

Trinity County Behavioral Health Services  
Integrated Mental Health Services Act Funding Request for Fiscal Year  
2009/2010

Trinity County Behavioral Health invites all readers to attend the final public hearing of the year concerning the Mental Health Services Act to be held Monday April 20, 2009. The hearing will be facilitated by the Mental Health Advisory Board at noon at the main clinic located at 1450 Main St in Weaverville.

The State has started a new process of integrating all services into a single request beginning in July of 2009. This public hearing will cover four different elements of the Mental Health Services Act ranging from direct services, to Prevention to educating the public mental health workforce and finally to considering innovative ways to support clients who need immediate respite and care.

It is the intention of the Behavioral Health Agency to continue to fund the Community Supports and Services Plan that has been fashioned after the vision created in 2006 of establishing full service partnerships for transitional age youth and adults and of supporting consumer drop in centers in both Weaverville and Hayfork.

Prevention efforts will occur in three ways: First there will be primary intervention school based activities in Hayfork and Southern Trinity. Secondly, there will be Friday Night Live activities to engage high school students with efforts to support sobriety. Finally, there will be a Juvenile Probation Officer hired to perform prevention activities including visits to individual students at school sites, classroom presentations, aftercare follow up for youth released from Juvenile Hall and participation in the Local Prevention Coalition.

The Workforce Education and Training (WET) Element will provide funding for a MHSA Coordinator to link Trinity County with other Superior County Region Counties and attend State Meetings that will allow Trinity County to be directly given the information necessary to take advantage of all resources that might benefit the residents of this area. The WET will also fund scholarships for persons working on their B.A. or M.A. Degrees who have plans of entering the public mental health system upon graduation. We will also fund training opportunities for consumers and staff. Finally, we will initiate a pilot program to bring Occupational Therapist interns from San Jose State University to work with target residents in Trinity County to overcome symptoms that stem from certain disabilities they may be experiencing.

The forth and final effort this year will be to request Innovation Funds to support a respite bed program for clients who are experiencing instability in their lives and who need some care and intervention so that they can get their feet back on the ground.

The voice of the community has always been important in shaping the types of services offered and the Mental Health Staff value the input and ideas that are expressed. Refreshments will be served and everyone is welcome. To obtain more information, please e-mail Interim Mental Health Director Noel J. O'Neill @ [Noneill@kingsview.org](mailto:Noneill@kingsview.org) or call him @ 623-8293.