

Mental Health Services Act—Work Plan Description (EXHIBIT D)



County Name

Merced County

Work Plan Title:

Community Assistance Recovery Enterprise (CARE)

Population to Be Served

The priority population to be served includes the following three (3):

1. Most vulnerable transitional age youth (TAY) with children, co-occurring substance abuse disorders exiting child welfare system will be the target population with emphasis on Hispanics.
2. Severely mentally ill adults ages 26-54 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness with a co-occurring disorder and/or those who are coming out of board and care, jails, or psychiatric hospitals.
3. Transition age adults ages 55-59 who are aging out of adult board and care housing and/or IMDs/SNFs.

Work Plan Description

The CARE Work Plan provides a comprehensive community services and support approach twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week service that is modeled after AB2034 programs. CARE uses an intensive team approach with emphasis on housing first and the development of employment and/or educational opportunities. It is based on the recovery philosophy of doing “whatever it takes” to integrate seriously emotionally disturbed transition age youth and severely mentally ill adults back into the community, promoting meaningful use of time. CARE is contracted out to an integrated services agency. CARE works in collaboration with all the CSS Work Plans, the Sheriffs Department, Community Action Agency, the Homeless Shelter, and Golden Valley Health Clinics. The goals of CARE are consistent with the Mental Health Services Act and are designed to reduce hospitalization, incarceration, homelessness and institutionalization along with increasing community integration and /or vocational and education opportunities based on client driven individualized service plans. A special emphasis of the program is to reach the unserved and underserved Hispanic populations in Merced County.

The existing capacity of 37 will increase to 50 clients by July 2009. By age group, the increases will be as follows:

Transitional Age Youth: from 19 to 20
Adults from 18 to 26
Older Adults from 0 to 02

The Contractor, Turning Point, successfully operated a best practices model. Strategies include incorporating integrated mental health and primary care, integrated substance abuse (including over-the-counter medications) with mental health treatment, home based geriatric mental health services, counseling and suicide prevention service improvement. Turning Point accomplishes this through community partnerships, illness management and recovery based services, interventions for caregivers, and housing supports.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

Annual Number of Clients to Be Served

A total of 50 participants

Number of Clients By Funding Category

X Full Service Partnerships

TAY: 22

Adults: 26

Older Adults: 2

PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION

Annual Number to Be Served

_____ Total

Number of Clients By Type of Prevention

_____ Early Intervention

_____ Indicated/Selected

_____ Universal