

# Mobile Crisis Response for Children and Youth

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**PRESIDENT & CEO, Seneca Family of Agencies** 

### **Seneca Family of Agencies**

WHO WE ARE AND UNCONDITIONAL CARE

- Our mission is to help children and families through the most difficult times of their lives
- Founded 37 years ago as a residential treatment facility serving 6 youth. Today serving over 18,000 youth and families annually.
- Multi-service agency spanning child welfare, behavioral health, education and juvenile justice systems
- Serving 18 California counties and 2 counties in Washington State

## **SERVICE CONTINUUM**

#### EDUCATION

- Non-Public Schools
- Counseling Enriched Classrooms
- Mental Health and Special Education Services
- School Partnership Programs

• Wraparound, Full Service Partnerships, Expedited Transition Services

COMMUNITY-BASED

- Community Mental Health and Probation Interventions (TBS, Case Management, etc.)
- Mobile Response & FURS
- Clinic-Based Outpatient Services
- Guided Animal Intervention Therapy

#### PLACEMENT & PERMANENCY

- Foster Care and Adoption Services
- Intensive Services Foster
  Care (ISFC) and Enhanced
  ISFC
- Therapeutic Foster Care
- Family Ties/Kin Support
- Family Finding
- Visitation Services
- Welcoming Center (Shelter Alternative)

#### CRISIS

- Partial Hospitalization
  Programs
- Crisis Stabilization Unit
- Crisis Residential (CCRP)
- Enhanced Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP)

## Seneca MRT Programs

- Standalone Mobile Response Team (MRT) programs:
  - Contra Costa County (since 2000)
  - San Francisco County (since 2019)
  - Monterey County (since 2020)
- Family Urgent Response System (FURS) services since 2021: Sonoma, Marin, Solano, Contra Costa, San Francisco, Monterey, Ventura, and Orange Counties

### Unique Crisis Response Needs of Children and Adolescents

- Crisis often involves youth and caregivers
- Need for trauma-informed approaches to minimize ambulance transports/likelihood of law enforcement involvement
- Schools as primary referral source during daytime hours
- Call volume linked to school day and school calendar

## **MRT Staffing Structure**

- Teams of 2 staff respond to in-person crises
- Teams comprised of:
  - Master's-level Crisis Clinicians
  - Crisis Counselors
  - Peer Partners
- Ideal team is 1 clinician 1 counselor
- Peers predominantly used for follow-up supports
- Supervision provided by licensed master's-level staff

## **MRT Program Hours**

- Fully staffed:
  - 7am 11pm, Monday Friday
  - 11am 9pm on weekends
- 24/7 Coverage: Rotating on-call pool for overnight coverage. 24/7 staffing best achieved by leveraging pool of on-call staff from region
- FURS requires 24/7 coverage

### **Referral Sources/Access**

- Youth and families are provided the MRT phone number and can call directly
- Foster youth and caregivers call the statewide FURS hotline who dispatches local FURS team
- Primary referral sources: school staff, emergency services/hospitals, STRTP staff, mental health professionals/child welfare workers

### **Contract and Fiscal Structure**

- MRT contracted through County Mental Health Plans and serve primarily Medi-Cal youth (but can serve all youth regardless of insurance type in some counties)
- FURS services are contracted through County Social Service agencies
- Primary revenue sources: EPSDT, FURS allocation, Other County Funds: MHSA, General Fund, etc.

## Seneca MRT Outcomes

- 40% of calls require in-person mobile response
- 80% of youth in crisis are successfully stabilized and diverted from hospitalization
- 80% of youth moved to lower or same level of service
- 21% of youth moved to lower level of service



#### THANK YOU

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