The Independent Evaluation of the SAPT BG Program

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Dear Technical 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 Technical 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) **Have you participated in Core Elements Technical Reviews?** [If yes, continue. If no, skip to question 28.]

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Cannot answer

2) **If yes, which of the following was your role? (Check all that apply)**

☐ Management reviewer
☐ Clinical reviewer
☐ Fiscal Team Leader
☐ Other (please describe): _____
☐ Team Leader

3) **What is the purpose of the Core Elements Technical Review?**

_____

_____

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4) **How often does a State representative identify compliance issues for the reviewers during the Core Elements Technical Review site visit?**

☐ Never
☐ Rarely
☐ Sometimes
☐ Usually
☐ Always
☐ Cannot answer

5) **When conducting Core Elements Technical Review site visits, how often do you identify potential issues for Federal action?**

☐ Never
☐ Rarely
☐ Sometimes
☐ Usually
☐ Always
☐ Cannot answer

6) When conducting Core Elements Technical Review site visits, how often do you identify potential issues for State action?

☐ Never
☐ Rarely
☐ Sometimes
☐ Usually
☐ Always
☐ Cannot answer

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

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

8) How are issues that require action communicated to CSAT? (Check all that apply)

☐ Email contact
☐ Phone contact
☐ Exit interview at the conclusion of site visit
☐ Site visit monitoring report
☐ Other site visit products
  (please describe) _____
  _____
☐ Other (please describe) _____
  _____

9) What are the strengths of the Core Elements Technical Review process?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

10) What are the weaknesses of the Core Elements Technical Review process?

_____

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11) To what extent do you agree that the Core Elements Technical Review site visits are useful to States?

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

12) Please list any ways in which you feel the Core Elements Technical Review site visits could be more useful to States.

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13) What types of training, if any, did you receive to prepare you for conducting the Core Elements Technical Review site visits? (Check all that apply)

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

_____

14a) 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

14b) 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) _____

_____

15a) Do you have any recommendations for improving the training and preparation for the site visits to make you a more effective reviewer?

☐ Yes
☐ No

15b) If yes, what are they?

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_____

16a) If you received written instructions, please rate how useful they were.

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

16b) 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)

_____

_____

16c) How useful was the Core Element Review Protocol in helping to gather the information needed to prepare the 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?

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_____

_____

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_____

18a) Do you think that there are requirements of the SAPT BG program that are not addressed adequately in the protocols for the Core Elements Technical Reviews?

☐ Yes
☐ No

18b) If yes, please discuss.

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19a) Did you receive information about the State's responsibilities in the Core Elements Technical Review site visit?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Cannot answer

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

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20) On average, how prepared are the States that you have visited on Technical Review site visits?

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

21) What products result from the Core Elements Technical Review site visits to States?

☐ Site visit 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 CSAT? (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 technical review report draft to CSAT do States typically receive a copy of the site visit report? (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?**

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

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don't know

25b) If yes, how?

_____

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_____

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26a) Do you have any recommendations for improving the dissemination of Core Elements Technical Review site visit products?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don't know

26b) If yes, what are they?

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27a) Do you have any recommendations for more effective uses of the Core Elements Technical Review site visit products?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don't know

27b) If yes, what are they?

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28) Have you participated in State-Requested Technical Reviews? [If yes, continue. If no or cannot answer, the survey is complete.]

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Cannot answer

29) What is the purpose of the State-Requested Technical Review?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

30) For what issues have you conducted a State-Requested Technical Review?

_____
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_____
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31) What have been the results of the State-Requested Technical Reviews in which you have participated?

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32) What are the strengths of the State-Requested Technical Reviews?

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33) What are the weaknesses of the State-Requested Technical Reviews?

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34) To what extent do you agree that the State-Requested Technical Review site visits are useful to States?

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

35) Please list any ways in which you feel the State-Requested Technical Review site visits could be more useful to States.

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36) What types of training, if any, did you receive to prepare you for conducting the State-Requested Technical Review site visits? (Check all that apply)

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

_____

37a) 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

37b) If you received in-person training, how long before the actual State-requested 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)

_____

_____

38a) If you received written instructions, please rate how useful they were.

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

38b) If you received written instructions, how long before the actual State-requested 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)

_____

_____

39a) Were you provided any other materials in preparation for the State-requested site

☐ Yes
☐ No

39b) If yes, what other materials?

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40) Please rate how prepared the last State you visited was for the State-requested site visit.

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

41) What products resulted from the State-Requested Technical Review site visits to States? (Check all that apply)

☐ Site visit report and recommendations
☐ Technical assistance plan
☐ Strategic plan
☐ Other (please describe) _____

_____

42) How long after a State-requested site visit do you typically submit your drafts of site visit products to CSAT? (Check one)

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

_____

43) How long after the submission of the draft State-requested technical review report to CSAT do States typically receive a copy of it? (Check one)

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

_____

44a) Do you know if Federal program staff and grants management use State-requested site visit products?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don't know

44b) If yes, how?

_____

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45a) Do you know how States use State-Requested Technical Review products?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don't know

45b) If yes, how?

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46a) Do you have any recommendations for improving the dissemination of State-Requested Technical Review site visit products?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don't know

46b) If yes, what are they?

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47a) Do you have any recommendations for more effective uses of the State-Requested Technical Review site visit products?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don't know

47b) If yes, what are they?

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