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FAMILY PRIORITY WRAPAROUND PROGRAM

Definition

Definition: Wraparound is a team based collaborative process for developing and implementing individualized care plans for children with behavioral health challenges and their families. Wraparound utilizes natural and professional supports to develop or strengthen resources to be employed in the accomplishment of family and youth chosen objectives.

This group or team, functions to serve the youth and family's achievement of safety, permanency, stability and well-being. The family team will bring together the wisdom and expertise of family and friends, as well as the resources, experience and expertise of formal supports. The team will work together to meet the needs which the youth and family have identified and prioritized.

Throughout this process, the family/youth identify their needs and strengths. A team is formed of natural and professional supports, who consider a variety of actions or action steps to meet the family/youth needs. These steps

are considered at a series of team meetings which have several goals:

- Ascertain what the family/youth hope to accomplish
- Recognize and affirm the family/youth strengths and solutions patterns
- Assess family/youth needs including safety challenges and risk of harm in order to build effective protective plans or mechanisms
- Discovery of underlying needs
- Design individualized supports and services that match the family/youth's needs and that build upon their strengths
- Achieve clarity about who is responsible for agreed upon tasks and specific time frames
- Agree on next steps

Principles of the Wraparound Process

- Youth and family voice and choice
- Focus is on need rather than on services. For example: a youth may need someone to talk to about their problems with friends or in school. The need is someone to talk to; this does not mean they automatically need therapy. It could be that their uncle or school counselor or pastor would be the identified individual to meet that need.
- People are capable of change, and most people are able to find the solutions within themselves, especially when helped to identify the solution
- All people and families have strengths

- A solution that a family generates with a team of natural supports is more likely to fit that family because the solution will respond to the family's unique strengths and needs
- When extended family members and friends become part of a team, they frequently identify solutions that no formal systems would be able to generate
- Families and youth are more invested in a plan when they are full partners in the decision making process

Scope of Services

The Wraparound Process includes the following Phases:

- Engagement and Team Preparation wherein the team facilitator or program representative meets with the family/youth in order to discuss the wraparound process, listen to the family's iteration of their needs and challenges, identify who the family/youth wants at their meetings to support and provide resources for them, and determine a date, time and place for that meeting. In this phase, the family is empowered to give voice to their hopes for the process and to consider those persons that may support them in this process. Additionally, the facilitator will identify immediate crisis or safety concerns and develop a stabilization or crisis plan if warranted.
- Initial Plan Development wherein the initial wraparound meeting is held and the team comes up with a mission statement, a list of family/youth needs, and a task list wherein all members will leave the meeting knowing what their task is and how to contact other team members. During this phase, strategies to

accomplish goals are discussed in the team meetings and the family and youth agree upon which strategies they will use to meet their needs.

- Plan Implementation wherein a written plan of care is developed and adjusted at each successive monthly meeting (or more frequently if indicated). Assessment of the plan and whether it is working for the family and youth is ongoing.
- Transition wherein the goals of the family and youth have been accomplished and plans for the future are discussed. During this phase, the team recognizes that the family is able to continue their work without the need for the team.

The Wraparound Team at Family Priority

Family Priority has a trained wraparound Facilitator and Supervisor who have been trained through the Youth and Family Institute, the Wraparound Center of Excellence, Office of Comprehensive Services, Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. Both the Facilitator and Supervisor have extensive experience in running wraparound teams. The Facilitator has worked on a Wraparound Team in a local county and the Supervisor has both conducted and trained in Wraparound in Washington, DC.

Hours and Service Costs

Wraparound meetings typically last one to two hours and take place monthly; at times the team may meet more frequently if there is a crisis. The typical wraparound team is funded for six to nine months. Charges include the writing and monthly updating of the Wraparound Plan of Care, the facilitation of Wraparound Meetings, a monthly report if requested by the county in which we are working, a termination report and supervision. The typical wraparound case requires six to ten hours per month during the first month and three to six hours per month in the following months.

The charge for wraparound is \$75.00 per hour.