



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: Mendocino County

Date of Meeting: 3/26/2009

MHP Contact (name, phone, e-mail): Gayle Harris, Sr. Program Manager, MHP and Contracts, 707.467.6456, harrisg@co.mendocino.ca.us

Was this a Stakeholder or Decision-Maker meeting? Stakeholder

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

- Yes. Mendocino County Mental Health has an established policy of reviewing all children and youth at risk of placement in RCL 10 or above as well as those transitioning down from RCL 12-14 to a lower level of care. This is accomplished through out Inter-Agency Case Management Team, which makes TBS referrals for children who qualify.
- The Point of Authorization determines whether a child has full scope Medi-Cal and ensures a rapid approval for services, often on a same-day basis.
- Ours is a rural community and it is very difficult to provide TBS in outlying areas due to availability of qualified staff.
- There are language and culture factors in our county, which may present barriers to children of those communities receiving TBS. It is a priority of MHP to address these barriers.

- The Mendocino County MHP is increasing efforts to communicate in various ways with families, parents and caregivers to increase awareness of TBS.
- There exists a current lack of funding for additional TBS providers in the county Youth and Family services program. Organizational providers contracted through the MHP are seeking ways to provide additional TBS.

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

- As a part of our EPSDT performance improvement project we are examining data as to the effects of TBS, from authorization through termination, on symptoms and behaviors as evidenced by intensity of other services, hospitalizations and placement.
- Client survey information will also help us gather data as to the perceived and actual benefits of TBS.
- The MHP observes that following TBS there is frequently a reduction in the intensity and duration of some other mental health services.

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

- If the child/youth is eligible and the need is present there is no alternative: TBS will be provided.
- Family Strengths, Wraparound, Probation alternatives, Social Services mentoring activities are also available and provided for the same population when they are eligible.
- Organizational providers contracted by the county MHP often utilize rehabilitation services as the staffing is already in place and these services are part of their program structure.

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

- MCMH has greatly improved access to TBS within the last six months in part as a result of agency integration and the availability of a greater range in staff to provide these services.
- The MHP and adjunctive agencies and partners are utilizing more alternatives and equivalents for reasons of appropriate staff availability and the presence of Rehab program alternatives.
- The MHP holds Inter-agency Case management and Multi-Provider Screening Team meetings on a weekly basis for the purposes of ensuring coordination and continuity of care, which necessarily includes TBS and alternative/equivalent services.

Additional Comments:

The Mental health Branch of Mendocino County Health and Human Services Agency recognizes the importance of making TBS available to all eligible children and youth. In the current budgetary climate we and our community stakeholders and decision makers are making every effort to continue to provide services to the children in our community with Mental Health needs with reduced resources.

The following is a list of those invited to attend the March 26, 2009 TBS Presentation:

1	Patricia Guntly Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency Public Health Branch-AODP	Representative of Alcohol and Other Drug Programs
2	Becky Wilson Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency Children & Family System of Care, Social Services Branch	Family and Children's Services Representative
3	Todd Crabtree Community Development Commission of Mendocino County	Person Responsible for Management of Housing and Redevelopment
4	Mary Elliott Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency, Children & Family System of Care, Mental Health Branch	Person Responsible for Management of Mental Health Services
5	Wesley Forman Mendocino County Probation Department	Chief Probation Officer
6	Linda Bouskill Nagel, PHN Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency Community Health Services	Public Health Services
7	Susana Wilson, Assistant Director Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency	Welfare or Public Social Services
8	Judge Leonard LaCasse	Judge of the County Juvenile Court
9	Dennis Ivey Mendocino County Office of Education	Representative for Superintendent of County Office Of Education
10	Donald F. Armstrong	Superintendent of a Unified School District
11	Meredith Lintott Mendocino County District Attorney	Prosecuting Attorney of the County
12	Karin Wandrei Mendocino County Youth Project 776 S. State Street, #107 Ukiah, CA 95482	Private Non-Profit Corporation - Mendocino Youth Project
13	Supervisor John Pinches Board of Supervisors	Member of County Board of Supervisors
14	Gary Hudson Mendocino County Sheriff's Office	Law enforcement

15	Camille Schraeder Director Redwood Children's Services	Representative of the Local Child Abuse Council
16	Damon Dickinson Mendocino County Office of Education	Local planning agency in Early Intervention Program
17	Denise Gorny North Coast Opportunities	Local Child Care Resource and Referral Agency
18	Tanya Ridino, Esq. Self Help Legal Access Center	Community Organization tied to Ethnic Communities -Latino Coalition
19	Julie Vedolla-Fuentes Hopland Band of Pomo Indians	Community Organization tied to Ethnic Communities - Native American
20	Linda Crockett Action Network FRC	Representative for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission
21	Mary Nevarez	Representative of an Indian Child Welfare Act Agency
22	Laura Welter Safe Passage FRC	WIB Youth Council Representative
23	Moises Soria Nuestra Casa	Representative of a Private Non-Profit Corporation Serving Children & Youth
24	Cathy Frey Alliance for Rural Community Health	Rural Health Clinics
25	Sheryn Hildebrand CASA	Community At-Large Member
26	Anne Molgaard FIRST 5 Mendocino	Community At-Large Member
27	Morgaine Colston North Coast Opportunities	Community At-Large Member
28	Lisa Vance	Community At-Large Member, Parent Volunteer