



BARBARA FERRER, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

MUNTU DAVIS, M.D., M.P.H.
County Health Officer

MEGAN McCLAIRE, M.S.P.H.
Chief Deputy Director

DEBORAH ALLEN, Sc.D.
Deputy Director, Health Promotion Bureau

GARY TSAI, M.D.
Division Director, Medical Director and Science Officer
Substance Abuse Prevention and Control
1000 South Fremont Avenue, Building A-9 East, 3rd Floor, Box 34
Alhambra, California 91803
TEL (626) 299-4101 • FAX (626) 458-7637

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hilda L. Solis
First District

Holly J. Mitchell
Second District

Sheila Kuehl
Third District

Janice Hahn
Fourth District

Kathryn Barger
Fifth District

December 16, 2020

SAPC Bulletin No. 20-13

TO: Los Angeles County Substance Use Disorder
Contracted Faith-Based Providers

FROM: Gary Tsai, M.D., Division Director *GT*
Substance Abuse Prevention and Control

SUBJECT: CHARITABLE CHOICE REFERRAL AND REPORTING PROCESS

The Department of Public Health, Division of Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC) is releasing this Bulletin Number 20-13 to provide guidance to contracted faith-based providers in accordance with the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SABG) Policy Manual, 42 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 54a.3 and the paragraph titled “Nondiscrimination and Institutional Safeguards for Religious Providers” of your SAPC Service Contract.

As described in these regulations, providers who are defined as a faith-based organization in their articles of incorporation or in their 501(c)(3) tax exempt form, must adhere to the following requirements:

1. May not use any SAPC funds for religious inherent activities, such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization. If an organization conducts such activities, it must offer them separately, in time or location, from contracted services.
2. May not discriminate in any employment practices as described in the paragraph titled “Nondiscrimination in Employment” of the SAPC Service Contract.
3. May not discriminate against any program participant or prospective program participant as described in the paragraph titled “Nondiscrimination in Services” of your SAPC Service Contract.

4. Must establish a system to identify and refer any program participant or prospective program participant who requests to be transferred to another program based on the religious nature of the program. Providers must track these referrals for reporting purposes.

Lastly, all faith-based providers must adhere to the following reporting schedule and report to SAPC the number of referrals described in bullet #4 above for the identified period. Providers must report these referrals by sending an email to SAPCMonitoring@ph.lacounty.gov.

Time Period	Reporting Due Date
January 1 – March 31	April 1
April 1 – June 30	July 1
July 1 – September 30	October 1
October 1 – December 31	January 1

Please contact your assigned Contract Program Auditor for additional information.

GT:dd