



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, Health and Human Services
Commission, Rider 59)**

**Texas Health and Human Services
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Executive Summary

The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) submits the *Annual Report on Federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant 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 HHSC to submit a report no later than December 1, 2022, that provides information about annual expenditures of federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SABG) funds awarded by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to HHSC, including supplemental and one-time awards.

This report includes information about SABG expenditures during fiscal year 2021. HHSC funds a variety of substance use programs across the continuum of care. These programs use SABG funds to offer a comprehensive array of prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery support services.

In fiscal year 2021, HHSC expended regular SABG funds totaling \$137,273,320. Of the total, HHSC expended 32 percent for prevention, 11 percent for intervention, and 57 percent for treatment, which includes recovery support services. HHSC received \$135,636,613 in supplemental or one-time funds for substance use programs in fiscal year 2021. However, HHSC did not expend those funds during fiscal year 2021 and instead submitted a plan for approval by SAMHSA and used the remainder of the fiscal year to develop capacity for service delivery in fiscal year 2022.

During fiscal year 2021, HHSC supported all substance use service providers in their efforts to adapt to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic by providing services via telephone and virtual platforms, decreasing barriers for the people they served. Programs requiring in-person services (e.g., residential substance use treatment and prevention curricula) were impacted by staffing shortages and public health requirements which decreased capacity.

Introduction

Rider 59 requires 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 annual expenditures of the federal SABG funds awarded by SAMHSA to HHSC, including supplemental and one-time awards.

HHSC expended regular SABG funds totaling \$137,273,320 in fiscal year 2021. Of the total, HHSC expended:

- \$43,311,882 (32 percent) for prevention;
- \$15,654,499 (11 percent) for intervention; and
- \$78,306,939 (57 percent) for treatment, which includes substance use recovery support services.

Background

HHSC funds a variety of substance use programs across the service continuum of care. These substance use programs offer a comprehensive array of prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery support 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 on risks associated with substance use, 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 an SUD, while peer and recovery support services focus on people currently or previously diagnosed with an 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. Three of the entities HHSC currently contracts with meet the requirements of the SAMHSA Charitable Choice.¹

Substance Use Prevention Programs

HHSC allocated funding for the following prevention program types for fiscal years 2020-24:

- Youth Prevention Universal;
- Youth Prevention Selective;
- Youth Prevention Indicated;
- Community Coalition Partnerships; and
- Prevention Resource Centers.

¹ SAMHSA's Charitable Choice provisions allow for federal government funding of religious organizations to provide a social service.

The programs listed above are structured according to the federal SAMHSA’s 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 programs listed above, HHSC funds a statewide media campaign and a statewide training program. Table 1 below shows the Substance Use Prevention Services expenditures by program type for fiscal year 2021.

Table 1. FY 2021 Expenditures for SUD Prevention and Behavioral Health Promotion Services by Program – HHSC Budget Strategy D.2.4

Program	Summary Description	FY 21 SABG Expenditures
Community Coalition Partnerships	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 the federal 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.	\$5,519,551
Texas Prevention Training	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.	\$1,294,153

Program	Summary Description	FY 21 SABG Expenditures
Youth Prevention Programs	Prevention programs for youth deliver evidence-based curricula to universal, selective, and indicated populations, as defined by the National Academy of Medicine (formerly the Institute of Medicine). These programs provide prevention education, positive alternatives, information dissemination and problem identification, and referrals at schools and community sites.	\$32,586,652
Prevention Resource Centers	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.	\$3,119,369
Prevention Statewide Media Campaign	The Prevention 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.	\$279,000

Program	Summary Description	FY 21 SABG Expenditures
Substance Use School Survey	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.	\$513,157
Total		\$43,311,882

Substance Use Intervention Programs

In fiscal year 2021, HHSC funded intervention programs focused on assisting people at risk for, or diagnosed with, an SUD by reducing the impact of substance use.

Services offered through 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;² linkage and retention services for historically marginalized and underserved communities; and a targeted combination of outreach, motivational interviewing, and referrals to connect people to local and statewide substance use treatment and community supports services. Table 2 below shows the Substance Use Intervention Services expenditures by program type for fiscal year 2021.

² 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.

Table 2. FY 2021 Expenditures for SUD Intervention Services by Program - HHSC Budget Strategy D.2.4

Program	Summary Description	FY 21 SABG Expenditures
Outreach, Screening, Assessment, and Referral (OSAR)	OSAR services assist people in accessing services along the substance use continuum of care. The OSAR program provides screenings and/or assessments, education, information dissemination, risk reduction education, case management coordination, referral to treatment and other appropriate support services.	\$5,872,650
Substance Use Community Health Worker	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.	\$4,070,209
Pregnant, Parenting Intervention	The Pregnant, Parenting Intervention program provides intervention services aimed at reducing the impact, severity, and cost associated with a substance exposed pregnancy to the mother and child and their families.	\$1,737,357
Rural Border Intervention	The Rural Border Intervention program addresses the specific needs of the rural border communities by providing intervention services and access to a continuum of behavioral health services (substance use services; mental health promotion; SUD and mental health treatment and recovery) to members of the rural border communities who have or are at high risk of developing an SUD.	\$911,809
Parenting Awareness and Drug Risk Education Services	The Parenting Awareness and Drug Risk Education Services program provides community-based intervention services, brief case management and evidenced-informed education to people who are parents or expectant parents to decrease the impact of substance use.	\$3,062,474

Program	Summary Description	FY 21 SABG Expenditures
Total		\$15,654,499

Substance Use Treatment Programs

SUD treatment services are designed to improve overall quality of life of the people served by increasing their access to support services in the community; providing case management, counseling, education, and support services; and offering individualized care based on the person’s unique needs.

