

# The Emily Q Nine-Point Plan

## Emily Q Case Background

The *Emily Q. v. Diana Bonta* (Director of the California Department of Health Services) federal class action lawsuit was filed in 1998, seeking positive behavioral intervention services for a young woman and others who were in a locked mental health hospital.

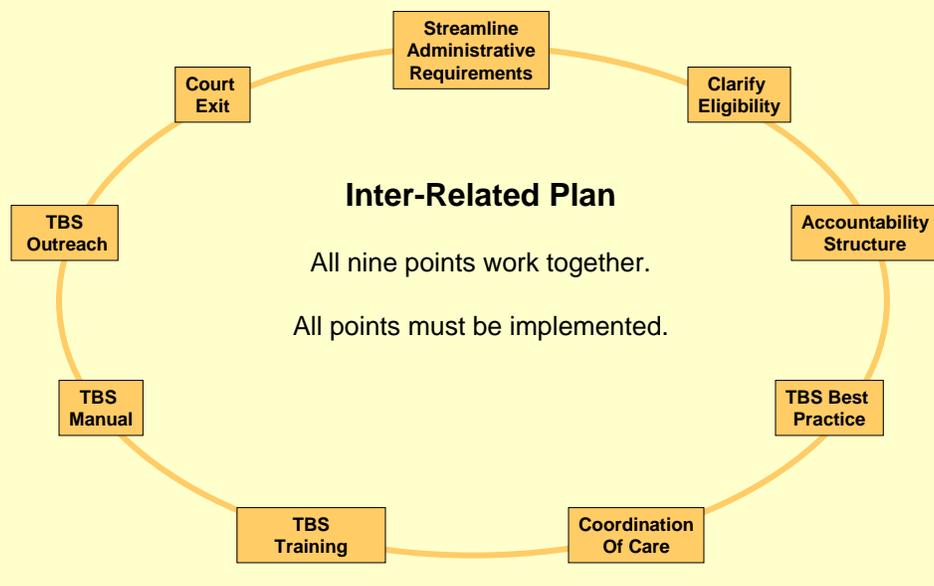
The Federal Court issued a permanent injunction in 2001, ordering the California Department of Mental Health and County Mental Health Plans to provide Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) to all California children who are members of the Emily Q class.

After years of TBS underutilization and unresolved litigation, the plaintiffs and defendants reached a consensus agreement in 2008 through a process of Interest-Based Decision Making.

In November 2008, the Federal Court approved the Emily Q Nine-Point Settlement Implementation Plan (Point Nine is pending Court decision).

Plan implementation began in January 2009.

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# **The Emily Q Nine-Point Plan**

## **The Role of the California Department of Mental Health**

Ensure implementation of the Nine-Point Plan.

Provide guidance and support to counties to increase TBS utilization among Emily Q class members.

Maintain transparency statewide.

Demonstrate increased utilization of TBS by county Mental Health Plans.

Satisfy all requirements of the Court.

# **The Emily Q Nine-Point Plan**

## **The Role of County Mental Health Plans**

Apply the streamlined administrative procedures and clarified eligibility guidelines described in Points 1 and 2.

Implement the accountability structure process described in Point 3.

Employ the TBS best practice approach presented in Point 4.

Seek participation of other agencies and stakeholders in local TBS efforts as outlined in Point 5.

Participate in the TBS trainings and use the TBS manuals described in Points 6 and 7.

Support TBS outreach efforts outlined in Point 8.

Achieve the TBS utilization benchmarks described in Point 9 (pending final Court determination).

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## **Super TACT Objectives**

Develop a TBS accountability structure that achieves:

- 1) better outcomes,
- 2) an improved review process, and
- 3) increased utilization.

Develop a TBS Training and Technical Assistance Plan, corresponding training and documentation manuals, and an electronic strategy outreach plan to reach all class members, their families, provider organizations and agencies serving members of the class.

# **The Emily Q Nine-Point Plan**

## **Questions and Comments**

**About the DMH Implementation Efforts,  
Emily Q Settlement Team,  
*Super T.A.C.T,*  
Next Steps**