



EL DORADO COUNTY

Children's Specialty Mental Health Services [SMHS] Overview and Local Implementation

**Health and Human Services Agency
Behavioral Health Department**



Agenda

- What are SMHS and who qualifies
- How children access services
- How El Dorado County provides services
 - Partner agency roles
- What's next for children's SMHS



What are Children's Specialty Mental Health Services?



Children's SMHS

- These are intensive services for youth who need more than brief counseling.
- Services address emotional disturbance, trauma, family conflict, or behavioral crises that interfere with daily life.
- Emphasize the "whole child" approach: clinical treatment in addition to family and community supports.
- Goal is to help each child function successfully at home, in school, and in the community.



Who Qualifies

- Age 0-21
- Medi-Cal coverage
- Experiencing significant emotional, behavioral, and/or psychiatric challenges in daily life
- Fast-track into services for youth involved with Child Welfare or Probation and those who are experiencing homelessness



Referral Pathways

- Family referrals
- Minor consent self-referrals
- Child Welfare
- Probation
- School counselors
- Primary care
- Hospitals
- Mobile crisis team



Core Services

- Individual and Group Therapy
- Individual and Group Rehabilitation
 - Medication Support
 - Case Management
- Crisis Intervention
- Intensive Home-Based Services (IHBS) and Intensive Care Coordination (ICC)



Short Term Residential Treatment Placement

- Responsibility for the SMHS for EDC youth when they are placed at an STRTP out of county by Probation or Child Welfare
- Contracts with other counties or STRTPs
- Contract with in-county STRTP when EDC youth are placed locally



Our Network of Care

Outpatient services

New Morning Youth & Family Services, Sierra Child & Family Services, Stanford Sierra Youth & Families and Summitview Child & Family Services, Inc.

Psychiatric medication support services

El Dorado County Behavioral Health Clinic and Summitview Child & Family Services, Inc.

Acute Crisis services

El Dorado County Mobile Crisis Team, Sierra Mental Wellness Group Mobile Crisis Team and El Dorado County Psychiatric Emergency Services

Inpatient psychiatric services

Out of county hospitals



Funding Sources

Medi-Cal:

State and Federal match based on county-specific rates for services

Realignment:

County-based revenue which covers the “matching funds” not covered by Medi-Cal

MHSA:

Millionaire-tax revenue which fills in the gaps for Full-Service Partnership programming



Looking Ahead

- New Evidence Based Practices:
 - Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)
 - Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST)
 - Functional Family Therapy (FFT)
 - High-Fidelity Wraparound (HFW)
- Support vendors being able to access their SMHS clients on school campuses
- Support building out Certified Peers at vendors

Section A, EDCBH: Slide 11 of 12





END OF PRESENTATION SECTION FOR:

El Dorado County – Health and Human Services Agency – Behavioral Health Department

Thank you!

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Children's Specialty Mental Health Services
[SMHS] provided by:



