

Mobile Transition Age Youth (TAY) Program

The Mobile TAY Program of Butte County provides transitional age youth (ages 16-24) a range of prevention and early intervention services. These youth are in an “At Risk Mental Health State” (ARMS) whose mental health status has become compromised as they approach adulthood. The program provides the tools necessary to transition to independence in five key areas:

- Clinical services for mental health improvement and stabilization.
- Independent Living Skills including legal emancipation, fiscal management, housing acquisition and maintenance, and health-related supports and services.
- Education and Vocational Training services including subject/career exploration, campus visits, training program identification, linking training to jobs.
- Employment services including career and job interest and skills assessment; academic supports; employment readiness; job availability, acquisition, and retention.
- Socialization opportunities including peer group assessment, identification of fun and healthy activities, and development of social supports and friends.

The Mobile TAY Program also provides support to the families of TAYs. Peer/Family Supporters offer parents of TAYs outreach and home visits. This effort provides assistance with accessing services and strategies to help their youth as they work toward solving their problems.

Recognizing the need to make services available where youth are located, the program focuses on delivering rapid response and help directly to the consumer at: school, home, Juvenile Hall, hospitals, job sites and/or on the street. Collaboration with the schools and other groups facilitate the ability to provide response in these locations.

Living, Insight, New Knowledge (LINK)

LINK serves young people (ages 12-24) with mental health problems and who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in Butte County. There are three main programs: Oroville Live Spot that focuses on youth development to help at-risk youth become leaders and prevent decompensation, the 6th Street Center for homeless youth, and Coleen’s House that provides safe overnight supervised shelter housing for youth ages 14-17.

The 6th Street Center

The 6th Street Center in Chico provides services to about 1,000 transitional age youth, primarily over the age of 18. The majority of these youth spent time in foster care. Initial effort is spent towards building trust as most of these youth have had bad experiences with governmental systems. These youth, initially are often most interested in the shower facilities, computer access, laundry services, and food. One component of the program focuses particularly on teenage youth that are considering running away or

have runaway. Later, with staff they can start working towards finding permanent housing, education and employment as well as family re-unification, if appropriate.

Coleen's House

Coleen's House is at a confidential location in Chico. Coleen's House has six beds and provides temporary emergency housing for youth ages 14-17 with a co-occurring serious mental illness (SMI) disorders and who have no other housing options. Youth at the shelter have the opportunity to work with a case manager to secure permanent and safe housing as well as education and employment. Coleen's House provided 467 bed nights in FY 2009-2010.

Oroville Live Spot

The Oroville Live Spot is for youth aged 12-20 who attend school or live in Oroville. Large percentages of participants will be from unserved and underserved populations including: Latino, Hmong, African American, and Native American. The Live Spot program provides a minimum of two and a half hours of youth development activities Monday through Friday. Helping youth to experience a decrease in risk factors and increase in protective factors. Activities to complement the Live Spot will include Friday Night Live, Club Live, and Mentoring in the schools.

Master Lease Housing

The CSS funded Master Lease program will be accessed for housing when a Mobile TAY consumer is ready and able to access and take advantage of supportive housing in order to live safely and independently.

SAYes (GLBTQ Suicide Prevention and Education Program)

The SAYes program is contracted through Stonewall Alliance Center with the service focus on providing information, referral, suicide prevention services, and education for the youth 14-25 and their family members.

The program will provide suicide prevention services and mental health education for GLBTQ individuals and their families. Furthermore, the program enables the collaboration of service providers, improved linkages with Butte County Behavioral Health services, identification of persons at-risk, and coordination of training for agency/community volunteers and mental health professionals.

It is important to note that stigma associated with homosexuality and gender identity causes many affected individuals to be wary of "governmental" service providers, and of receiving services at typical governmental offices. Youth and family members often feel safer when talking to an individual who they know is GLBTQ or GLBTQ friendly; this is especially true during the "coming out stage". Trust is a most significant factor for the GLBTQ populations and the effort to reach out with trusted community liaisons will lead to improved prevention efforts and lessen the risk of suicide, depression, and other risky behaviors.

African American Family & Cultural Center

The mission of the Southside Oroville African American Family & Cultural Center is to empower and embrace African American families and community by reclaiming, restoring, and revitalizing our cultural heritage, values, and identity. The African American Family & Cultural Center is a place where people convene, connect, and celebrate the essence of our community in order to bring about healing to create prosperous, vibrant lives.

Transition age youth individuals are a primary target population of these preventative and educational services.

Mobile Foster Care Teams

This program provides a Mobile Foster Care Specialty Team in Butte County. The team provides screening and assessment of all children detained by DESS and placed in foster care. Children with a high level of PTSD symptoms which are impacting their daily functioning in a negative way will be offered additional intervention including Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT).

The Mobile Foster Care Program provides services for all children detained by Butte County Department of Social Services (DESS) Children Service's Division (CSD) and placed in Foster Care. The purpose of this program is to prevent some of the negative impacts of trauma from becoming debilitating symptoms in the lives of foster children. Children placed in foster care will be screened for underlying issues and for the need to have issues addressed. All children who are screened will be provided with some basic age appropriate information about trauma and coping skills to address the impact of trauma. Individuals who have underlying behavioral health issues or are identified as having trauma symptoms that are interfering with their daily life will be provided with trauma based cognitive therapy early intervention services and other early intervention services designed to increase protective factors. Program staff will work with foster parents so they understand the impact of trauma and are conversant in what the foster children are learning about Trauma Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) services will be age appropriate. Services for TAY foster care will have the additional focus independent living skills