

The Independent Evaluation of the SAPT BG Program

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Dear State Prevention Systems Assessment Reviewer:

As you know, the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SAPT BG) Program was authorized by Congress to provide funds to States, Territories, and one Indian Tribe for the purpose of planning, implementing, and evaluating activities to prevent and treat substance abuse and is the largest Federal program dedicated to improving substance abuse prevention and treatment systems. The sponsors of the program, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention and Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, have contracted with Health Systems Research, Inc., a public policy consulting firm in Washington D.C., to conduct an independent evaluation of this program.

We are soliciting feedback about the SAPT BG from key program stakeholders. As a past State Prevention and Synar System Reviewer, you have important insights and views about the intent, implementation, and impact of the SAPT BG from your site visits to States. We would greatly appreciate your assistance with the evaluation through the completion of this survey. Most of the questions are closed-ended questions where you will be asked to check the appropriate answer or answers. In addition, there are several open-ended questions where you have the opportunity to comment. We urge you to be as honest and thorough as possible.

Please be assured that your answers will be strictly confidential. We will only report aggregated responses to the questions, and we will never attribute specific comments to particular individuals. Your responses will not be used by CSAP to assess State compliance with the requirements and will not have any repercussions for any particular State; they will be used solely for the purpose of evaluating the overall SAPT BG Program.

Thank you very much for taking the time to participate.

1) What is the purpose of the State Prevention and Synar System Review?

2) In what roles did you serve on the State Prevention and Synar System Reviews? (Check all that apply)

- State Prevention and Synar System Review Lead
- Prevention Consultant
- Synar Consultant
- Other (please describe)

3) How often does a State representative identify compliance issues for the State Prevention and Synar System Reviewers during the visits?

- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Usually
- Always
- Cannot answer

4) When conducting State Prevention and Synar System Review site visits, how often do you identify potential issues for Federal action?

- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Usually
- Always
- Cannot answer

5) **When conducting State Prevention and Synar System Review site visits, how often do you identify potential issues for State action?**

- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Usually
- Always
- Cannot answer

6) **How are issues that require action communicated to CSAP? (Check all that apply)**

- E-mail contact
- Phone contact
- In-person meeting
- Site visit report
- Other (please describe)

7) **How are issues that require action communicated to States? (Check all that apply)**

- E-mail contact
- Phone contact
- Exit interview at the conclusion of site visit
- Site visit report
- Other (please describe)

8) **What are the strengths of the current State Prevention and Synar System Review process?**

9) **What are the weaknesses of the current State Prevention and Synar System Review process?**

10) To what extent do you agree that the State Prevention and Synar System Review site visits are useful to States?

- Strongly disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Neither disagree nor agree
- Somewhat agree
- Strongly agree
- Cannot answer

11) Please list any ways in which you feel the State Prevention and Synar System Review site visits could be more useful to States.

12) What types of training, if any, did you receive to prepare you for conducting the State Prevention and Synar System Review site visits? (Check all that apply)

- In-person training
- Written instructions
- Shadowing of experienced site visitors
- No training received
- Other (please describe)

13a) If you received in-person training, please rate how useful you feel the training you received was.

- Not useful
- A little useful
- Somewhat useful
- Mostly useful
- Extremely useful
- Cannot answer

13b) If you received in-person training, how long before the actual site visits began did the training occur? (Check one)

- Within 1 week
- Within 2-3 weeks
- Within 1 month
- Within 2 months
- Longer than 2 months
- Other (please describe)

14a) Do you have any recommendations for improving the training and preparation for the site visits to make you a more effective reviewer?

- Yes
- No

14b) If yes, what are they?

15a) If you received written instructions, please rate how useful they were.

- Not useful
- A little useful
- Somewhat useful
- Mostly useful
- Extremely useful
- Cannot answer

15b) If you received written instructions, how long before the actual site visits began did you receive them? (Check one)

- Within 1 week
- Within 2-3 weeks
- Within 1 month
- Within 2 months
- Longer than 2 months
- Other (please describe)

16) How useful was the State Prevention and Synar System Review Guide in helping to gather the information needed to prepare the State Prevention and Synar System Review site visit report?

- Not useful
- A little useful
- Somewhat useful
- Mostly useful
- Extremely useful
- Cannot answer

17a) Were you provided any other materials in preparation for the site visits?

- Yes
- No

17b) If yes, what other materials?

18a) Do you have any suggestions for improving the State Prevention and Synar System Review Guides?

- Yes
- No

18b) If yes, please discuss.

19a) Did you receive information about the State's responsibilities for the State Prevention and Synar System Review site visit?

- Yes
- No
- Cannot answer

19b) If yes, what information did you receive?

20) Please rate how prepared the last State you visited was for the State Prevention and Synar System Review site visit.

- Very unprepared
- Somewhat unprepared
- Minimally prepared
- Very prepared
- Completely prepared
- Cannot answer

21) What products result from the State Prevention and Synar System Review site visits to States? (Check all that apply)

- State Prevention and Synar System Review report and recommendations
- Technical assistance plan
- Strategic plan
- Other (please describe)

22) How long after a site visit do you typically submit your drafts of site visit products to CSAP? (Check one)

- Within 1 week
- Within 2-3 weeks
- Within 1 month
- Within 2 months
- Longer than 2 months
- Other (please describe)

23) How long after the submission of the draft site visit report do States typically receive a copy of it (after CSAP staff edits are made)? (Check one)

- Within 1 week
- Within 2-3 weeks
- Within 1 month
- Within 2 months
- Longer than 2 months
- Other (please describe)

24a) Do you know if Federal program staff and grants management use site visit products?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

24b) If yes, how?

25a) Do you know if States use site visit products?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

25b) If yes, how?

26a) Do you have any recommendations for improving the dissemination of State Prevention and Synar System Review site visit products?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

26b) If yes, what are they?

27a) Do you have any recommendations for more effective uses of the State Prevention and Synar System Review site visit products?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

27b) If yes, what are they?

Thank you very much for your participation.