

**South Lake Tahoe Behavioral Health Court
Matters of Interest to an Ad-Hoc Committee
of the El Dorado County Mental Health Commission**

1. What are the statutory or regulatory provisions, and mission documents establishing and guiding Behavioral Health Courts? Attach the EDC BHC mission statement and protocol.
2. Which State and El Dorado County departments/agencies/offices/entities are involved? Which nongovernmental entities may be involved?

3. Intake and Penetration

- 3.1 What are the criteria for identifying potential candidate individuals for participation in the program?
- 3.2 How are candidate individuals selected, in practice, for active participation? Who makes the selection?
- 3.3 What factors might discourage an individual from participating? Why might counsel advise individuals against participation?
- 3.4 After selection, is there a waitlist for active participation? What is the statistical distribution of wait times? This could be described in a simple bar graph, for example.
- 3.5 Do the public entities and agencies promote and encourage the use of Behavioral Health Court? If so, in what ways?

4. Processes

- 4.1 How do family members participate?
- 4.2 If there are substance use issues, how often are urine testing and other tests conducted?
- 4.3 Describe the role of the Probation Department in the process.
- 4.4 What are known differences in processes and procedures between the west slope and Tahoe courts?
- 4.5 What role do Jail representatives play in the BH court processes?
- 4.6 If individuals are kept in jail although they are BHC participants, what are reasons for this?
- 4.7 What are the incentives for individuals to comply with Court conditions? Do they involve dismissal of charges?
- 4.8 What is the statistical distribution of length of time individuals remain in the BHC process, in terms of a simple bar graph, for example?
- 4.9 Describe the graduation processes, including criteria.
- 4.10 Have the several SLT BHC agencies researched or surveyed benchmark BHC programs in other counties?

5. Outcomes

- 5.1 How does the actual operation of the BHC compare with the formal protocol, in terms of objective measures?
- 5.2 Describe the recidivism statistics. What are the trends over time?
- 5.3 What are the opportunities for the individuals to critique and evaluate their experience?
- 5.4 Describe the Continuous Improvement Process.
- 5.5 What metrics do the BHC-involved entities use to track effectiveness?
- 5.6 Just as offenders on traditional probation may fail to comply with the conditions of probation and therefore are subject to consequences such as incarceration, not all individual subjects of BHC will have successful outcomes. For a recent 12-month or longer period, what are the quarterly (or other) outcome numbers in terms of graduations and failures?