



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: _Sonoma

Date of Meeting: _July 8, 2009

MHP Contact (name, phone, e-mail): _Lyle Keller, LCSW , 707-565-4855,
LKeller1@sonoma-county.org

Was this a Stakeholder or Decision-Maker meeting? _Decision Maker TBS meeting.

Attendees:

County of Sonoma, Mental Health, John Kolhoven, Section Manager, Youth and Family Serv.

County of Sonoma, Mental Health, Claude Rosenthal. Program Manager, Youth and Family Serv.

County of Sonoma, Humans Services, Bob Harper, Section Manager, Children, Youth & Family

County of Sonoma, Probation, Carla Moss , Juvenile Probation

Sonoma County Office of Education, Cliff Schlueter , Principle, Special Services

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

Discussion regarding how Human Services Dependents currently get identified for TBS. School representative inquired about referral process for TBS. Mental Health (MH)staff explained that the child must be open to County Mental Health first and then the TBS referral can be made. MH explained the concurrent referral option, where the case can be assessed for mental health services and at the same time an expedited TBS referral can be made when appropriate

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

Mental Health (MH) staff explained that majority of TBS clients do experience benefits and that the targeted behavioral problems of the child do decrease, which assists the child in maintaining there current placement.

3. What alternatives to TBS are being provided in the County.

A lot of discussion about foster care monies being used to start a SB163 Wrap around program in our County which would decrease the number of dependents in residential treatment group homes.

The group clarified that a “TBS-Like” service would be built into the wrap program since behavioral coaching services are known to be effective in helping families.

Discussion regarding the RFP process and how the vendor selection process would look .

All parties agree that this wrap program would have a strong TBS-like component.

The RFP’s for this SB163 Wrap Program should go out in September 2009.

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

MH reported that we have achieved very positive outcomes regarding the reduction of hospital days and residential treatment days for clients served on our mental health services act “Full Service Partnership” (FSP) program. This FSP is staffed with 2 licensed therapist and two behavioral coaches. The FSP has delivered a significant amount of “TBS-like” services to the families served by this team.

MH also reported that we have increased the utilization of TBS as part of our agencies Performance Improvement Project regarding post-hospital follow services to prevent re hospitalization of youth.