Mixed recovery goals in client communities

REACHING THE 95% - Enhancement incentive eligible

SAPC | Substance Abuse Prevention and Control

County of Los Angeles Public Health

Provider panel led by: David W. Hindman, PhD
Division Chief, Sage EHR Management Division
Interim Chief, Clinical Standards & Training (CST) Branch

November 6, 2025

Agenda

- Incentive opportunities and provider support resources
- Reaching the 95%
- Panel discussion
- Open discussion

Month	Meeting/Training	Details	R95 Enhancement Activity eligibility	
			Harm reduction	R95
Dec	**Harm Reduction and Treatment Integration meeting**	**Topic:** Training for treatment staff on how to integrate harm reduction approaches to meet client needs throughout the recovery journey **Date:** Thursday, December 11, 10:00am-12:00pm **Location:** East Los Angeles College, G1-301AB, 1301 Avenida Cesar Chavez, Monterey Park, CA 91754 **Registration:** https://sapccis.ph.lacounty.gov/registration/registration.aspx?ID=217	Yes	No
	Due December 31, 2025: R95 Value Based Incentive Policy and Agreements			
Jan	**Workgroup: Implementation**	**Topic:** Agency-level discussion about how to implement client-centered, low barrier design and how to address new challenges **Date:** Friday, January 9, 2:00pm-3:30pm **Location:** Zev Yaroslavksy Family Support Center, Joshua and Sequoia Room Combo 7555 Van Nuys Blvd, Van Nuys, CA 91405 **Registration:** https://sapccis.ph.lacounty.gov/registration/registration.aspx?ID=210	No	Yes

R95 FY 25-26 Calendar

R95 Support for Treatment Agencies

R95 101 Training for Frontline Staff

In-person trainings per agency to address staff questions and concerns about real life application of R95 principles

Request by email or through Booking

R95 Value-Based Incentive TA

Virtual meeting to discuss specific R95 topics and/or Value-Based Incentive deliverables

