

Director's Statement

Northern California Medi-Cal Administrative Services Joint Powers Authority, 2006-07

The NMAS-JPA concludes its third year with a strong sense of purpose, commitment and belief that the JPA is serving its LEAs with integrity and strength of vision. Changes are both inevitable and enlightening; they offer opportunity for growth and review. An important adjustment to the JPA occurred at the end of this fiscal year. One member LEC gave notice that it has chosen to service all LEAs within its region independently as of June 30th and consequently will resign from the JPA effective the end of this fiscal year. The JPA supports Region 2/Glenn COE's move toward independence and is pleased to have been part of their program growth. Member LECs Contra Costa County Office of Education, Stanislaus County Office of Education, and Sutter County Superintendent of Schools continue to strongly support the JPA concept and to grow the MAA program within their regions.

During fiscal year 2006, the JPA continued to share information on the MAA program and to introduce new LEAs to the JPA. Throughout this year, the JPA has served 156 participating LEAs, with 56 of those from Region 2/Glenn COE. Aware that the reduction in activity because of the withdrawal by Region 2 may potentially cause a significant fluctuation in production and income, the JPA has purposely reviewed participating LEA activity and suggested potential growth areas. As a result, several LEAs have increased their participant numbers: the JPA provided training materials for 18,000 participants during this fiscal year.

With the atmosphere surrounding the Medi-Cal programs changing nationally, the NMAS-JPA is strongly supporting the MAA program and continually educating all regarding the many benefits of MAA to both students and schools. The JPA continues forward with its core mission, that to provide efficient, effective, and accurate support for the Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) program. Our commitment to excellence is still our foremost goal.

Sincerely,

Susan Hamblin
Director

Program Highlights

Achievements during the 2006-07 year:

- ◆ Online time Survey – The NMAS-JPA continues to work closely with the Stanislaus COE technology staff to improve the online survey as more participants utilize it. Additional capabilities have been added to services available to the LEA and LEC Coordinators, as well as the JPA staff;
- ◆ JPA website - on-line time survey has added newly designed podcasts describing time survey coding to assist in completing their survey. Also available on this site are JPA member LEC information, the calendar of all scheduled trainings, and Full Board agendas;
- ◆ NMAS-JPA vehicle – The JPA purchased a new vehicle to be used by staff to attend trainings and meetings, and deliver training materials. The vehicle is a 2008 Ford Escape Hybrid;
- ◆ NMAS-JPA Conference – The Third Annual NMAS-JPA Conference was held in Monterey, CA where new 2007-08 training materials were designed, new procedures were discussed, and research regarding supporting outreach materials was shared;
- ◆ New staffing Position – One MAA Accounting Analyst position was filled with staff position sharing program and fiscal duties;
- ◆ Member LECs provide ongoing support to CDHS in an advisory capacity as they meet monthly to review program issues and assist with statewide trainings
- ◆ JPA MAA Training Materials – for the third year, a comprehensive participant packet offering standardized training materials was provided for each survey participant attending a training, with 18,000 packets printed;
- ◆ JPA 'Train-the-Trainer' session - one-day training for all contracted training staff was held. Regional "Train-the-Trainer" sessions were also available for LEAs interested in learning more about the program. All attendees received a binder with the 2006-07 manual, outreach materials, PowerPoint presentations with notes, a disc with presentations and resource materials. Over 150 binders were handed out;
- ◆ JPA provided 276 comprehensive trainings to participants within districts/coes and provided coaching sessions after trainings to newly participating LEAs.