

SENATE BILL 1280

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8-881. Coordination of substance abuse treatment; contracting for services; joint substance abuse treatment fund

A. The department of economic security in partnership with the department of health services as joint administrators of the joint substance abuse treatment fund shall coordinate the provision of services to:

1. Parents, guardians or custodians whose substance abuse is a significant barrier to maintaining, preserving or reunifying the family.
2. Recipients of temporary assistance for needy families whose substance abuse is a significant barrier to maintaining or obtaining employment.

B. This coordination effort shall include all of the following:

1. The development of programs in communities for the provision of services to qualified persons who suffer from substance abuse.
2. The requirements for contractors who provide services in communities for qualified persons who suffer from substance abuse.
3. The method of evaluating community programs.

C. The department of economic security may contract for services prescribed in this article.

D. The joint substance abuse treatment fund is established. The director of the department of economic security and the director of the department of health services shall jointly administer the fund. Monies in the fund are continuously appropriated for the purposes prescribed in this article and are exempt from the provisions of section 35-190 relating to the lapsing of appropriations. Of the fund monies, the directors shall not use more than:

1. Five per cent for program development costs.
2. Ten per cent for evaluation of community programs pursuant to section 8-884.

8-882. Program development

In assisting development of community programs, the department of economic security in partnership with the department of health services as joint administrators of the fund shall consider the following issues:

1. The determination of eligibility and a screening process to identify:
 - (a) A parent, guardian or custodian of a child who is named in a report to child protective services as a victim of abuse or neglect and whose substance abuse is a significant barrier to maintaining, preserving or reunifying the family.
 - (b) A person whose substance abuse is a significant barrier to maintaining or obtaining employment if the person is receiving cash assistance pursuant to title 46, chapter 2, article 5.
2. Training and technical assistance to be provided to communities for the development and provision of the programs.
3. Collaboration among and integration with public and private agencies, programs, service providers, advocates and consumers.
4. Coordination and integration of funding sources to meet prevention, treatment and other service needs.
5. The scope of services to be provided that are family centered and that fit within the following categories:
 - (a) Substance abuse screening and assessment.
 - (b) Treatment referral.
 - (c) Treatment services.
 - (d) Aftercare.
 - (e) Service coordination.
 - (f) Other services necessary to achieve the outcome goals identified in section 8-884.

6. Procedures for sharing information to assure the well-being of a child and the person being treated while maintaining confidentiality as otherwise prescribed by statute. These procedures shall include requirements for treatment providers to keep any court timely informed of the nature and status of treatment for a parent, guardian or custodian of a child who is the subject of a dependency action before the court.

8-883. Requirements for contractors

In developing The requirements for contractors who provide prevention and treatment of substance abuse in communities, the department of economic security in partnership with the department of health services as joint administrators of the fund shall:

1. Prescribe that contractors shall develop and implement the program through collaboration with representatives of the community served so that services are provided in a comprehensive and integrated manner that is responsive to cultural, demographic and geographic diversity.
2. Require contractors to specify what outcomes they are addressing, consistent with the requirements prescribed in section 8-884, and how these outcomes will be achieved.
3. Require contractors to cooperate with the evaluation prescribed in section 8-884.
4. Prescribe any other requirements necessary to meet the outcome goals identified in section 8-884.

8-884. Evaluation of community programs

A. In developing the method of evaluating community substance abuse prevention and treatment programs, the department of economic security in partnership with the department of health services as joint administrators of the fund shall prescribe evaluation factors that are consistent with the following outcome goals:

1. Increase the availability, timeliness and accessibility of substance abuse treatment to improve child safety, family stability and permanency for children in foster care or other out-of-home placement, with a preference for reunification with a child's birth family.
2. Increase the availability, timeliness and accessibility of substance abuse treatment to persons receiving temporary assistance for needy families to achieve self-sufficiency through employment.
3. Increase the availability, timeliness and accessibility of substance abuse treatment to promote recovery from alcohol and drug problems.

B. The department of economic security shall retain a person to evaluate the performance of the contractor for each community program according to the factors developed pursuant to subsection A. The person shall report at least every three months to the department and each contractor on the performance of each contractor. Annually by November 1, the person shall prepare and deliver to the legislature a statewide report concerning the prior fiscal year.