

Overview of MHBG and SABG

Use of Funding

SAMHSA's Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG) and Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment Block Grant (SABG) provide states with the flexibility to design and implement activities and services to address the complex needs of individuals, families, and communities affected by substance use disorders and for adults with SMI and children with SED. The purpose of the block grant programs is to support these service needs.

Objective and Target Population of the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG)

The MHBG program's objective is to support the grantees in carrying out plans for providing comprehensive community mental health services. The MHBG program is authorized by [section 1911 of Title XIX, Part B, Subpart I and III of the Public Health Service \(PHS\) Act \(PDF | 253 KB\)](#).

The MHBG Program target populations:

- Adults with serious mental illnesses - Includes persons age 18 and older who have a diagnosable behavioral, mental, or emotional condition.
- Children with serious emotional disturbances - Includes persons up to age 18 who have a diagnosable behavioral, mental, or emotional issue.

Objective and Target Population of Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment Block Grant (SABG)

The SABG program's objective is to help plan, implement, and evaluate activities that prevent and treat substance abuse. The SABG is authorized by [section 1921 of Title XIX, Part B, Subpart II and III of the Public Health Service \(PHS\) Act \(PDF | 253 KB\)](#).

The SABG program targets the following populations and service areas:

- Pregnant women and women with dependent children
- Intravenous drug users
- Tuberculosis services
- Early intervention services for HIV/AIDS
- Primary prevention services

In order to assure that the MHBG and SABG programs continues to support the needed and necessary services for the target population, SAMHSA has indicated that the block grants MAY BE USED:

1. To fund priority treatment and support services for individuals without insurance or for whom coverage is terminated for short periods of time;
2. To fund those priority treatment and support services not covered by Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Medicaid, Medicare, or private insurance for low-income individuals and that demonstrate success in improving outcomes and/or supporting recovery;
3. For SABG funds, to fund primary prevention: universal, selective, and indicated prevention activities and services for persons not identified as needing SUD treatment; and
4. To collect performance and outcome data for mental health and substance use, determine the ongoing effectiveness of promotion/SUD prevention, treatment and recovery supports and to plan the implementation of new services.

A funding agreement for a grant under 42 USC 300x of this title includes that the State involved WILL NOT expend MHBG and SABG funds:

1. to provide inpatient services;
2. to make cash payments to intended recipients of health services;
3. to purchase or improve land, purchase, construct, or permanently improve (other than minor remodeling) any building or other facility, or purchase major medical equipment;
4. to satisfy any requirement for the expenditure of non-Federal funds as a condition for the receipt of Federal funds; or
5. to provide financial assistance to any entity other than a public or nonprofit private entity

Acronyms

Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG)

Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment Block Grant (SABG)