



1600 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 654-2309

**Emily Q Settlement Team:**  
**Super TBS Accountability, Communications, and Training (TACT) Task Group**  
*Meeting Notes – July 28, 2010; 10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON*

In October 2008, two task groups were formed to create and monitor the development of an accountability structure and training and outreach strategy to implement the Court-approved TBS Nine-Point Plan. In June 2009, the California Department of Mental Health (CDMH) merged the Accountability Structure Implementation Strategy (ASIS) and Technical Assistance, Communications and Training (TACT) task groups to better manage resources due to the State's fiscal situation, loss of staff resources, and the recognition that both task groups were addressing integrated issues. The new task group is known as "Super TACT." – Sean Tracy, Assistant Deputy Director, Community Services Division, DMH.

**Attendance:** Desiree Alarcon (CAYEN), Karen Allen (CDE), Amber Burkan (CAYEN), Pat Coyle (DMH), Mary Hargrave (CiMH), Pam Hawkins (CiMH), Don Kingdon (CMHDA), Troy Konarski (DMH), Rita McCabe (DMH), Paul McIver (LA County by phone), Janet McKinley (DMH), Vickie Mendoza (UACF), Kathleen Carter Nishimura (DMH), Kim Nguyen-Pierce (LA County by phone), Jim Preis (Mental Health Advocacy Services, Inc.), Mike Reiter (APS), Cindy Robbins-Roth (Parent/Family Advocate), Larry Rubin (LA County Probation), Rick Saletta (Special Master), Gail Schifsky (DMH), Saumitra SenGupta (APS), Nicette Short (Alliance), Tom Sodergren (Casa Pacifica), Sean Tracy (DMH), Melinda Vaughn (DOJ), Roxanne Vincent (DMH), Stacey Wofford (CDE), Barbara Zweig (DMH).

**Action Items:**

1. Reserve one hour at the August 2010 meeting to finalize the Family & Youth Strategy plan including timelines, tasks and deliverables to be achieved by end of 2010.
2. Discuss status of Short-Doyle data.
3. Report on TBS Equivalent certification efforts.
4. Provide update on County Mental Health Plan (MHP) certification progress.
5. Discuss October 2010 Court Report.

**A. Welcome and Introductions**

Sean Tracy welcomed everyone and said that DMH did not have additional updates at this time.

**B. TBS Coordination of Care Best Practices Manual**

Troy Konarski reported that the Coordination of Care Best Practices manual has been posted on the DMH website. The review and comments on the manual is scheduled until August 16<sup>th</sup>. Contact Troy at [troy.konarski@dmh.ca.gov](mailto:troy.konarski@dmh.ca.gov) if you have any comments.

**C. Family and Youth Strategy**

Kathleen Carter Nishimura distributed the July 9, 2010, *Meeting Notes* and the *Strategy* summary. Outreach efforts will be undertaken to provider networks and TBS Coordinators, and to connect youth with local resources. Rick Saletta asked that Family and Youth issues be featured in the August 2010 agenda.

#### **D. Small County Strategy**

Sean Tracy said that the Small County Strategy group is planning a fall 2010 training and will report in August on those efforts.

#### **E. MHP Progress Report Summary**

Troy Konarski discussed the July 2010 MHP Progress Update based on APS data. There was discussion about the impact of MHP's budgets and the effect of population and services changes on the data. Cindy Robbins-Roth reported that she was invited to the San Mateo Stakeholder meeting in September 2010.

#### **F. TBS Equivalent Services**

1. Steve Korosec and Rick Saletta reported that they scheduled an informal consultation with LA County in August 2010 to discuss potential TBS-like services. Kim Nguyen-Pierce and Paul McIver stated that they have requests for intensive in-home services for specialized foster care to be considered as TBS equivalent. Kim stated that these programs are contracted with five providers by LA county.
2. Butte, San Francisco and Santa Cruz also expressed an interest in TBS equivalent services.

#### **G. TBS Data**

1. Saumitra SenGupta presented TBS data based on DMH approved claims files. He used an alternative methodology to look at the status of four percent benchmark for the Level II MHPs. He used an average Early and Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Mental Health (MH) beneficiary count based on three baseline years (CY05-07) as the denominator which minimized the variation caused by unexpected increases in the MH beneficiary count as was the case in CY09. This methodology produced slightly different results and varied according to whether an individual MHP had an increase or a decrease in the number of EPSDT MH beneficiaries. Discussion included comments about the increase in the EPSDT MH beneficiaries from 2008 to 2009 due to possibly additional outreach and the recession, and use of similar methodology such as moving averages.
2. Saumitra pointed out that statewide, the penetration rate into the foster care population has steadily increased from CY05-09.
3. Sean noted that the 2009 data dashboards have been posted on the DMH website.

#### **H. DMH Information Notice – Exit Strategy Certification**

Sean said that the Information Notice with the exit strategy certification checklist is due in August after discussion with the Emily Q Settlement Team.

#### **I. Super TACT Roundtable Discussion**

1. Sean explained that this discussion is a follow-up to the prior conference call with Kim and Jim Preis to discuss the LA County TBS efforts with the Probation Department.
2. Kim said that they have worked with the Central Juvenile Hall (CJH) panel with providers and Probation to increase TBS in other populations such as Probation group homes. She is working with Larry Rubin and the new program head, Mary Romero at CJH to address the transition of TBS clients moving into Dorothy Kirby.
3. Kim explained to the panel that Probation group home clients would benefit from TBS; however, some youth don't have Medi-Cal so that is a problem. She worked with Jim Rudin and they plan to transition youth from CJH to Dorothy Kirby. They need to get placement orders from the court to restore eligibility for Medi-Cal. A meeting is set for July 30, 2010, with the providers to pursue the issues further. Probation is supportive of more referrals for services.
4. Kim said that Probation is discussing how to address data needs as there are differing data expectations between mental health and probation. A link is needed with probation chiefs, public defenders and attorneys statewide.