

Behavioral Health Centers of Excellence (COE) Resource Hub

At a Glance: Behavioral Health Centers of Excellence

Overview

Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) are central to California's goal of expanding access to and strengthening the continuum of community-based behavioral health services for individuals living with significant behavioral health needs.

To support California behavioral health delivery systems and behavioral health practitioners in implementing EBPs, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has established COEs. The COEs will support the following EBPs:

- **Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) and Forensic ACT (FACT)**
- **Clubhouse Services**
- **Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC) for First Episode Psychosis (FEP)**
- **Functional Family Therapy (FFT)**
- **High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW)**
- **Individual Placement and Support (IPS) model of Supported Employment**
- **Multisystemic Therapy (MST)**
- **Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)**

Implementation of EBPs is a key component of the Behavioral Health Community-Based Organized Networks of Equitable Care and Treatment (BH-CONNECT) Initiative and the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA).



Access Resources & Support

The Behavioral Health COE Resource Hub connects practitioners to training, technical assistance, and fidelity monitoring resources across EBPs. Visit bhcoe.dhcs.ca.gov.

Meet the Centers of Excellence

The organizations listed below have been selected to serve as COEs.

Organization	Evidence-Based Practice
The Public Mental Health Partnership at the UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior	Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) and Forensic Assertive Community Treatment (FACT)
Clubhouse International	Clubhouse Services
Early Psychosis Intervention California	Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC) for First Episode Psychosis (FEP)
FFT LLC	Functional Family Therapy (FFT)
Resource Center for Family-Focused Practice (RCFFP) at UC Davis Human Services	High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW)
The IPS Employment Center at RFMH, Inc.	Individual Placement and Support (IPS) model of Supported Employment
MST Services, LLC	Multisystemic Therapy (MST)
PCIT International Association	Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)

Specific activities conducted by COEs will include:

- Training.
- Certification and Medi-Cal Designation for specific EBPs.
- Technical assistance.
- Fidelity monitoring.
- Other supports to deliver EBPs through a culturally sensitive lens.

About the Evidence-Based Practices

Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) and Forensic ACT (FACT)

ACT: ACT is a community-based, team-based service to support members living with complex and significant behavioral health needs and a treatment history that may include psychiatric hospitalization and emergency room visits, residential treatment, involvement with the criminal justice system, homelessness, and/or lack of engagement with traditional outpatient services. ACT is delivered by a multidisciplinary ACT team and includes a full range of clinical treatment, psychosocial rehabilitation, care coordination, and community support services designed to support recovery. ACT is designed to promote recovery by helping individuals cope with the symptoms of their behavioral health conditions and acquire the skills they need to function and remain integrated in the community, including the ability to obtain and maintain employment and housing and build strong social relationships.

FACT: Forensic ACT (FACT) introduces forensic adaptations into the ACT model to address the complex needs of members living with significant behavioral health needs who are also involved with the criminal justice system. In practice, FACT is the ACT model with additional training and staffing requirements to serve the needs of justice-involved members.

Clubhouse Services

Clubhouses are inclusive, community-based environments rooted in empowerment that support members living with mental health conditions in their recovery. Clubhouses provide opportunities for employment, socialization, education, and skill development to improve

members' physical and mental health, as well as their overall quality of life and wellbeing. In a Clubhouse, members work alongside Clubhouse staff as equals and all members in the Clubhouse work together towards contributing to shared community needs.

Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC) for First Episode Psychosis (FEP)

CSC is a community-based service designed for members experiencing first episode psychosis (FEP). By providing timely and integrated support during the critical initial stages of psychosis, CSC reduces the likelihood of psychiatric hospitalization, emergency room visits, residential treatment placements, involvement with the criminal justice system, substance use, and homelessness. CSC is a comprehensive, team-based service in which multidisciplinary teams provide a wide range of individualized supports to members exhibiting initial signs of psychosis.

Functional Family Therapy (FFT)

FFT is a systemic, family-based intervention designed for youth at risk for out-of-home placement due to externalizing behaviors (e.g., physical aggression, oppositional behavior, substance use) that require the engagement of the youth or family members' social system (e.g., family, teachers, health care providers). The service aims to reduce adolescent behavioral problems, conduct disorder, substance use, and recidivism while improving parenting practices.

High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW)

HFW is a team-based, family-centered model recognized nationally as the gold standard for preventing out-of-home placement for youth living with significant behavioral health needs and often involved in multiple child-serving systems.

Individual Placement and Support (IPS) model of Supported Employment

The Individual Placement and Support (IPS) model of Supported Employment supports members living with significant behavioral health needs to find and maintain competitive employment in the community. Participation in IPS supports improved employment outcomes as well as improved self-esteem, independence, sense of belonging, and overall health and wellbeing.

Multisystemic Therapy (MST)

MST is an intensive, family-based intervention for youth at risk of severe system consequences within their family, school or community due to serious externalizing, anti-social, and/or challenging behaviors. For example, MST may be appropriate for youth who are involved in the juvenile justice system and/or who are at risk of out-of-home placement due to a history of criminogenic behavior.

Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)

PCIT is a specialized behavior management intervention for children and their caregivers. PCIT is appropriate for young children with oppositional or defiant behavior, aggression, frequent or severe tantrums, or symptoms related to child behavioral health conditions such as attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), anxiety, and trauma.

Stay Engaged

- Go to the [Behavioral Health COE Resource Hub](#) for information about all participating COEs and EBPs.
- Stay up to date by joining the [Behavioral Health COE newsletter](#).
- For training and technical assistance needs or questions, email bhcoe.info@dhcs.ca.gov

