



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: ___42-Santa Barbara_____

Date of Meeting: ___05/29/2009_____

MHP Contact (name, phone, e-mail): _____

Was this a Stakeholder or Decision-Maker meeting? _DM_____

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

Probation representative discussed that they have had successful TBS utilization with very positive outcomes. They feel it could be used more effectively during the placement review process. Probation had feeling that it was only used for very high-end situations and that the availability was somewhat limited. Education representatives suggested more focused data analysis to track outcomes by provider or service delivery.

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

Probation reported very positive outcomes in two specific cases. They felt TBS helped avoid incarceration.

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

Probation indicated that their partnership with Wraparound provides alternatives to group home placement and serves the Emily Q class. CASA services were identified as supportive for Foster Youth. Education identified the 3632 Special Ed services as alternatives. There was discussion regarding possibilities of using TBS prior to inauguration of 3632 services.

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

Probation Representatives suggested that by more openly discussing TBS as an option in the twice-weekly placement meetings, utilization of TBS may improve. Special Education can add TBS to their repertoire of options in child/youth reviews. There was a general feeling that increasing education about TBS could be helpful to all available class members.

Additional Comments: The Decision Maker meeting was comprised of representatives from Special Education, County Office of Education- Alternative Education, Probation, Family Services and TBS provider. We provided the same material as at the Stakeholder Meeting. This meeting was scheduled to replace the usual County Children's System of Care meeting.