

**Advancing Our Community
Mental/Behavioral Health Committee
Goals and Objectives**
revised January, 2006
adopted December, 2007

Goal 1

Increase Inter-Agency Collaboration on Priority Behavioral Health Issues

Objective 1.1

Clarify and formalize behavioral health services and standards.

- Clarify each agency's parameters of service, including populations served
- (Eliminate) duplication of services
- Set standard for Sitka mental health agencies for amount of time between time of first contact and when services are actually provided

Objective 1.2

Combine direct service staff training among behavioral health agencies for topics that are common.

Objective 1.3

Increase local network of foster care families.

Objective 1.4

Improve coordination of services with Native Alaskan service providers.

Objective 1.5

Improve mental/behavioral care providers' awareness of "non-therapeutic" services (e.g., after-school activities, sports, community clubs, etc.) and how to help clients access these services.

Objective 1.5

Improve client access to services by helping to secure transportation and child care.

Goal 2

Increase access to Behavioral Health Services for those that need them

Objective 2.1

Address need for services to non-beneficiary individuals, especially children. Also address the "worried well" and Adult non-CMI

Objective 2.2

Initiate a public education campaign to address family reluctance to seek services and reduce negative stigma attached to seeking help for mental or behavioral health issues.

Goal 3

Establish New Services and Programs in Areas of Priority Need

Objective 3.1

Increase respite care for parents and children with special needs

Objective 3.2

Develop a Transitional Living Program for teens who are homeless, transitioning out of foster care or a residential treatment program, MEHS students who cannot live on campus, students seeking vocational education in Sitka, living in an unsafe home situation, etc.

Objective 3.3

Form a Community Mental Health advocate/service – a cooperative effort among all agencies that would provide the first contact for someone seeking services. The contact person would do a limited assessment of the situation, determine the most appropriate agency for the client, set up the appointment, help the client keep the appointment (arranging transportation and child care as needed), and answer any preliminary questions the client may have.

Objective 3.4

Form a parent mentor program. This would be a service for identified “at risk” families that provides a mentor who visits the family in their home and models appropriate parenting behaviors.

Objective 3.5

Address direct service staff retention.