County of San Bernardino

Program Dispatch

First Edition, Fiscal Year 2010-2011

Transitional Age Youth Centers

Mental Health Services Act Dollars Working in the Community!

Service Goals

The objectives of Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Centers are:

- Increase Counseling and Group Sessions
- Increase Housing Assistance
- Provide Independent Living Skills Classes
- Provide Educational Assistance
- Provide Employment Assistance
- Offer Appropriate Peer Driven Groups
- Facilitate Successful Community Integration

Revised 11.21.11

Why was TAY created?

Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Centers were created to provide integrated services to transitional aged youth (16-25 years-old) who are unserved, uninsured and homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Transitional age youth typically have been over-represented in the Justice System and out-of-home (foster care, group homes, institutions) placements. TAY Centers provide a high level of care with services that are gender specific, culturally and linguistically appropriate. Transitional age youth and their families were integral in creating youth specific services.

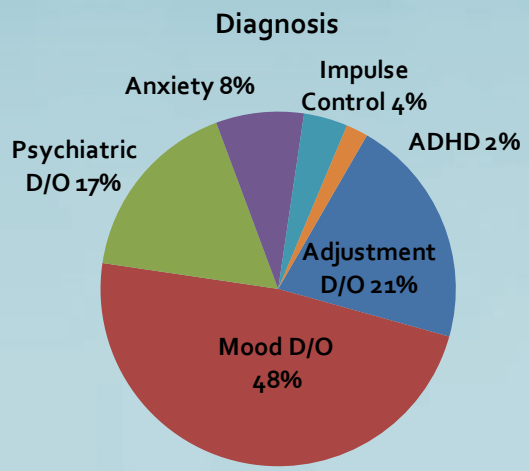
Positive Results

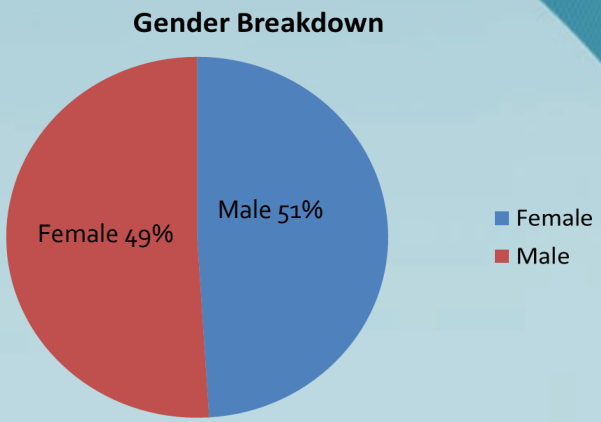
- There are four One-Stop TAY Centers funded by the Mental Health Service Act (MHSA) Proposition 63 along with state and federal funding. The MHSA TAY Center efforts continue to serve as the model program in the State.
- TAY Centers have contributed to savings in community costs by assisting transitional age youth in:
    - Becoming independent
    - Staying out of the juvenile justice system
    - Reducing hospitalizations
    - Reducing homelessness

Shelter Bed Program Statistics

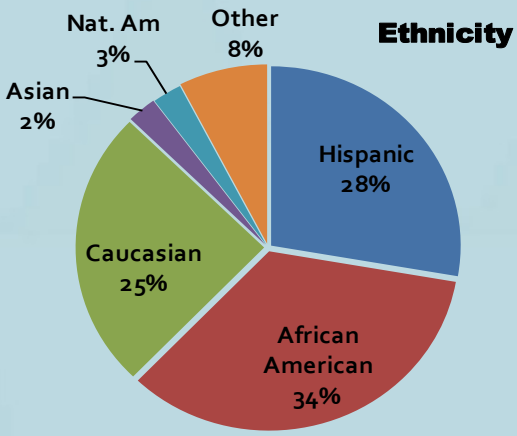
- Of the TAY incarcerated prior to receiving housing services, **85% were not incarcerated again** within a year after receiving TAY housing Services
- Of the TAY hospitalized prior to receiving housing services, **63% were not hospitalized again** within a year after receiving TAY Housing Services
- **2,532 clients have been served in all four regions since opening in 2007**

Program Data





25% of TAY Partners with psychiatric disorders also have a co-occurring substance abuse diagnosis



Making A Difference

Since coming to TAY in February 2008, my life has changed for the better. When I first came, I was very quiet and kept to myself. Three and a half years later I no longer keep to myself and am very open. I speak in crowds to report what TAY is and has done for me. Without the help and support of TAY, my life wouldn't be like it is now. I would've never finished high school and started attending college. I wouldn't have the life I do now. The skills and friends that I've made at TAY will be with me forever. The skills have saved me in so many ways. I'm grateful for all that TAY staff have done and keep doing for me. I'm grateful and forever changed by what TAY has done and continues to do for me. - Client Testimony

Challenges

- There were limited services for TAY transitioning out of children's services to assist in areas of employment, educational opportunities, living situations, community life, medication, mental health, physical well-being, drug and alcohol use, trauma, domestic violence, and physical, emotional and sexual abuse.
- Services are still needed to address the specific gender, culture and language of TAY.
- There was a need for emergency shelter bed services to prepare for entry into the community.

"Since I've been coming to the TAY Center, I've been able to stay out of the hospital for a whole year."
- Client Comment

Solutions in Progress

- With staff assistance, all contracted TAY Centers have developed TAY Advisory Boards by and for TAY partners.
- One-Stop TAY Centers continue to have measurable impacts in their respective communities.
- Specific efforts are being made to reach the targeted ethnic groups of Latino and African Americans that do not have access to appropriate services and are inappropriately served or underserved.
- Emergency Shelter Bed Services are being accessed by TAY youth.

Collaborative Partners

Thank you to the ongoing partnerships that enable success for our TAY!

County Foster Care Services Steering Committee

County of San Bernardino Children and Family Services

County Schools Foster Youth Services

Drug and Gangs Taskforce

Independent Living Program

County Mentorship Taskforce

DBH Shelter Bed Services

Homeless Youth Taskforce

State Department of Rehabilitation

Interagency Youth Resiliency Team

"It was so important to have the same bed where I knew I would be sleeping every night. I don't know if you guys can understand how important that is, but it really helped me successfully complete my GED." - Client Comment

For information regarding services please call:

ACCESS UNIT
(888) 743-1478 or (888) 743-1481 (TTY)

Dial 2-1-1 to get information and referrals for health and social services.
Get connected with a live operator 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.