

**Alameda County
TBS Learning Meeting
Report to the Department of Mental Health**

Date of Meeting: 4/29/2009

Type of Meeting: County Decision-Maker Learning Conversation

Attendees:

Rick Saletta, Special Master
Sean Tracy, State DMH
Dave Neilsen, Settlement Team Member
Mike Reiter, APS Healthcare (by phone)
Bill Carter, CiMH (by phone)

Alameda County Representatives:

Marye Thomas, Director Alameda County BHCS
Carolyn Novosel, Children's System of Care Director
Sara Wood-Kraft, TBS Coordinator
Ann Hansen, County Counsel
Manuel Martinez, County Counsel

- 1. Are the children and youth in the county who are Emily Q class members and who would benefit from TBS getting TBS?**

Response:

Continued outreach will be necessary to reach youth in the Behavioral Health Care system as well as the Juvenile Justice and Social Service systems. Discussion will be necessary at the Director's levels to develop plans and share data. Decision-makers' meetings will need to be scheduled with attendance from top offices. State may need to assist in emphasizing the importance of top level participation.

- 2. Are the children and youth who get TBS experiencing the intended benefits?**

Response:

We are working with providers to develop outcome studies. Also, the State is offering to assist with developing such studies. The group reviewed the Data Dashboard measures: outcome to be examined in terms of decreased emergency psychiatric hospitalization, decreased frequency and length of stay in RCL 12 and above placements, and decrease in unplanned emergency services. Also, quality of care to be measured by length and amount of service.

3. What alternative to TBS are being provided in the county?

Response:

We need to identify whether alternatives are available. Per Special Master, these services should be available to youth meeting class membership, should contain a 1:1 behavioral treatment plan within a limited time frame and should include plans to transition responsibility for reinforcements to the caregiver. BHCS will identify alternatives; acceptability will be determined by Special Master (at this point on case-by-case level).

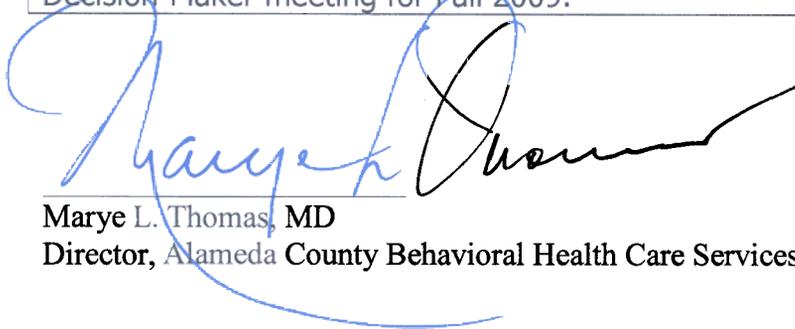
4. What can be done to improve the use of TBS and/or alternative behavioral support services in the county?

Response:

The group discussed multi-agency coordination strategies to engage Social Services and Juvenile Justice agencies. Per State representatives, this engagement will be the biggest challenge. TACT Training team will be involved in facilitating these meetings, and is currently working at the State level to enhance coordination. Outreach to providers and stakeholders is ongoing.

Additional Comments:

This was the first of the Learning Meetings. State reported that documentation and training manuals were in the works, and that conference calls and online information would guide the group into next steps. County group determined to continue outreach at the stakeholder level, to conduct one of the two Stakeholder Learning Meetings during the summer, and to coordinate the next Decision-Maker meeting for Fall 2009.



Marye L. Thomas, MD
Director, Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services Agency