



## Therapeutic Behavioral Services Accountability Structure Report to the Department of Mental Health

**Purpose:** The goal of the Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) Accountability Structure is to identify and develop a statewide practice and performance improvement structure. This structure will include outcome and utilization measures and a continuous quality improvement process that will allow the California State Department of Mental Health (CDMH) to effectively ensure that TBS are accessible, effective, and sustained for the Emily Q class members as outlined in the Court-approved TBS Plan.

The accountability structure, to be implemented by CDMH, will be accomplished through annual reports submitted by the county Mental Health Plans (MHPs). This new report utilizes a quality improvement process based on principles and accountability activities that focus on practice and service coordination, rather than compliance and disallowances. The report is designed to increase Emily Q class access to appropriate TBS services. This approach requires an interagency review of relevant data in response to four questions, utilizing a standard report format.

—Nine Point Plan, Appendix C

**Directions:** Please provide a brief summary of the answers to the following four questions as discussed in your local learning conversation (both Level I and Level II counties). Per the Nine Point Plan, it is the Mental Health Director's responsibility to submit the completed form. Please save this form to your computer then submit, along with a list of attendees, to [TBS@dmh.ca.gov](mailto:TBS@dmh.ca.gov).

**County MHP:** \_\_\_\_\_ Butte County Department of Behavioral Health \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Meeting:** \_\_\_\_\_ 11-18-09 \_\_\_\_\_

**MHP Contact (name, phone, e-mail):** \_Paul Bugnacki, LCSW (530) 879-3347,  
pbugnacki@buttecounty.net

**Was this a Stakeholder or Decision-Maker meeting?** \_\_ Stakeholders \_\_\_\_\_

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

The representatives from State Adoptions and Juvenile Probation indicated that the majority of those kids they work with who qualifying for TBS and could benefit from TBS are not utilizing the service. Both representatives indicated they would like to increase the access of TBS for kids they work with.

Other members of the meeting indicated they believe the kids they are working with are offered and get TBS if the kids qualify and may benefit from the service.

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

All present who have had experiences with utilizing TBS for their clients indicated that the majority of the cases had indeed received significant benefits from TBS.

### **3. What alternatives to TBS are being provided in the county?**

Several alternatives were identified:

- C.S.U. (crisis stabilization unit for kids to avoid hospitalizations if possible)
- Hope Cottage (another hospital alternative in our county)
- Wrap 163 Program
- Connecting Circles of Care
- M.T.F.C. (Multidimensional Therapeutic Foster Care homes)

The Probation Department has had a shift in their approach to addressing kids in their system. They have contracted with Assessments.com to screen youths entering their system. The screenings hope to identify needs and to provide appropriate referrals and plans for those kids. They have trained some of their staff in Motivational Interviewing skills to assist in this effort to do a needs assessment and provide linkage and brokerage of services.

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

A key element that was discussed to improve the use of TBS was streamline the referral process to make referring easier. Coming up with a "one page" initial referral form was discussed. Additionally, the identification of "point people" for community agencies to contact to assist answering questions and problem solving to get kids the needed services.

The MHP's TBS coordinator will work with Probation to assist with identifying and making appropriate referrals to TBS during their "intake" process with kids entering their system. Also, training other Juvenile Probation staff to be able to identify and refer appropriate kids to TBS was discussed.

#### **Additional Comments:**

Those in attendance:

Maia Illa, MSW intern Victor Community Support Services  
Amy Myers, Program Specialist, Independent Living Services of Northern California  
Trudi Engelhardt, Director, Victor Community Support Services  
John Falletti, Program Manager, North Valley Catholic Social Services  
Lena Correa, TBS Clinical Supervisor, Victor Community Support Services  
Jackie Carbaugh, TBA, Victor Community Support Services  
Brenda Cuakley, MSW intern, Victor Community Support Services  
Shoua Lor, MSW intern, Victor Community Support Services  
Tim Garcia, TBA, Victor Community Support Services  
Melissa Romero, Butte County Probation  
Cynthia Solomon, Clinician, Butte County Department of Behavioral Health  
Dan Katz, LCSW, State Adoptions  
Russ Hanson, MFT, Clinical Supervisor of Youth For Change  
Roxanna Grassini, LCSW, State Adoptions  
Grisel Ruiz, MSW intern, Victor Community Support Services  
Marisol Morales, TBA, Victor Community Support Services  
Ted Klemm, Community Based Manager, Youth For Change  
Paul Bugnacki, LCSW, Butte County Behavioral Health TBS Coordinator  
Micki Winebarger, TBS Program Manager, Youth For Change