# County of San Bernardino Department of Behavioral Health

## **Benefits Team Policy**

Effective Date Approval Date 09/08/2009 09/08/2009

Allar Rawland, Director

Policy

It is the policy of the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) to establish Benefits Teams who will provide orientation and support services for the purpose of increasing access to behavioral health services for individuals that are underserved or are underfunded.

Purpose

To increase the percentage of clients system-wide who are currently receiving Medi-Cal and advise the clients about community resources and assistance that may be available.

#### Benefits Team Members

Each Benefits Team should consist of a diverse group of DBH and other county employees who will work collaboratively to achieve awareness and increased eligibility for Medi-Cal services. The teams may consist of:

- Social Worker IIs
- Mental Health Specialists
- Eligibility Workers
- Peer and Family Advocates
- Clerical Support
- Administrative Support

### Benefits Orientation Criteria and Locations

DBH will create Benefits Teams throughout the county to include all clinics, centers, and programs that may work individually or collaboratively with neighboring DBH facilities to provide the services offered through the Benefits Team. If the following criteria is met, it will be determined that a Benefits orientation shall be implemented:

- Whether Medi-Cal eligible services are provided at the facility, or
- Whether the facility provides services to clients who are potentially Medi-Cal eligible.

Benefits Teams will coordinate services with local Fee-for-Service (FFS) hospitals to provide the benefits orientation opportunity to clients who present for services through hospital admission.

#### Related Policies

DBH Standard Practice Manual, BOP3014-1, Benefits Team Procedure