Request by email or through Booking

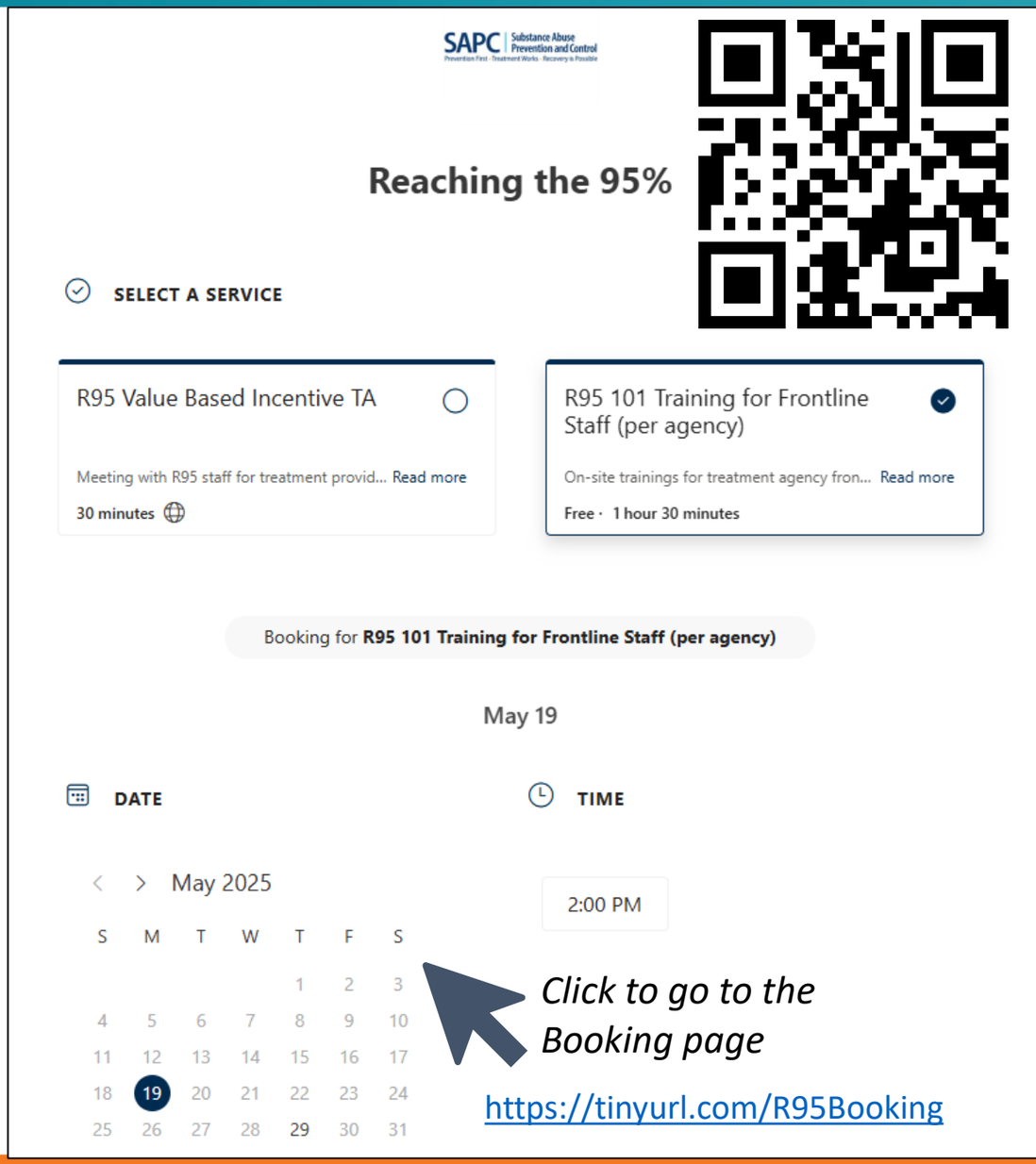
R95 Consultation Line for Providers

(626) 210-0648

M-F 8:30am-5:00pm, excluding County holidays

R95 Virtual Monthly Office Hour (3rd W, 9:00am)

Monthly Teams meeting with R95 overview and updates with dedicated time for agency questions



Reaching the 95%

Lowering barriers to life-saving SUD treatment services

SAPC | Substance Abuse Prevention and Control

County of Los Angeles Public Health

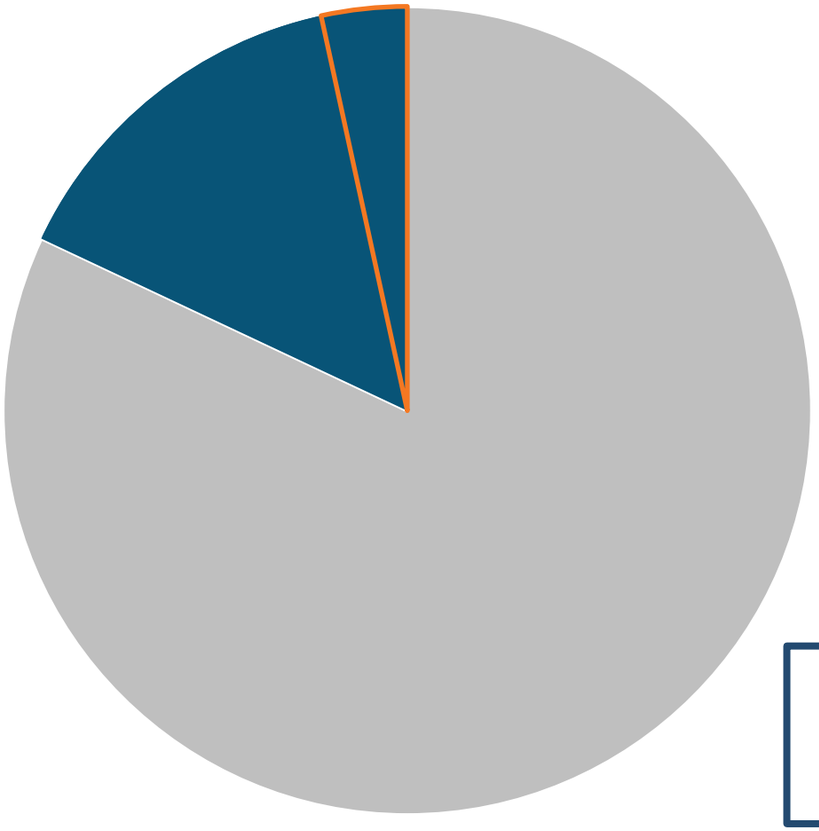
Reaching the 95% Initiative

Fundamental R95 Goals

1. Ensure specialty SUD systems are designed not just for the ~5% of people with SUDs who are already interested in treatment, but also the ~95% of people with SUDs who are not.
2. To lower barriers to care in the hearts and minds of the SUD community and public by disconnecting readiness for treatment from abstinence.
3. To communicate – through words, policies, and actions – that people with SUD are worthy of our time, attention, and compassion, no matter where they are in their readiness for change or recovery journey.