Presenter(s): Kristen Patterson and Carrie Thomas

Section B, NMYFS: Slide 1 of 8



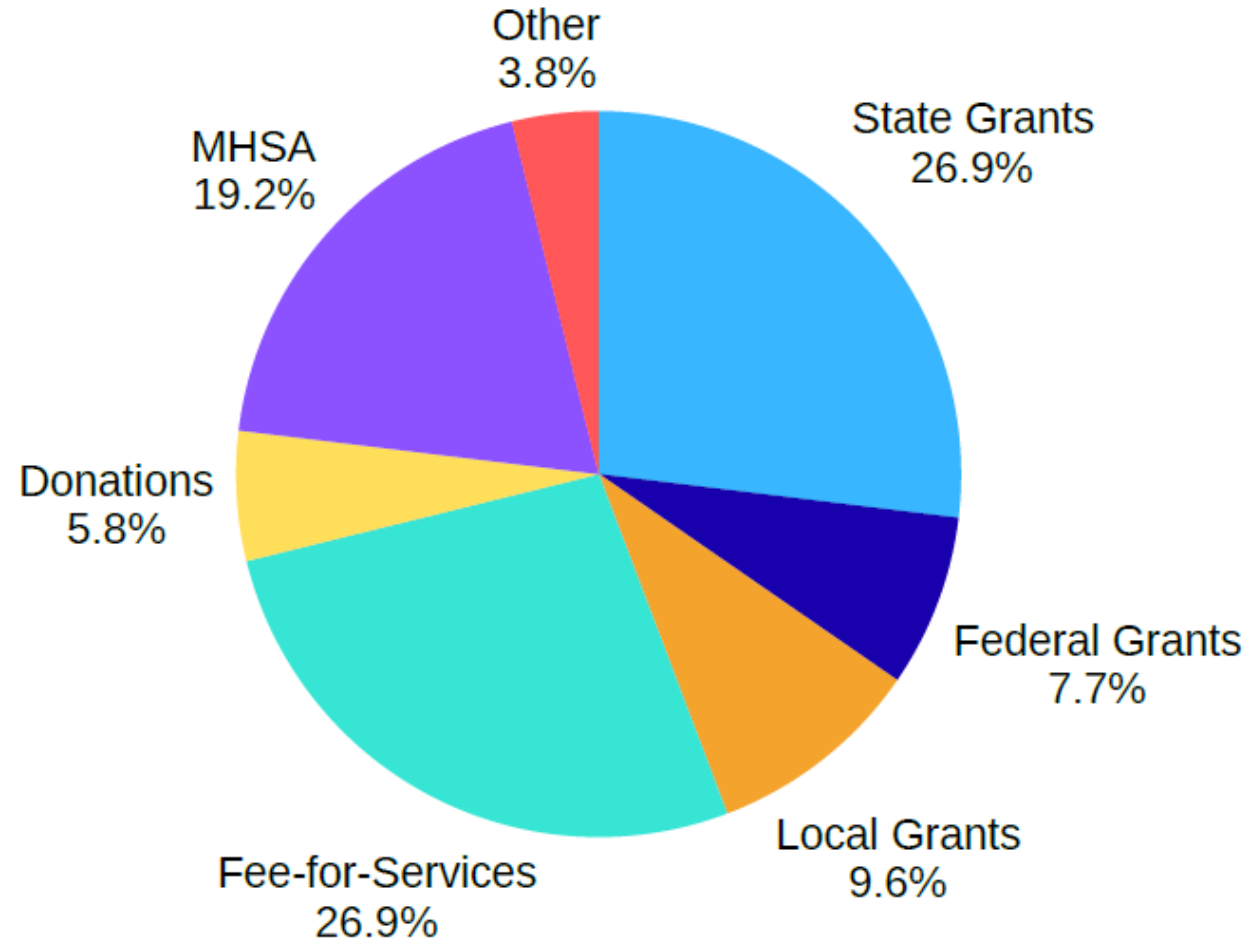


Agency Overview

Since 1970, New Morning Youth & Family Services has been helping children, teens, and families in El Dorado County find safety, stability, and hope. As a nonprofit organization, we provide counseling, crisis intervention, case management, and emergency shelter services to youth in need. Our dedicated team uses trauma-informed care to help young people heal from abuse, neglect, and other challenges.



New Morning Funding





Services Provided with SMHS

New Morning provides:

- Full Service Partnership (FSP)
- Traditional Mental Health Services
- Intensive Care Coordination (ICC)
- Intensive Home Based Services (IHBS)



Evidence-Based Practices and Certifications

Currently utilize wraparound and motivational interviewing. Working towards certifications in High Fidelity Wraparound, Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT), Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), and Motivational Interviewing.

Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF)
Accredited since 2019 and current through 2028.



Specialized Staff and Roles

Victim Advocates, Promotoras, Family Specialists, Youth Behavior Specialists and Clinical Staff



Outcomes and Impact

76 Youth served through SMHS contract in last FY

A shelter youth, John, had experienced significant housing instability, leading to a stay at the Ashby House, the emergency youth shelter. During his stay, staff became concerned about his mental state and he was provided SMHS services. As he worked with his SMHS team, he began experiencing hallucinations.

When it was clear that inpatient treatment was needed, the shelter team was concerned about safety and requested support from the EDCBH Mobile Crisis Team, to avoid a law enforcement response. The Mobile Crisis Team responded to the shelter to support the SMHS team and coordinated transportation to the emergency room. John was admitted to inpatient treatment to get the care he needed.



END OF PRESENTATION SECTION FOR:



Thank you!

