

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES-DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH Program Support Bureau-MHSA Implementation & Outcomes Division

SUMMARY FOR: Seeking Safety Learning Network September 4, 2014

Location:

The California Endowment
1000 N. Alameda Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Facilitator:

Joshua Cornell, Psy.D., Clinical Psychologist II

Practice Lead for Seeking Safety:

Sermed Alkass, Psy.D., TAY Division

Participants:

Merraf Abel, Kedren Community Health Center Inc.
Carla Avalos, SFMHC
David Barclay, Phoenix House Academy, LVT
Abby Chappell, Edelman MHC
Rebecca Coutin, Telecare Corporation
Shefali D'Sa, Hathaway-Sycamores
George Eckart, MHSA Implementation & Outcomes
Karla Giron, Alma Family Services
Meghan, Gorden, Leroy Hanyes Center
Rosalie Finer, PEI Administration
Julie Gray, Hopics
Stephanie Gregory, Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services
Carrie Hanson, Crittenton Services for Children and Families
Laura House, The Almansor Center
Erin Hubbard, Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services
Jennifer Jacobs, Aviva Family and Children's Services
Farimah Khalilifard, Penny Lane Centers
Theresa Kjeldgaard, SFVCMHC
Karla Lagunas, El Centro Del Pueblo
Kate LaVelle, Hathaway-Sycamores
Sai Lee, Didi Hirsch
Thomas Leppold, Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services
Luisa Lowe, SSG/OTTP
Kalani Makanui, Didi Hirsch MHS

Molly Nazeck, Hathaway-Sycamores
Azine Neiman, The Village Family Services
Marianna Oganeyan, St. Anne's
Michael Olsen, Enki Health and Research Systems
Victoria Otto, Penny Lane Centers
Frances Pavon-Lara, MHSA Implementation & Outcomes
Michael Pearson, San Pedro MHC
Kelli Penner, Hollygrove/EMQ FamiliesFirst
Elizabeth Powers, AICC
Gina Remington, DMH
Ellen Rogelberg, The Help Group CFC
Susan Sabo, Pacific Clinics
Simone Scott, AICC
Linda Shing, Exceptional Children's Foundation
Alex Silva, MHSA Implementation & Outcomes
Adam Sternberg, LA Child Guidance Clinic
Cindy Tafoya, San Pedro MHC
Fonda Tokushige, TCCSC
Joyce Toledo, Helpline Youth Counseling Svs
Angel Towler, D'Veal Family and Youth Services
Nancy Uberto, D'Veal Family and Youth Services
Vania Vilchis, Rio Hondo MHC
Michael Villaescusa, MHSA Implementation & Outcomes

- I. Updates and Announcements
 - Action item follow-up

None

- II. Review of Reports
 - Review of available reports
 - What data/information may be helpful in future meetings?



J. Cornell reviewed how compliance rate is calculated and how agency specific data in Compliance Stats Reports relate to the countywide compliance stats shown in aggregate reports. J. Cornell emphasized that there is no DMH standard for compliance rate at this time and to use the countywide report rate as only a guide.

G. Eckart discussed changes and trends observed in the countywide aggregate report for Seeking Safety. He then showed how to calculate the percent of Pres with scores, the percent of Posts with scores, and the percent of matched pairs with scores, using the Questionnaires Statistics by Billing Provider report.

III. Updates

K. Taguchi and A. Silva clarified that a client does not need to have a treatment cycle created in the PEI OMA if he/she never received a treatment session in the practice, even if the client was billed to that practice. K. Taguchi provided an example of a client who would not need to have a treatment cycle added to the PEI OMA; a client that received an initial assessment claimed to Seeking Safety but dropped out prior to the first treatment session. The client in this example should not be entered into the PEI OMA because he/she never received a Seeking Safety treatment session.

S. Alkass provided the following updates: Seeking Safety trainings in September, email S. Alkass for information (salkass@dmh.lacounty.gov); next Seeking Safety Champion training in January 2015; new Seeking Safety manual with additional sections on adolescents to hopefully be released in 2015; the online Seeking Safety training does not meet PEI training protocols.

S. Alkass addressed the following topics: Some participants concerns with the amount of time required for Seeking Safety Champions to conduct their various tasks, especially if they will be helping train new Seeking Safety therapists at their agency; briefly reviewed Seeking Safety Champion roles and training requirements and stated he would email participants the Seeking Safety Champion training requirements; referred participants to the Core Services Report and suggested participants take note of their core claims with special consideration of the amount of services claimed when the client is not present.

IV. Networking

- Theme Based Break-Out Groups
- Larger group discussion

Documentation group – discussed how to assess and document trauma; S. Alkass indicated to document at least one identifiable trauma, even if they have a diagnosis that does not reflect trauma, e.g. anxiety or depression, and to link the diagnosis to the trauma in documentation; reminder that Seeking Safety notes still follow Medi-Cal guidelines and to follow-up with your QA liaison or at QIC meetings if you have additional questions.

Outreach & Engagement group – participants indicated they have not provided a lot of outreach services; some participants indicated they “front load” the first session of Seeking Safety by telling the clients about the model and the process of treatment so they are comfortable and aware of the model; agencies have found it useful to inform the clients that this model does not dig for trauma information, which helps when the therapist needs to redirect the client from talking in depth about his/her trauma;

another suggestion was to ask the client at the end of Seeking Safety if this was sufficient treatment or if they need another form of therapy.

Outcomes group – some agencies have a centralized outcome measure processing unit for data collection and analysis; some agencies have referred to outcome measures in the clinical notes as an “assessment tool for trauma”; some participants indicated having tracking or log systems to know what measures have been collected and are missing.

Sustainability group – discussed use of Seeking Safety Champions to train staff instead of having staff attend the 1 day Seeking Safety training; one agency has developed a 6 month training protocol to train new clinicians using the Seeking Safety Champions; the group discussed using stipends, small cohort size, and supervision to help maintain fidelity; participants supported the use of Theme Based calls to solidify training.

Adolescent group – discussed how to assess if Seeking Safety is an appropriate practice for adolescent clients.

IV. Next PPLN Meeting

Please email proposed future agenda items to: PEIOutcomes@dmh.lacounty.gov.

Date/Time/location of next meeting TBD