MH 507

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 to TBS@dmh.ca.gov.

County	Santa Cruz	Date of TBS Meeting	5/21/09
		Type of Meeting	Stakeholder Learning Conversation

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

Response: Data shows high penetration rate overall. However, we wonder why so few are receiving TBS.

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

Response: MHP should look at data and see what the outcomes are for services.

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

Response: School districts provide(d) subcontracts to various MH providers & others such as Student Assistance programs for youth with emotional problems. What are ways other than through IEP's that children/youth can be served who have mental health issues and are failing school?

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

Response: Consider enlisting parents/youth as outreach ambassadors to inform community of EPSDT-TBS.

Additional Comments

Optional: How can services be provided to non-Medi-Cal beneficiaries? How can persons be identified who may be eligible for services but do not come forward due to stigma?