

## **Therapeutic Behavioral Services Accountability Structure Report to the California Department of Mental Health**

**County MHP:** City and County of San Francisco

**Date of Meeting:** Friday, January 22, 2010 (rescheduled from December 2009)

**MHP Contact (name, phone, e-mail):** Chris Lovoy, LCSW, TBS Coordinator, Community Behavioral Health Services, (415) 206-7612, [chris.lovoy@sfdph.org](mailto:chris.lovoy@sfdph.org); Sai-Ling Chan-Sew, LCSW, Director, Child, Youth and Family System of Care, (415) 255-3439, [sai-ling.chan-sew@sfdph.org](mailto:sai-ling.chan-sew@sfdph.org); Bob Cabaj, M.D., Director, Community Behavioral Health Services, (415) 255-3400, [bob.cabaj@sfdph.org](mailto:bob.cabaj@sfdph.org)

**Was this a Stakeholder or Decision-Maker meeting?** 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?**

The major public agency partner in attendance at the Decision-Maker Meeting was the S.F. Juvenile Probation Department (JPD). It was generally agreed that TBS-eligible juvenile justice involved youth were not currently accessing TBS, but additional referrals would be forthcoming once departmental education and outreach was completed in the third quarter of County Fiscal Year 2009-10.

State restrictions on serving youth within locked facilities was raised as a possible barrier to low TBS penetration rates for juvenile justice involved youth, in addition to the availability of alternative behavioral health services such as Functional Family Therapy, Multisystemic Therapy (MST), and Intensive Home Based Supervision (IHBS).

The Multi-Agency Services Team (MAST) meeting is held weekly in San Francisco at the main office of Human Services Agency, and its participants consist of Directors and other designees from CBHS, JPD, HSA, SFUSD Special Education, as well as representatives from local behavioral health case management, wrap-around, and residential programs. One of the purposes of the MAST meeting is to help facilitate access to behavioral health services for high risk foster children and juvenile justice involved youth, and some of the children presented at the meeting would be considered as Emily Q class members. The TBS Coordinator is a standing participant of the MAST meeting who attends on a regular basis, and it provides an ongoing dialogue for interdepartmental engagement around TBS access and referrals. It was agreed by Decision-Maker meeting participants that the MAST meeting would continue to function as a helpful gateway to TBS for Emily Q class members in the county's system, and it would continue to cultivate collaboration across key departments and agencies regarding TBS referrals.

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

Similar to feedback from the Stakeholder Meeting, meeting participants felt that existing clients were receiving the intended benefits of TBS based on outcomes data presented.

Meeting participants discussed additional means to measure client outcomes in the future using the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment tool and the Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI). In addition, JPD staff offered the following outcomes measures for measuring TBS success within the juvenile justice system:

- A reduction in out-of-home placements for TBS clients versus non-TBS clients;
- A reduction in juvenile recidivism, including fewer re-arrests, fewer new arrests, reduced severity of offenses, and decreased subsequent detentions; and
- A proxy for improvement in school success such as reduced truancy.

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

Therapeutic Behavioral Services is but one of a wide range of prevention, early intervention, treatment, and aftercare services funded by CBHS to meet the needs of children, youth and their families experiencing behavioral health challenges. This was underscored by JPD staff. They indicated that there were already a number of evidence-based behavioral health services available to their youth, but nonetheless they welcomed TBS as an additional resource.

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

Meeting participants recommended undertaking education and outreach within JPD to introduce TBS to probation officers and other JPD staff. As part of this outreach, JPD recommended two strategies that proved successful in meeting enrollment targets for another behavioral health service – MST – offered to JPD youth and their families:

1. Developing a one-page TBS fact sheet for probation officers/other JPD staff that focused on three areas: 1) the benefits of TBS (why refer); 2) examples of JPD cases where TBS would be value added (who to refer); and 3) the TBS referral process (how to refer).
2. Creating a family outreach flyer in multiple languages (Chinese, Spanish and English) for posting around the Youth Guidance Center, with “tear-off slips” for caregivers/families containing TBS contact information.

Community Behavioral Health Services will implement both of these outreach strategies as part of its planned JPD outreach this fiscal year.

#### **Additional Comments:**

Community Behavioral Health Services briefed meeting participants on the outcome of the Stakeholder meeting and its implementation of a recommendation made at that meeting to increase the TBS service authorization period from 60 days to 90 days.

Invitations to this Decision-Maker meeting were also sent to Juvenile Court, Human Services Agency (HSA), and SFUSD - Special Education Services.

Note: The Decision-Maker Meeting was originally scheduled for December 2009 and was briefly convened, but then had to be rescheduled to January 2010 due to a conflict with an emergency budget meeting.

Please see attached attendee list.

**January 22, 2010, TBS Community Decision-Maker Meeting Attendees**

**City and County of San Francisco (in alphabetical order)**

**1. Community Behavioral Health Services**

- Sai-Ling Chan-Sew, Director, Child, Youth and Family System of Care, CBHS/San Francisco Department of Public Health
- Chris Lovoy, TBS Coordinator, CBHS/San Francisco Department of Public Health
- Alison Lustbader, AB 3632 Director, CBHS/San Francisco Department of Public Health

**2. San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department**

- Allison Magee, Director of Administrative Services, JPD
- Allen Nance, Assistant Chief Probation Officer, JPD
- William Siffermann, Chief Probation Officer, JPD
- Therese Wagner, Probation Services Director, JPD

**Meeting Facilitator**

Karen Strickland, Golden Bear Associates