

**County of San Bernardino  
Department of Behavioral Health**

**Healthy Families SED Services Policy**

**Effective Date** 02/01/09  
**Approval Date** 02/04/09

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Allan Rawland, Director

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**Policy** It is the policy of the County of San Bernardino Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) to provide appropriate mental health services to all children enrolled in a Healthy Families Plan (HFP) who qualify for the Severely Emotionally Disturbed (SED) benefit, in compliance with Department of Mental Health (DMH) Information Notices 98-14, 98-16, 99-12, and 07-01.

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**Purpose** To outline the Healthy Families program requirements for DBH clinical and contract agency staff when addressing referrals received from Healthy Families health plans.

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**Background** Healthy Families is a voluntary, state, and federally subsidized insurance program that offers benefits for children up to the age of 19 who are not eligible for no-cost Medi-Cal, and who do not have other health insurance coverage. (**Note:** Clients are covered for the month in which they turn 19 years old. For example, a client who turns 19 on November 3rd. will be covered until the end of that month under Healthy Families). The Healthy Families program includes coverage for mental health services provided to enrollees with SED conditions.

SED evaluation may occur as a result of a referral from a health plan or their providers, from a self-referral or from a referral from other community resources, i.e. schools, child welfare agencies.

Healthy Families program enrollees **who meet the SED criteria** are eligible to receive the full range of medically necessary services available through the Medi-Cal Rehabilitation Option and Targeted Case Management programs. These services include:

- Mental health services
- Medication support services
- Day treatment intensive

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# County of San Bernardino Department of Behavioral Health

## Healthy Families SED Services Policy, Continued

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### Background (continued)

- Day Rehabilitation
  - Crisis Intervention
  - Crisis Stabilization
  - Crisis residential services
  - Psychiatric health facility services
  - Psychiatric inpatient hospital services
  - Targeted case management
  - Psychiatric services
  - Psychological services
  - Alcohol and Drug services
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### SED Criteria

Seriously Emotionally Disturbed children or adolescents means minors up to the age of 19 (covered for the month they turn 19 years old) who have a mental disorder as identified in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorder, other than a primary substance use disorder or developmental disorder, which results in behavior inappropriate to the child's age according to expected developmental norms. Members of this target population shall meet one or more of the following criteria (W&I Code 5600.3, (a.) (2.):

- (A) As a result of the mental disorder, the child has substantial impairment in at least two of the following areas: self-care, school functioning, family relationships, or ability to function in the community; and either of the following criteria:
    - (i) The child is at risk of removal from home or has already been removed from the home.
    - (ii) The mental disorder and impairments have been present for more than six months or are likely to continue for more than one year without treatment.
  - (B) The child displays one of the following: psychotic features, risk of suicide, or risk of violence due to a mental disorder.
  - (C) The child meets special education eligibility requirements under Chapter 26.5 (commencing with Section 7570) of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code.
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### Reference

[DBH SPM CHD0309-1: Healthy Family SED Services Procedure](#)

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