The R95 Initiative was launched by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC) in 2023 to reach more people by expanding outreach and lowering barriers to care

Very few people with SUD seek treatment



18% of people age 12+ in the U.S. have a SUD

(+1% from 2023)

19% of those received treatment when including all settings, such as specialty treatment, primary care, telehealth, withdrawal management, prison, jail, or juvenile detention center

81% of people age 12+ in the U.S. with SUD received **no** treatment in the past year

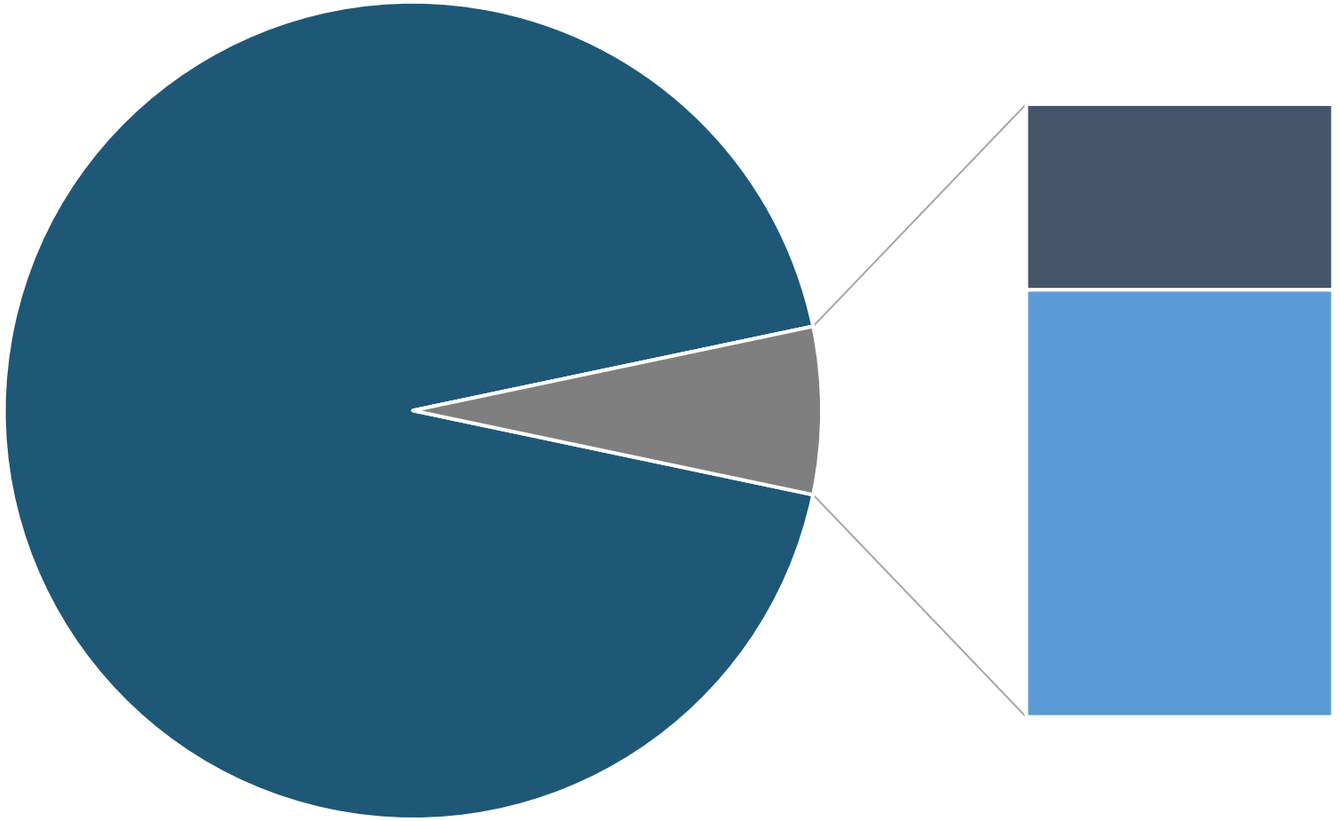
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2024). Key substance use and mental health indicators in the United States: Results from the 2023 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (HHS Publication No. PEP24-07-021, NSDUH Series H-59). Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. https://www.samhsa.gov/data/report/2023-nsduh-annual-national-report

