



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

County: Imperial

Date of TBS Meeting: 4/23/09

Type of Meeting: Stakeholder Meeting

Stake Holder meeting attendees:

Margery Baily, District Director, CHARLEE Family Care
Herminia Lenderman, WIC Manager, Clinicas De Salud Del Pueblo
Carmen Y. Class, WIC Nutritionist, Clinicas De Salud Del Pueblo
Rosie Y. R., client/parent
Ed Kirkpatrick, CNO, ECRMC
Michelle Melendez, Pediatrician, Clinicas De Salud Del Pueblo
Ann Featherstone, Regional Manager, SDRMC
Marial Preciado, Ass. Clinic Manager, El Centro Outpatient Center
Yesenia Sanazar, CAN, El Centro Outpatient Center

Questions:

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

Based on the data presented, attendees indicated that it does not appear that all beneficiaries that could benefit from TBS are actually receiving this service. Some reported not knowing too much about the service and how they or their agency played a role in TBS. Those that had heard about the service did not know eligibility requirements or how the service worked.

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

A very small group of individuals was present at the forum. A small discussion of outcomes took place mainly informing the group of the reduction or elimination of crises or hospitalizations for individuals who received TBS. The data presented showed that TBS had been successful with almost all cases. No family members of individuals who had received the service were present at the forum. There was a consumer of other Mental Health services present who felt that if she had received TBS when she was younger, she could have gotten better results sooner.

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

The general public has some knowledge about ICBHS services and those provided by the private sector (private therapy, behavior modification interventions (Motiva) or the basic mental health and behavior support provided by public agencies (Behavioral Health, Regional Centers, etc.) and other community resources. They had little knowledge of many of the services available by community agencies and were not able to provide much input on alternatives to TBS for our population. A representative from a local group home agency reported that they are providing TBS to their population in other counties (Imperial county kids placed out-of-county) which has benefited the children and youth.

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

Attendees indicated that some of the areas that can improve the use of TBS is to continue to provide outreach and educate those that work with children and youth at all levels within the community. The attendees reported that the key agencies sending youth to placement played a role in the numbers served with TBS.

Additional comments:

The public was notified about the TBS community forum via newspaper posting, mass email to an established list of stakeholders and written invitation to community agencies requesting their assistance in posting a flyer of the forum in their offices for the public. The individuals that attended the Forum felt that TBS was a great service and were interested in knowing how to identify and refer from outside sources such as; a pediatrician's office or a clinic. They indicated that awareness and public knowledge of TBS would increase the utilization for our county children and youth with severe behavioral problems.