

Advocacy Systems

Client, Organizational & Policy Advocacy in SUD Treatment

Intensives Library · Programs, Systems & Workflow

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Part 1 · Overview

Advocacy Systems

Effective advocacy for clients, for the field, and for policy change requires understanding systems — how they work, where the leverage points are, and how to build the coalitions and communication strategies that create lasting change. This intensive develops clinical and organizational advocacy competencies.

Learning Slides

Systems advocacy frameworks, coalition building, and policy change strategies.

Mind Map

Visual framework for advocacy dimensions across client, organizational, and systems levels.

Self-Assessment

Evaluate your advocacy competencies and systems-change effectiveness.

Worksheet

Practical exercises for developing advocacy strategies across multiple levels.

Part 2 · Slides

Advocate: Building the Ecosystem

The Third Phase of the STAN Model

Advocacy emphasizes a supportive ecosystem. Clinicians advocate for continued care, involving family and support systems. This holistic approach acknowledges the impact of SUD on relationships and the need for a strong network.

Key Focus Areas

- Addressing Unmet Needs
- Pharmacotherapy Advocacy (MAT)
- Next Level of Care
- Family Support & Wellness

I. Addressing Unmet Needs

Holistic Assessment

Identify Needs Physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs assessment.

Guidance & Strategy Offering evidence-based recommendations for healthy adaptation.

Autonomy Empowering patient decisions and goal setting.

Wants vs. Needs Distinguishing immediate desires from long-term recovery needs.

II. Pharmacotherapy Advocacy

Medication Assisted Treatment

Evaluating and advocating for medical support when appropriate.

- Assessment: Evaluating history and withdrawal for MAT suitability.
- Education: Informing on benefits/risks of Buprenorphine, Methadone, Naltrexone.
- Collaboration: Working with physicians for monitoring.
- Destigmatization: Addressing patient fears and misconceptions about MAT.

III. Next Level of Care

Continuum of Services

Ensuring seamless transitions through the continuum.

Levels of Care Inpatient, Residential, PHP, IOP, Outpatient.

Assessment Evaluating progress and readiness for transition.

Team Collaboration Multidisciplinary discussion of recommendations.

External Providers Coordinating with primary care and community providers.

IV. Family Support & Wellness

Healing the System

- Psychoeducation: Teaching families about addiction and recovery.
- Family Therapy: Improving communication and promoting reconciliation.
- Self-Care: Encouraging Al-Anon/Nar-Anon for family members.
- Involvement: Including family in treatment planning (with consent).

V. Ongoing Clinical Services

Sustaining Recovery

Advocating for long-term engagement.

Continuity Educating on value of ongoing support.

Resources Locating therapists and support groups.

Aftercare Plan Detailed plan for therapy and meds.

Accountability Regular check-ins and follow-up.

Part 3 · Mind Map

Advocacy Support Network

Patient Advocacy

Medical / MAT

Prescribers, Monitoring, Health

Family System

Education, Counseling, Boundaries

Care Continuum

Referrals, Discharge, Transition

Needs Assessment

Social, Emotional, Spiritual

Part 4 • Assessment

Agency Self-Assessment: Advocacy & Support

Rate each aspect on a scale of 1 (Needs Improvement) to 5 (Excellence).

1. We conduct comprehensive assessments of patients' physical health needs.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
2. Our evaluation of emotional and psychological needs is thorough.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
3. We effectively assess patients' social support requirements.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
4. Our spiritual needs assessment process is respectful and comprehensive.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
5. We regularly update needs assessments throughout treatment.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
6. We develop individualized treatment plans based on identified needs.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
7. Our goals are specific, measurable, and achievable.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
8. We regularly review and adjust treatment plans.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
9. We effectively document patient progress toward goals.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
10. We incorporate patient feedback in treatment planning.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
11. We maintain appropriate medical staffing for MAT services.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
12. Our MAT protocols follow current best practices.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
13. We provide comprehensive patient education about MAT options.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
14. Our medication monitoring procedures are thorough.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
15. We maintain strong relationships with prescribing physicians.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
16. We address stigma related to MAT effectively.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

17. We provide adequate counseling support for MAT patients.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
18. Our staff are well-trained in MAT principles and practices.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
19. We maintain detailed MAT program documentation.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
20. We track MAT program outcomes effectively.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
21. We maintain effective relationships with various levels of care providers.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
22. Our referral processes are well-documented and efficient.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
23. We conduct thorough discharge planning.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
24. We coordinate effectively with external healthcare providers.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
25. Our follow-up procedures are consistent and documented.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
26. We hold regular multidisciplinary team meetings.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
27. Our communication between departments is effective.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
28. We maintain comprehensive treatment records.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
29. Our staff roles and responsibilities are clearly defined.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
30. We effectively coordinate care transitions.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
31. We provide comprehensive family education programs.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
32. Our family therapy services are readily available.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
33. We maintain appropriate boundaries in family involvement.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
34. We offer adequate family support resources.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
35. We document family participation effectively.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

36. We connect families with community support groups.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

37. We provide family-specific educational materials.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

38. Our family weekend programs are well-structured.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

39. We offer crisis support for families.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

40. We maintain ongoing family communication channels.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

Part 5 · Worksheet

Advocacy & Support Action Worksheet

System Review

Unmet Needs Process

How do you identify and address unmet patient needs currently?

Continuum of Care

Describe your planning process for transitions.

Family Support

List specific family programs and integration strategies.

Action Planning

Immediate Priorities (30 Days)

E.g., Establish new referral partner...

Short-Term Goals (90 Days)

E.g., Launch family workshop series...

Long-Term Improvements (1 Year)

E.g., Expand alumni program...