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Executive Director: Kristen Patterson Kristen@newmorningyfs.org



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Children's Specialty Mental Health Services
[SMHS] provided by:

Sierra Child & Family Services

Presenter(s): Barry Harwell, Executive Director

Section C, SCFS: Slide 1 of 6



Agency Overview

- Founded in 1988
- Wraparound Services in 2000 following the passage of SB 163 in 1997
- Current services include Foster care, Adoptions, School-Based Wellness Centers, Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS)



Services Provided with SMHS

- Full-Service Partnership (FSP)
- Traditional
- Therapeutic Behavioral Services
- Intensive Care Coordination
- Intensive Home-Based Services
- Individual and Group Therapy
- Assessment and Plan Development
- Case Management



Evidence-Based Practices and Certifications

- Accredited by the Commission on Accreditation (COA)
- 42 clinicians practicing across three counties, including both slopes of El Dorado County
- Evidence-Based Practices Specific to El Dorado County Contracts include:
 - Motivational Interviewing - MI
 - Dialectical Behavior Therapy - DBT
 - EDAPT - Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis
- Developing programs under current California reform efforts
 - Functional Family Therapy - FFT
 - Multi-Systemic Therapy - MST
 - High Fidelity Wraparound
 - Parents as Teachers



Outcomes and Impact

- Collaborated with EDCBH to create Wraparound Services in El Dorado County in 2000
- Introduced the CANS to El Dorado County Behavioral Health in 2013 and provided initial CANS certification to all Behavioral Health staff
- Opened children's outpatient clinic in South Lake Tahoe in 2013
- Opened first school-based wellness centers in 2019
- In 2024-25, Sierra served 1601 El Dorado county youth, including 348 through



END OF PRESENTATION SECTION FOR:

Sierra Child & Family Services

Thank you!

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Children's Specialty Mental Health Services
[SHMS] provided by:

**Summitview Child & Family
Services, Inc.**

Presenters: Anna Gleason, CEO, Jess Schnetz-O'Brien, CPO, Courtney Tomblin, Director of Finance and Operations

Section D, SCFS: 1 of 7





Agency Overview

- Established in 1993 as a youth residential program
- Current headquarters in El Dorado Hills
- Satellite outpatient office in Placerville
- 14 Wellness Centers on middle and elementary school campuses
- Youth residential program
 - 2 Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program Homes
 - 2 Group Homes
- Non-Public school
- Adult residential program



Services Provided with SMHS

- Outpatient and residential FSP clients
- Individual and family counseling
- Individual rehabilitation
- Intensive home-based services
- Case management/intensive care coordination
- Medication support – we have a psychiatrist who carries a caseload
- Group counseling



Evidence-Based Practices and Certifications

Services:

Our therapists utilize an integrative approach to services. We primarily use DBT, CBT, and ACT, though we have some clinicians trained in EMDR and PC-CARE.

Accreditations:

Council on Accreditation (COA/Social Current)

National Commission for the Accreditation of Special Education Services (NCASES)

Certifications:

California Department of Education (CDE)

Looking toward the future:

We are pursuing certification to become a High-Fidelity Wrap and TBS provider and are planning to add Functional Family Therapy (FFT) to our evidence-based service offerings. Programmatically, we are looking into a Drug Medical Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) contract in addition to postvention services.



Specialized Staff and Roles

Therapists - individual and family therapy

Family Specialists - individual rehab and independent living skills

Case Managers - intensive care coordination

Psychiatrist - provides medication management services

Learning Coaches - provides skill coaching and crisis intervention services if indicated

Mental Health Specialists - provides skill coaching and crisis intervention services if indicated



Outcomes and Impact

Data from November 1st 2024– November 11th 2025

Residential:

- 77 total youth enrolled
- 90% of discharged clients had a reduction in their PSC-35 score*
- 93% of discharged clients had a reduction in their CANS score*

Outpatient:

- 129 El Dorado County youth enrolled
- 71% of discharged clients had a reduction in their PSC-35 score*
- 85% of discharged clients had a reduction in their CANS score*

Success stories:

Residential: probation STRTP youth – improved PSC-35 score and will be discharging next month to a family and probation term is ending.

Outpatient: 20-year-old youth – improved CANS score and was connected to a variety of community resources in addition to mental health services.

*Percentage based on collected data.



END OF PRESENTATION SECTION FOR:

Summitview Child & Family Services, Inc.

Thank you!

Contact Information:

Our website has more in-depth information about each of our programs. There are opportunities to submit interest and inquiries.