SUD 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 treating clinicians’ recommendations. The American Society of Addiction Medicine levels of care offered by HHSC-funded providers 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,³ and specialized female treatment services are available for pregnant women and women with dependent children.⁴ Table 3 shows the Substance Use Treatment Services expenditures by program for fiscal year 2021.

Table 3. FY 2021 Expenditures for SUD Treatment Services by Program – HHSC Budget Strategy D.2.4

Program	Summary Description	FY 21 SABG Expenditures
Comprehensive Continuum of Care for Females	Comprehensive Continuum of Care for Females provide comprehensive case management services, community-based linkage, and retention services through pre-admission service coordination to reduce barriers to treatment, enhance motivation, stabilize life situations, and facilitate engagement in long-term recovery.	\$17,792

³ Ages 13 to 17 years.

⁴ Specialized females are pregnant women and women with children (including women whose children are in the custody of the state). [Substance Use Disorder Program Guide](#)

Program	Summary Description	FY 21 SABG Expenditures
Medication Assisted Treatment	Medication Assisted Treatment provides opioid treatment services to adults to alleviate the adverse physiological effects of withdrawal from the use of opioids.	\$8,942,276
Treatment for Co-Occurring Psychiatric and Substance Use Disorders	The Co-Occurring Psychiatric and Substance Use Disorder services provide adjunct services to adults and youth with co-occurring psychiatric and SUD, emphasizing integrated treatment for both mental health needs and SUD.	\$2,490,596
Treatment for Adults	SUD treatment services for adults engage clients and their families in recovery efforts through a continuum of care. The program uses approaches that are evidence-based, holistic in design, and emphasize coordination of care across the continuum.	\$35,343,237
Treatment for Youth	SUD treatment services serve youth between ages 13- 17 years. The program engages clients and their families in recovery efforts through the continuum of care program. Approaches in treatment for youth are evidence-based, holistic in design, and emphasize coordination of care across the continuum.	\$7,165,936
Treatment for Females	The SUD treatment services specialized for females engage clients and their families in recovery efforts through the continuum of care. Specialized female services provide gender-specific, evidenced-based services that are trauma-informed.	\$14,641,185
Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Services	Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome services include a continuum of comprehensive treatment and recovery services for pregnant and parenting women who have been diagnosed with an SUD.	\$501,420

Program	Summary Description	FY 21 SABG Expenditures
Centralized Training Infrastructure for Evidence Based Practices	HHSC partners with The University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio’s Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences to administer the Centralized Training Infrastructure for Evidence Based Practices program to provide online and in-person training for HHSC-funded providers.	\$429,000
Professional Services	Professional services contracts include funding for temporary contracted workers and computer software to survey substance use contractors on service provision.	\$173,689
Total		\$69,705,131

Substance Use Recovery Support Services

Substance use recovery support services offer non-clinical programs provided by Recovery Support Peer Specialists to assist people seeking recovery from an 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 an SUD. In Texas, recovery support services are offered through a regional, community-based framework that has the capacity to coordinate multiple systems, services, and supports tailored to fit the needs of each person seeking recovery from substances. Table 4 shows the Substance Use Recovery Services expenditures by program for fiscal year 2021.

Table 4. FY 2021 Expenditures for SUD Peer and Recovery Services by Program - Agency Budget Strategy D.2.4

Program	Summary Description	FY 21 SABG Expenditures
Recovery Support Services	Recovery Support Services are evidence-based services that increase long-term recovery and quality of life for people diagnosed with an SUD. Services are provided by certified peer specialists, who have lived experience with recovery from an SUD using a wide array of non-clinical services and supports to help people initiate, support, and maintain long-term recovery from an SUD.	\$4,335,904
Recovery-Oriented System of Care	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.	\$599,999
Recovery Youth Services	Youth Recovery Services support youth ages 13-21 with a history of an 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.	\$2,490,831
Texas Group Homes ⁵	Texas Group Homes establish and maintain safe, substance-free, peer-run housing in the community for adults in recovery.	\$1,175,075
Total		\$8,601,809

⁵ Upon completion of an HHSC-funded SUD program, an eligible person may apply to reside in an Oxford House for recovery housing. Oxford Houses of Texas assist in establishing and maintaining housing opportunities for people in recovery.

Conclusion

This report provides information about annual expenditures of federal SABG funds awarded by SAMHSA to HHSC, including one-time supplemental awards, during fiscal year 2021. HHSC funds a variety of substance use programs across the continuum of care of prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery support services.

During fiscal year 2021, all SABG funded programs supported providers to continuously adapt to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. HHSC will continue to support substance use service providers as they serve Texans. To achieve this, regular technical assistance is offered for substance use service providers to ensure compliance with emergency guidance and rules, resource notifications are disseminated for COVID-19 tests and mitigation supplies, and HHSC staff maintain awareness of federal grant opportunities that promote the provision of substance use services and address SUD specific needs in Texas.

List of Acronyms

Acronym	Full Name
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
HHSC	Health and Human Services Commission
OSAR	Outreach, Screening, Assessment, and Referral
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