It’s time to improve access by reaching out to those we’ve missed

Of people age 12+ with SUD that did not access treatment…

93% did not seek treatment and **did not think they needed** treatment

(-2% from 2022)



2% thought they should get treatment and **unsuccessfully** sought treatment

(+1% from 2022)

5% thought they should get treatment but **did not seek** it

(+1% from 2022)

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2024). Key substance use and mental health indicators in the United States: Results from the 2023 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (HHS Publication No. PEP24-07-021, NSDUH Series H-59). Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. https://www.samhsa.gov/data/report/2023-nsduh-annual-national-report

Lower barrier care

Traditional Approach

- Defining **readiness for treatment** as readiness for abstinence
- Focusing on **program rules** to define the terms of treatment engagement
- Discharging clients who **relapse**

R95 Approach

- Being open to admitting people into treatment who are **interested** in care, even if they may not be ready for complete abstinence
- Focusing on **client preferences** to inform the terms of treatment engagement
- Looking for ways to **maintain** clients in treatment who relapse

R95 Strategies to Increase Access to SUD Treatment

1 Enhancing outreach and engagement

Meeting people where they are:

- Expanding field- and street-based services
- Increasing efforts to interface with other areas of health and social systems

Meeting people at different points of their recovery:

- Expanding low barrier and low judgement services so abstinence is not a condition of or prerequisite for admission
- Expanding offerings of Addiction Medication (Medications for Addiction Treatment [MAT])

Optimizing reimbursable outreach and engagement services:

- Expanding services available to clients before formal diagnosis

R95 Strategies to Increase Access to SUD Treatment

2 Establishing lower barrier care

Designing spaces and services around the client to enhance engagement and retention:

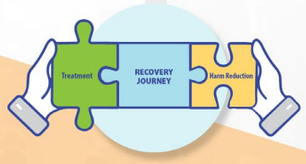
- Performing customer experience assessments at the SUD provider level to make the care environment more inviting

Redefining "readiness" for care:

- Lowering the bar of admissions to welcome a broader range of recovery goals, inclusive of nonabstinent goals

Supporting someone through recovery's ups and downs:

- Raising the bar of discharge policies so that there are more nuanced considerations before someone is discharged from treatment because of relapse



Connecting the continuum of care and not gatekeeping life-saving practices:

- Strengthening bidirectional referrals between harm reduction and SUD treatment agencies to meet client needs throughout the recovery journey

R95 approach to: Admissions

- We welcome clients with a **range of treatment goals**, wherever they are on their treatment journey.

- **Toxicology tests and results** are not required for admission, whether positive or negative.

- Whenever possible, we provide **same day** admission and services.

- Agencies are truly **accessible** through language assistance, cultural competency, non-judgmental language, and responsive approaches.

- Clients are admitted even if **Medi-Cal** is not active or assigned to LA County, as this can be done during/after admission using the reimbursable care coordination benefit.

R95 approach to: Discharges

- Clients are not automatically discharged only because of a **positive toxicology test result**.

- Clients are not discharged when **health benefit lapses** for those that remain eligible. Provider agencies should use the care coordination benefit to help prevent clients from losing Medi-Cal during the treatment episode.

- Provider agencies ensure a **warm handoff** when clients step up or down levels of care.

- Provider agencies provide informational materials at discharge about **overdose prevention and safe use**, including naloxone.

R95 approach to: Toxicology testing

- Toxicology tests are clinical tools to gather **information** and facilitate discussion with clients around their substance use, triggers, treatment progress, and linkage to additional supports.

- A **positive** toxicology test result or **refusal** to submit a sample for testing is not a reason for automatic discharge.

- Toxicology testing is grounded in a **trauma-informed**, **culturally responsive** approach that prioritizes respect, safety, and accuracy.