Thank you for your time!

<https://summitviewcf.org/>

Section D, SCFS: 7 of 7





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Children's Specialty Mental Health Services
[SHMS] provided by:

**Stanford Sierra Youth &
Families**



**Stanford Sierra
Youth & Families**

Presenter(s): ***Sara DeCoursey, Executive Director of Programs***

Section E, SSYF: 1 of 7





Agency Overview

Our Mission

Transforming lives by nurturing permanent connections and empowering families to solve challenges together, so every young person can thrive.

Comprehensive Care Continuum

Stanford Youth & Families provides an integrated approach to support youth and families in overcoming life's most difficult challenges. We believe that with the right resources, professional treatment, and compassionate care every child can succeed.

We support the entire family unit, ensuring that every youth has the opportunity to thrive at home, in school, and throughout their community.

Services We Provide

- Family Advocacy & Support
- Behavioral & Mental Health Services
- Substance Use Prevention & Treatment
- Juvenile Justice Intervention
- Mentoring Programs
- Foster Care & Adoption Support



Services Provided with SMHS

- **Traditional SMHS**

- Youth meet criteria for Specialty Mental Health Services with a qualifying diagnosis
- Need therapy and/or skill-building, but do not require full-scope services.
- Services typically 1-2 times per week

- **Full-Service Partnership (FSP)**

- Youth need more intensive, full-scope services
 - May be at risk of harm to self/others, hospitalization, or detention
- Receive therapy/skills plus ICC (Intensive Case Coordination) and/or IHBS (Intensive Home-Based Services)
- Services typically 2-4 times per week

- **Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS)**

- Short-term, intensive adjunct service
- Focuses on one specific target behavior that places the youth at risk of a higher level of care



Evidence-Based Practices and Certifications

List of Evidence-Based Practices used to treat EDC SMHS beneficiaries:

- PCIT
- TF-CBT
- High Fidelity Wrap

SSYAF Full Menu of EBPs:

- PCIT
- FFT
- High Fidelity Wrap
- Motivational Interviewing
- TF-CBT

Council on Accreditation (COA): Our commitment to quality care is validated through COA, demonstrating our adherence to the highest standards in behavioral health services.



Specialized Staff and Roles

Clinician

- Conducts intake/assessment • Creates treatment plans • Coordinates care • Provides therapy

Facilitator

- Leads CFT meetings • Collaborates with Probation, Child Welfare, Alta Regional (as applicable), schools, family/natural supports • Provides IHBS/rehab skill-building

Specialist

- Provides IHBS/rehab skill-building • Leads CFTs as needed • Supports caregivers with behavior-management skills

Certified Peer Family Partner

- Supports caregivers through lived experience • Builds skills and hope • Assists with advocacy/resources (IEP, linkage) • Elevates family voice/choice

Certified Peer Youth Advocate

- Supports youth through lived experience • Builds engagement, skills, and hope • Advocates for youth voice/choice in CFTs

TBS Analyst

- Provides direct behavioral support • Works with caregivers and youth on target behavior strategies



Outcomes and Impact

CANS Data FY24/25: 89 clients had a discharge CANS completed.

Intake Needs: 736 items rated 2 or higher

Discharge Needs: 326 items rated 2 or higher

Total Clients Served FY24-25: 181 clients, Average LOS 250 days



Success Story:

Youth was referred to services after multiple police interactions related to unsafe behaviors in the home, and his placement was at risk at intake. He experienced near-daily temper outbursts, ranging from irritability to aggression, with frequent mood shifts at home and school. Caregivers reported he struggled to recognize when he was triggered, often threatened his younger sibling, and became dysregulated when denied preferred items or asked to meet demands. Throughout services, the team reinforced coping and regulation skills such as mindful breathing, grounding mantras, identifying triggers, tracking daily patterns, early self-check-ins, assertive communication, scheduled breaks, radical acceptance, visualizing calming strategies, and using "pause before reaction" techniques. By graduation, the family reported major improvements: they were able to enjoy game nights together, parents resumed monthly date nights using respite, and the youth successfully maintained chores at home while working part-time. At discharge, caregivers shared that they once believed out-of-home placement was their only option and expressed gratitude for SSYAF's support in keeping their family together.



END OF PRESENTATION SECTION FOR:

Stanford Sierra Youth & Families

Thank you!

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