Treatment for Co-Occurring Psychiatric and Substance Use Disorders	SUD Services-Treatment	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Co-occurring Psychiatric and Substance Use Disorder programs provide services to adults and youth with co-occurring psychiatric and substance use disorders, emphasizing integrated treatment for both mental health needs and SUDs.	\$1,795,602
Medication Assisted Treatment	SUD Services-Treatment	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Medication Assisted Treatment services provide opioid treatment services to adults to alleviate the adverse physiological effects of withdrawal from the use of opioids.	\$2,230,724

Program	Service Type Category	Agency Budget Strategy	Summary Description	FY 20 SABG Expenditures
Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome	SUD Services-Treatment	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome services include a continuum of comprehensive treatment and recovery services for pregnant and post-partum women who have been diagnosed with an opioid use disorder.	\$470,423
Oxford Houses	SUD Services-Treatment	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Oxford Houses of Texas assist in establishing and maintaining housing opportunities for people in recovery.	\$951,003
Centralized Training Infrastructure for Evidence Based Practices	SUD Services-Treatment	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	HHSC partners with The University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences to administer the Centralized Training Infrastructure for Evidence Based Practices program, which supports online trainings, in-person trainings, and web-based technical assistance to entities with HHSC-funded contracts.	\$668,954
Total				\$68,345,333

Substance Use Recovery Services

Substance use recovery programs offer non-clinical services provided by Certified Peer Recovery Coaches to assist people seeking recovery from a SUD. Both adults and youth can engage in recovery support services. The goal of recovery support services is to help people initiate, support, and maintain long-term recovery from SUDs. In Texas, recovery support services are offered through a regional, community-based framework used to coordinate multiple systems, services, and supports which can be tailored to fit the needs of each person seeking recovery from substances. Table 5 below shows the Substance Use Recovery Services expenditures by program type for fiscal year 2020.

Table 5. FY 2020 Expenditures for Substance Use Recovery by Program Type

Program	Service Type Category	Agency Budget Strategy	Summary Description	FY 20 SABG Expenditures
Recovery Support Services	SUD Services - Peer and Recovery Services Programs	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Recovery Support Services are evidence-based services that increase long-term recovery and quality of life for people diagnosed with substance use disorders. Services are provided by certified peer specialists, who have lived experience with recovery from substance use disorders, using a wide array of non-clinical services and supports to help people initiate, support, and maintain long-term recovery from substance use disorders.	\$4,659,421
Recovery-Oriented System of Care	SUD Services - Peer and Recovery Services Programs	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Texas Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care is a regional, community-based framework for coordinating multiple systems, services, and supports that are person-centered, self-directed and designed to readily adjust to meet the person’s needs and chosen pathway to recovery.	\$548,788
Recovery Youth Services	SUD Services - Peer and Recovery Services Programs	D.2.4 Substance Abuse Services	Youth Recovery Services support youth ages 13-21 with a history of SUD, including those with co-occurring mental health disorders, who are in or seeking recovery, along with their family members, significant others, and/or supportive allies.	\$2,128,851
Total				\$7,337,060

4. Conclusion

For all SABG funded programs, the third and fourth fiscal quarters of fiscal year 2020 required providers to adapt to the changes brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many providers were able to transition to telephone and virtual services which decreased barriers for many people previously unable to attend services due to transportation or childcare issues, allowing for program expenditures to continue. However, for certain services which required people to attend in-person (i.e., residential substance use treatment) periodic spikes in COVID-19 cases, decreased capacity due to social distancing requirements, and staffing shortages meant fewer clients could be served resulting in fewer funds expended.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, HHSC is dedicated to helping substance use service providers successfully serve people in Texas and expend SABG funds while keeping the safety of clients and provider staff in the forefront. Steps undertaken to do this include regular technical assistance for substance use service providers to ensure compliance with emergency guidance and rules, resource notifications for Covid-19 tests and mitigation supplies, and maintaining awareness for federal grant opportunities to promote the provision of substance use services and address SUD specific needs in Texas.

List of Acronyms

Acronym	Full Name
HHSC	Health and Human Services Commission
HEI	HIV Early Intervention services
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
PBHP	Prevention and Behavioral Health Promotion
SABG	Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
SUD	Substance Use Disorder