





Trinity County Mental Health Plan

Therapeutic Behavioral Services

Public Forums

November 3rd and 18th, 2009

- Welcome to today's Forum where we will focus on the use of Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) for Trinity County Youth.
- In 2001 a Federal Court, in a lawsuit named Emily Q v. Bonita, recognized that TBS as a Medi-Cal reimbursable Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) supplemental service.



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- This forum is part of a recent court ordered plan that came out of a lawsuit from Los Angeles County.
- On November 14th 2008 the federal court approved a nine point plan to increase TBS access and utilization for the class.

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- Therapeutic Behavioral Service, sometimes called, “TBS”, is an entitlement of the Full Scope Beneficiary of Medi-Cal Insurance.
- Simply put, that means, the beneficiary or his/her family will have no share of cost.



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- There is a specific class of young people who qualify for this special service:
 - A. Youth who have not reached age 21
 - B. Youth who have been admitted to a psychiatric hospital in the past 2 years or are at a high risk to be admitted as documented by a qualified provider.
 - C. Youth who have been enrolled in a RCL 12 group home



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D. Youth who are are at risk, as determined by the Mid-Level Management Team, to be enrolled in a RCL 12 group home.

This is most likely the area of the class of eligible youth from where the most referrals could come.



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- Typically, except in intensive out of home placement settings, TBS is not a service used in a public school setting, as Special Education Services are available.
- Mental Health Plans (MHPs) across the State view the school as responsible for Special Education services during the school day and MHPs accept responsibility for the youth during after school hours and on the weekends.



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- The eligible youth will have specific behaviors that are quite problematic, and with TBS, these behaviors will be addressed in a plan.
- The plan is developed by the parent and the clinician.



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- The goal of TBS is to do short term intensive intervention that will assist the youth to learn new strategies.
- The plan is always focused on the unwanted behaviors and the plan will be carried out normally by a rehabilitation specialist.



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- Generally the rehabilitation specialist will meet on a regular basis with the clinician to review the progress of the intervention.
- The clinician will meet regularly with the parent to measure progress and adjust the plan as is necessary.



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- What triggers TBS to be started is that it is the clinical judgment of the provider that without TBS:
- A). The youth will need to be placed in a higher level of care including acute care
- B). The youth will not be able to transition to a lower level of care without TBS



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- In order to qualify for TBS, the youth must be receiving other mental health services.
- TBS is never offered in a vacuum, but rather as a part of a larger mental health plan.



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- The forums are required to ask four questions and discuss the information stakeholders bring forward.
 - I. Are the children and youth in the county who are Emily Q class members and who would benefit from TBS, getting TBS?



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- 2. Are the children and youth who get TBS experiencing the intended benefits?
- 3. What alternatives to TBS are being provided in Trinity County?
- 4. What can be done to improve the use of TBS and/or alternative behavioral support services in Trinity County?



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- In fiscal year 2007/2008 TCBHS had a contract with Victor Community Support Services in Redding to provide these services.
- In fiscal year 2008/2009 there were no services requested in county and none were provided. No contract was generated.



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- The intention of conducting the forums is to find out what stakeholders would like to do in Trinity County in regard to TBS?
- What would be a good way to approach potential solutions in this county?



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- Although the forums are a requirement of the nine point plan from the recent lawsuit, the intention of TCBHS is to do a deep examination of our efforts, listen to the community, and make adjustments if they appear needed.

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