

SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH SYSTEM
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES

DATE: July 25, 2005

BHRS POLICY: 05-03

SUBJECT: Child/Youth Eligibility Criteria

AUTHORITY: Divisional, Title 9, Chapter 11, Sec. 1830

AMENDED: February 10, 2010 (Technical edits), January 13, 2017 (Technical edits);
(Old) Attachment B: Referral Guide for Partners, and Attachment D:
Grid for Child/Youth Services Obsolete on January 13, 2017

ATTACHMENTS: A. Medical Necessity Criteria for Specialty Mental Health Services
B. Criteria for Entry to Child/Youth Services (was Attachment C)

PURPOSE:

To define the Child and Youth Target Population that is eligible for County funded services from Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS).

POLICY:

This policy applies to all County and Contracted Providers of BHRS mental health services.

Eligible children and youth come from one or more of the following categories:

- Child/Youth with Medi-Cal, Healthy Families or Healthy Kids insurance who meet State-defined medical necessity criteria for specialty mental health services, including services to Child/Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED).
- Child/Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) who have no insurance resources.
- San Mateo County wards and dependents who meet medical necessity criteria.
- Child/Youth determined to be eligible for educationally related mental health services.
- Child/Youth in psychiatric crisis (generally eligible for services).

The above categories provide a broad view of eligibility criteria. In addition, all County and contracted providers of mental health services will refer to the attached summary of specific criteria when determining an individual client's eligibility. In cases where eligibility is disputed or unclear, appeal to the Deputy Director for Child/Youth Services, or designee, for a ruling.

Approved: _____ *(Signature on File)*

Stephen Kaplan, LCSW
BHRS Director