- Providers will **inform clients** about the testing process, the benefits of testing, client expectations, client rights, and potential consequences.

Legislative update

AB 1037: The Substance Use Disorder Care Modernization Act

- Expands settings for risk reduction education
- Removes requirement to be abstinent for 24 hours prior to re/admission
- Streamlines SUD residential facility licensing and certification to provide MAT/Addiction Medication
- Recognizes Naloxone as an FDA-approved medication to be available over the counter

AB 309: Hypodermic needles and syringes

- Removes January 1, 2026, sunset of physician and pharmacist ability to provide safe hypodermic needles and syringes to prevent disease spread

Provider panel discussion

Amaranda Baez, TTC | Liz McGhee, Fred Brown

Brandon Fernandez, CRI-Help

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How does your staff navigate different recovery goals amongst your clients?

What challenges with staff or client beliefs have you come across when welcoming non-abstinent goals?

What worried you about welcoming clients focused on non-abstinent goals?

Additional questions?

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN IN

Scan with your phone camera or use a web browser:
forms.office.com/g/jd39MSBEat

Reaching the 95% resources

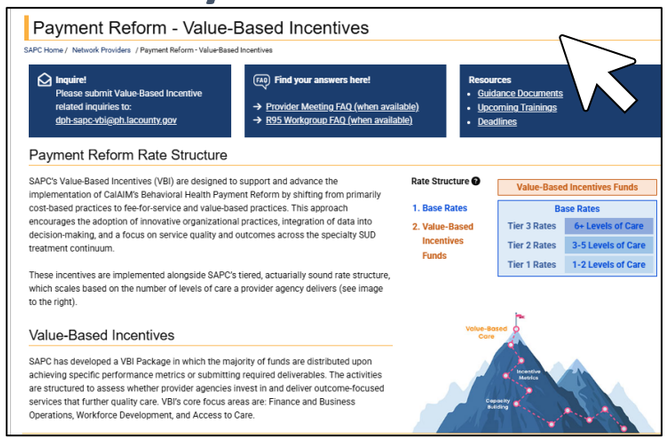
R95 website

R95 Consultation Line

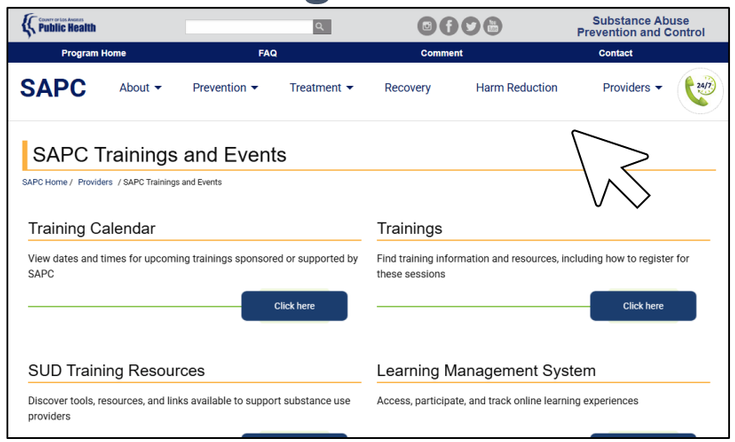
(626) 210-0648

M-F 8:30am-5:00pm, excluding County holidays

SAPC Payment Reform VBI



SAPC Trainings and Events



NEW: [Electronic Deliverable Submission Form]

Email

R95: SAPC-R95@ph.lacounty.gov

Payment Reform (VBI) : DPH-SAPC-VBI@ph.lacounty.gov

Thank You!

About SAPC

- The Department of Public Health's Bureau of Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (DPH-SAPC) oversees the most diverse and comprehensive continuum of SUD services in California.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICE HELPLINE
24/7 1.844.804.7500

CENS
Client Engagement and Navigation Services

COREcenter
Connecting to Opportunities for Recovery and Engagement

- SAPC is committed to innovative, equitable, and quality-focused substance use **prevention**, **harm reduction**, **treatment**, and **recovery services**.

