

County of Merced TBS Stakeholder Report Level I Requirement

On June 16, 2009 a meeting of local authorities was held to review data elements related to TBS access, utilization and the behavioral and institutional risk reduction. Another meeting, primarily composed of providers, was held on July 23, 2009. The meetings were constructed and facilitated as a mutual learning forum wherein direct service providers detailed how to make access more effective, while local authorities offered strategies for data collection and countywide access. The recommendations will be included in the county's EPSDT PIP. The following is a summary of the outcome of the meetings.

- Schedule the local interagency case management committee (SOS) in the afternoons. Many of the placement social workers and probation officers are scheduled for court in the morning hours. The time change will enable the workers and officers to more readily staff cases with the interagency team that screens for TBS.
- Assign an onsite clinician at Child Welfare for easy access to screening, assessment, and Specialty Mental Health Services.
- Assign the onsite clinician to an outlying clinic once a week at Child Welfare.
- Establish a weekly committee, open to all providers, with the expressed purpose of access to and monitoring of Specialty Mental Health Services for high-risk youth.
- Collect and track data elements of the referrals from this committee as well as from the TBS provider; i.e., number of referrals, number of accepted referrals, duration of TBS, placement profile pre and post TBS, number of treatment episodes, administer the Child Behavioral Checklist upon intake and every six months to discharge.
- Assign the onsite clinician as a consult to Child Welfare's Case Conferencing Group.
- Revise the form used in Child Welfare's Case Conferencing Group to include consideration of TBS.
- Place a TBS referral form on Child Welfare's intranet server.
- Include TBS information in the youth's placement packet to group homes.
- Recruit youth and group home providers who have received TBS to present at quarterly Probation and Child Welfare staff meetings.
- Institute an automatic referral to TBS for hospitalized youth.
- Institute an automatic referral to TBS for youth placed in the Crisis Stabilization Unit.
- Update the MOU and the TBS informational material that Human Services Agency provides when notifying of approved MediCal eligibility.