



Lake County Behavioral Health Services
Todd Metcalf, Director
PO BOX 1024, LUCERNE, CALIFORNIA 95458-1024
P 707-274-9101 F 707-274-9192



PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lake County Receives \$2M Grant for Early Psychosis Intervention Services

Lucerne, CA (October 23, 2020) -- Lake County Behavioral Health Services (LCBHS) was recently awarded \$2 million to expand Early Psychosis Intervention services through a competitive grant. This grant opportunity came through the Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission who also oversee Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funding for California Counties. LCBHS has long provided services to young people experiencing the early onset of psychosis, as well as other behavioral or emotional challenges. This grant will facilitate significant expansion of services in-line with an evidence-based fidelity model. Significant growth is expected in the following areas:

- Clinical training on cutting-edge, evidence-based practices for this population
- Training on community screening and identification of youth experiencing the early onset of psychosis
- Supported employment
- Co-occurring substance use disorder services
- Psychoeducational groups for families, caregivers, and parents
- Psychoeducational and wellness groups for youth

Symptoms of psychosis can appear in childhood and adolescence, and may or may not lead to a life-long mental illness. The goal of Early Intervention Services is to effectively treat and hopefully prevent these symptoms from becoming a chronic illness. It is estimated 5-8% of the general population may experience symptoms of psychosis in a given year, and there may be an even higher incidence in children and adolescents.

Signs and symptoms of psychosis may include:

- Hearing, seeing, tasting or believing things that others don't
- Persistent, unusual thoughts or beliefs that can't be set aside regardless of what others believe
- Strong and inappropriate emotions or no emotions at all
- Withdrawing from family or friends
- A sudden decline in self-care
- Trouble thinking clearly or concentrating

LCBHS will begin implementation of this grant later this year, and project implementation will take place over four years. This is an exciting opportunity to expand and improve our services to young people in Lake County. LCBHS strives to provide the highest quality behavioral healthcare to some of our most vulnerable community members.

For more information, please contact Lake County Behavioral Health Services at 707-274-9101 or 707-994-7090.

“To improve the quality of life for the people of Lake County experiencing mental illness or substance abuse by offering recovery-oriented services.”