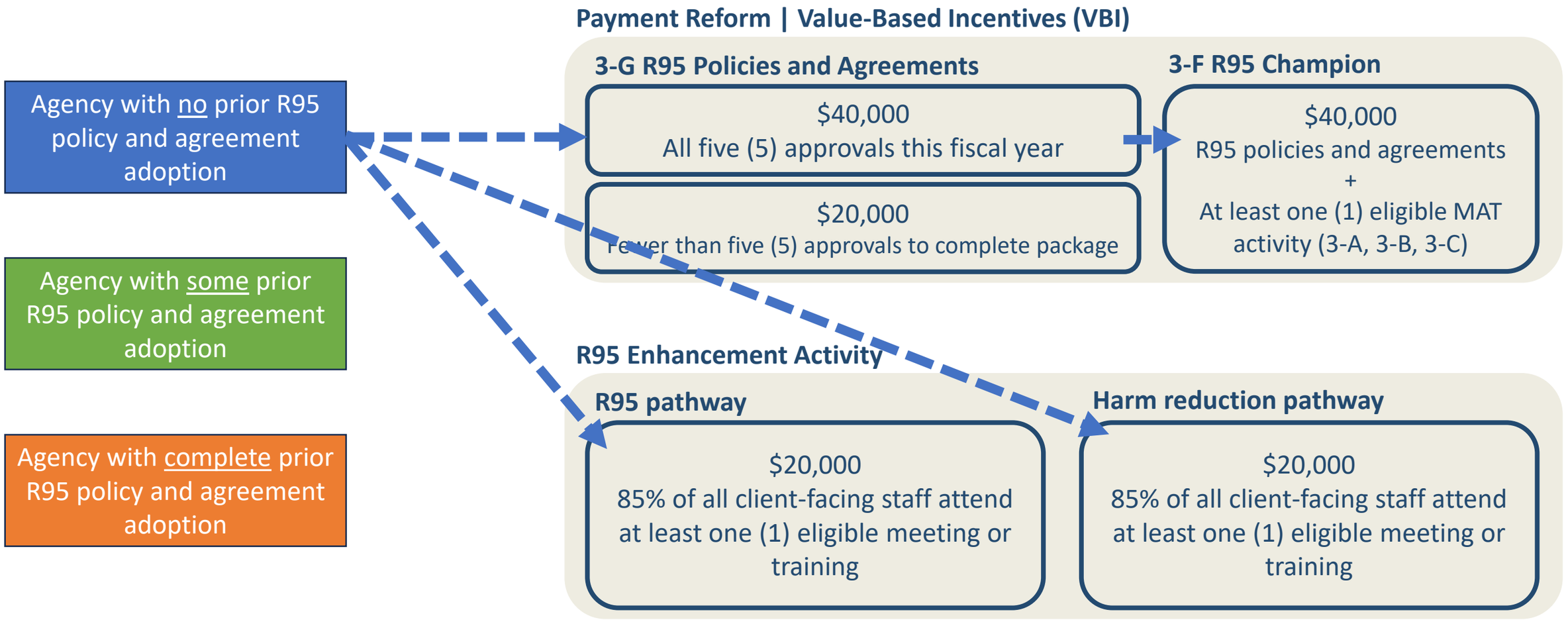
DPH-SAPC Contracted Provider Network*

Prevention	Treatment	Harm Reduction	Recovery Bridge Housing
29 provider agencies	**86** provider agencies	**12** provider agencies	**26** provider agencies
133 site locations	**394** site locations	**17** site locations	**143** site locations
69,552 served	**33,800** served	**35,000** served	**4,123** served

*For persons served, all numbers are annual

SAPC Website: ph.lacounty.gov/sapc/ | SAPC Strategic Plan - 2023-2028: ph.lacounty.gov/sapc/docs/providers/SAPC-Strategic-Plan-2023-2028.pdf

R95 Incentives FY 25-26



R95 Incentives FY 25-26

Agency with no prior R95 policy and agreement adoption

Agency with some prior R95 policy and agreement adoption

Agency with complete prior R95 policy and agreement adoption

Payment Reform | Value-Based Incentives (VBI)

3-G R95 Policies and Agreements

$40,000
All five (5) approvals this fiscal year

$20,000
Fewer than five (5) approvals to complete package

3-F R95 Champion

$40,000
R95 policies and agreements
+
At least one (1) eligible MAT activity (3-A, 3-B, 3-C)

R95 Enhancement Activity

R95 pathway

$20,000
85% of all client-facing staff attend at least one (1) eligible meeting or training

Harm reduction pathway

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