

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

DRAFT GENERAL AND AGE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA FOR FULL SERVICE PARTNERSHIPS

The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health and those involved in the stakeholder process are now beginning the process of developing implementation requirements for Full Service Partnerships (FSPs). This document proposes two approaches to criteria for FSPs: those that apply regardless of age group, and those that are age-group specific. These criteria are listed below:

Specific Criteria for Full Service Partnerships (All Age Groups)

- Commitment and capacity to deliver field-based (rather than clinic-based) or in-home services
- Current provision of services 7 days per week or capacity to initiate services by February, 2006
- Multi-disciplinary team availability 24 hours per day, 7 days per week for crisis intervention and assessment including availability of psychiatrist(s)
- Ability to provide field-based crisis response through LPS-designated staff
- Staff to client ratio not to exceed 1:15
- Commitment to incorporate peer support groups into the program and collaborate with community-based self-help groups
- Ability to immediately access housing so that clients do not remain homeless and are not discharged from higher levels of care into homelessness
- Utilization of integrated services with ethnic-specific community-based organizations
- Hiring of ethnically and linguistically diverse staff that are reflective of the community to be served
- Trauma-informed and trauma-specific treatment services, particularly for women with co-occurring disorders
- Commitment to collect outcome data as required by the conditions of the State and County plans; dedication to respond, making mid-course program corrections as necessary
- Dedicated commitment to conduct outreach and engagement to focal populations including unserved and hard to reach ethnic minority populations and individuals in institutions
- Commitment to assist clients in accessing all benefits to which they are entitled in a prompt and effective manner
- Capacity to immediately respond to referrals from institutional settings in order to prevent discharge without essential linkage to community-based programs

- Capacity to accommodate individuals with multiple disabilities including physical health problems, developmental delays and substance abuse issues
- Dedication to do “whatever it takes” to maintain ongoing client engagement
- Commitment to a “no wrong door” approach

Age-Specific Selection Criteria

In addition to the general qualifications listed above, providers should be able to meet the age-specific selection criteria relevant to the population for which they propose to provide a Full Service Partnership. Agencies may elect to serve one or more age groups.

Children – In addition to the general criteria listed above:

- Ability to provide intensive in-home and school-based services
- Demonstrated experience in collaborating with interagency partners such as DCFS, probation and schools
- Demonstrated ability to provide Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS)
- Commitment to utilizing parent partners as integral members of the family team

Transition Age Youth – In addition to the general criteria listed above:

- Ability to provide intensive in-home and school-based services
- Demonstrated experience in collaborating with interagency partners such as DCFS, probation and schools
- Demonstrated ability to provide Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS)
- Commitment to utilizing parent partners as integral members of the family team
- Ability to develop an array of housing options including temporary, transitional and permanent housing
- Emphasis on promoting access to an array of educational opportunities including supported education
- Emphasis on employment as a desired outcome with provision of an array of supported employment services.

Adults

- Emphasis on employment as a desired outcome with provision of an array of supported employment services. Employment services include agency-supported positions as well as competitive employment options.
- Ability to develop an array of housing options including temporary, transitional and permanent housing

- Commitment to assist with transportation, depending upon the needs of the clients
- Ability to assist clients in developing self-direct care plans including the Wellness, Recovery Action Plan
- Emphasis on promoting access to an array of educational opportunities including supported education

Older Adults

- Multidisciplinary staff with training and experience in working with older adults
- Demonstrated experience providing specialized interventions that have demonstrated efficacy for older adults
- Experience identifying, integrating and addressing the multi-faceted needs of older adult clients in the areas of mental health, substance abuse, health & hygiene, benefits establishment, housing, transportation, and nutrition.
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with primary care providers
- Experience delivering field-based services to older adults in sites such as nursing facilities, senior centers or congregate meal programs
- Ability to work with the three focal populations of older adults: those age 60 to 64, 65 to 74 and those over the age of 75
- Commitment to working with the families of older adults, including providing caregiver support groups
- Demonstrated experience and/or ability to partner with the range of older adult resources including:
 - Caregiver resources
 - Multi-Service Senior Program
 - Adult Day Health Care Center
 - Primary Care Providers
 - APS
 - Public Guardian