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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.

County MHP: Humboldt

Date of Meeting: Sep 29, 2009

MHP Contact Information

Name: Karolyn Stein Phone Number: (707) 268-2990
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Was this a: Stakeholder or a Decision-Maker meeting?

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

No, not all potential beneficiaries of TBS know about TBS.

It is suggested that children/youth that have developmental disabilities are an under represented group in TBS. However, it is noted that not all of these clients would qualify/benefit from TBS.

The wording 'being considered for placement' increases the numbers of children/youth who are class members and therefore qualify for services.

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

Yes, if the surrounding support system is fully involved with the treatment plan, interventions and behavior modifications.

It is noted that the home environment makes an impact on the success of TBS services.

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

Other programs available are:

Functional Family Therapy

504 Hughes bill - Behavioral intervention at school

WRAP Services

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

Increase coordination with community based and school based services for the client. Increase participation of educators at TBS treatment plan meetings. Critical to collaborate on plans for consistency and reinforcement between home, clinical and academic environments.

Specialization or additional training can strengthen TBS plans/interventions when working with development disabilities.

Increase awareness of TBS through other agencies (probation, law enforcement) to parent/care givers of children/youth that need mental health services and are not yet receiving them.

Data from TBS outcome measures will be an effective tool for tracking positive trends and allowing for better practices.

Additional Comments:

From Educator: More assertive involvement for educators in TBS treatment meeting.

From Psychologist: Specialist coordinated care for continuity of treatment.

It is noted that Humboldt county does not have a level 12 mental health facility and the process of coordinating MediCal inter county can be discouraging.

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Robin Bamburg	707-268-2817	Sr Fiscal CYFS, Humboldt Co DHHS

~ A Learning Conversation ~
 With Community Leaders
Therapeutic Behavioral Services

Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services

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Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services

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