

Treatment: Health and Mental Health

Mental Health Responsibilities

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Purpose To provide prompt, appropriate intervention for children, who appear to be in significant need of mental health/substance abuse services.

Policy The worker shall be responsible for coordinating the development of a psychosocial data base (PDB). If they suspect that a child is suffering from a significant emotional or behavioral disturbance or substance abuse which may require immediate intervention, the worker shall:

- begin the development of the PDB
- gather available data relevant to the child's condition
- share this data (within an appropriate time frame based on the child's condition) with a mental health resource to begin immediate services, if needed
- facilitate the child's mental health/substance abuse evaluation in a timely fashion which reflects the level of concern for the child.

***Note:** If concern is noted by the mental health professional regarding the child's development, the worker shall arrange for an appropriate developmental screen through appropriate resources.*

PDB Conference A PDB development conference shall be held, if there is an indication that further assistance is needed from the:

- results of the child's mental health evaluation or developmental screen, or
- worker's opinion (based on observation)

Participants shall include the worker, the supervisor, members of the Regional Resource Group and any appropriate community consultants.

The conference shall:

- confirm the need for the PDB or for further assessment, and
 - develop a written plan specifying the responsibilities of all parties for obtaining the data and conducting additional assessments.
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Social Worker The worker shall:

- arrange for any needed assessments or immediate intervention to assist the child
 - schedule further conferences to take place on an as-needed basis
 - prepare the PDB in accordance with the outline contained in the Health Management Policy.
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Planning Conference

A planning conference shall be held upon the completion of the PDB to which all participants in the development of the PDB shall be invited.

A written Health Treatment Plan shall be developed as part of the Treatment Plan if a decision is made to provide service or further treatment assessment evaluation of the child. The Social Worker and their supervisor retain responsibility for making the final determination for service.

The Health Treatment Plan and recommendations of the attendees shall be noted in the uniform case record.
