



# FACT SHEET

## DIRECTOR'S ADVICE-SEEKING SYSTEM (DASS)

### Background

The Director's Advice-Seeking System (DASS), consisting of the Director's Advisory Council (DAC) and eight Constituent Committees (Committees), was created in 1998 by California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs' Office of Legislative and External Affairs to facilitate in the delivery of quality Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) and problem gambling services in California.

The DAC includes more than 30 members representing alcohol, drug and problem gambling program leaders; judges; directors of provider organizations; AOD educational organizations and/or Counselor Certification Organizations; the County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators' Association of California (CADPAAC); and the eight Committees.

### Purpose and Role

The DAC and Committees, which are not mandated by state law or regulations, exist at the pleasure of the Director and were designed to serve as a "town hall" – advising ADP on program and policy while acting as liaisons to their communities.

In addition to providing advice to the Director from constituent populations within the state, the DAC addresses critical issues from the alcohol, drug and problem gambling fields, identifies barriers that may limit unserved/underserved populations from accessing services, and provides feedback to the community.

The eight Committees were established to advise and assist ADP's Director and Executive Staff in developing strategies to plan and support culturally competent AOD and problem gambling prevention, treatment and recovery services. The purpose of these Committees is to improve and expand alcohol, drug and problem gambling services for California's diverse population.

### Membership

Current members of the DAC represent:

#### *ADP Staff*

- Michael Cunningham, Acting Director and Chief Deputy Director
- Tina Chiginsky, Deputy Director, Office of Legislation and External Affairs

#### *Associations / AOD and Problem Gambling Service Providers*

- Advocates for Human Potential, Inc.
- Aegis Medical Systems, Inc.
- Alcohol and Drug Policy Institute
- Behavioral Health Services
- California Association for Alcohol and Drug Educators
- California Association of Addiction Recovery Resources
- California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives, Inc.
- California Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors
- California Association of Drinking Driver Treatment Programs

- California Council on Problem Gambling
- California Dept. of Public Health, Office of AIDS
- California Hispanic Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse
- California Organizations of Methadone Providers
- California Perinatal Drug Treatment Provider Network
- California Prevention Collaborative
- California Society of Addiction Medicine
- California Therapeutic Communities Center Point
- County Alcohol and Drug Advisory Boards
- County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators Association of California
- County of Sonoma Health Services
- EMQ Families First
- Judicial Council of California
- Los Angeles County Alcohol and Drug Program Administration
- Los Angeles County Superior Court
- Phoenix House of California
- Progress House, Inc.
- Superior Court of California, Santa Clara County
- Tarzana Treatment Center
- UCLA Gambling Studies Program
- University of California, Los Angeles Integrated Substance Abuse Programs
- Youth Leadership Institute

*Constituent Committees*

- African-American
- Aging
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Disabled
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender
- Latino
- Native American
- Women's