ADULT NEEDS AND STRENGTHS ASSESSMENT (ANSA)

PROBLEM PRESENTATION	0	1	2	3	U	NA
1. Psychosis	O	O	O	O	O	O
2. Impulse Control	O	O	O	O	O	O
3. Depression/Anxiety	O	O	O	O	O	O
4. Antisocial	O	O	O	O	O	O
5. Substance Abuse	O	O	O	O	O	O
6. Stage of Recovery	O	O	O	O	O	O
7. Adjustment to Trauma	O	O	O	O	O	O
8. Personality Disorder	O	O	O	O	O	O
9. Situational Consistency	O	O	O	O	O	O
10. Temporal Consistency	O	O	O	O	O	O
11. Motivation for Care	O	O	O	O	O	O
RISK BEHAVIORS						
12. Danger to Self	O	O	O	O	O	O
13. Danger to Others	O	O	O	O	O	O
14. Sexually Abusive Behavior	O	O	O	O	O	O
15. Social Behavior	O	O	O	O	O	O
16. Crime	O	O	O	O	O	O
17. Victimization	O	O	O	O	O	O
FUNCTIONING						
18. Intellectual	O	O	O	O	O	O
19. Knowledge	O	O	O	O	O	O
20. Physical/Medical	O	O	O	O	O	O
21. Family	O	O	O	O	O	O
22. Employment/Education	O	O	O	O	O	O
23. Living Skills	O	O	O	O	O	O
24. Residential Stability	O	O	O	O	O	O
CARE INTENSITY						
25. Monitoring	O	O	O	O	O	O
26. Treatment	O	O	O	O	O	O
27. Transportation	O	O	O	O	O	O
29. Service Permanence	O	O	O	O	O	O
29. Self-Care	O	O	O	O	O	O
30. Medication Compliance	O	O	O	O	O	O
CAREGIVER CAPACITY						
31. Physical/Behavioral Health	O	O	O	O	O	O
32. Involvement	O	O	O	O	O	O
33. Knowledge	O	O	O	O	O	O
34. Resources	O	O	O	O	O	O
35. Organization	O	O	O	O	O	O
36. Safety	O	O	O	O	O	O
STRENGTHS						
37. Family	O	O	O	O	O	O
38. Interpersonal	O	O	O	O	O	O
39. Relationship Permanence	O	O	O	O	O	O
40. Vocational/Educational	O	O	O	O	O	O
41. Well-Being	O	O	O	O	O	O
42. Spiritual/Religious	O	O	O	O	O	O
43. Talents/Interests	O	O	O	O	O	O
44. Inclusion	O	O	O	O	O	O

ID _____

Date _____

Race/Ethnicity _____

Age _____

Gender _____

Program _____

Adult Needs and Strengths Assessment

An Information Integration Tool for Adults with Mental Health Challenges

ANSA Manual

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The Copyright for the ANA Information Integration Tool is held by the Buddin Praed Foundation to ensure that it remains an open tool, free for anyone to use. Information on guidelines for use and development can be obtained by contacting Melanie Lyons of the Foundation at 847-501-5113 or Mlyons405@aol.com or by visiting the Foundation at www.buddinpraed.org

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Introduction and Methodology

When the ANSA is administered, each of the dimensions is rated on its own 4-point scale after the initial intake interview, routine service contact, or following the review of a case file. Even though each dimension has a numerical ranking, **the ANSA assessment tool is designed to give a profile of the needs and strengths of the individual and family. It is not designed to "'add up' all of the 'scores' of the dimensions for an overall score rating**. When used in a retrospective review of cases, it is designed to give an overall 'profile' of the system of services and the gaps in the service system not an overall 'score' of the current system. Used as a profile based assessment tool, it is reliable and gives the care coordinator, the family, and the agency valuable existing information for use in the development and/or review of the individual plan of care and case service decisions.

The basic structure of the ANSA is:

Problem Presentation
- Psychosis
- Impulse Control
- Depression/Anxiety
- Antisocial Behavior
- Substance Abuse
- Stage of Recovery
- Adjustment to Trauma
- Personality Disorder
- Situational Consistency of Problems
- Temporal Consistency of Problems
- Motivation for Care

Risk Behaviors
- Danger to Self
- Danger to Others
- Sexually Abusive Behavior
- Social Behavior
- Crime
- Victimization

Functioning
- Intellectual
- Knowledge
- Physical/Medical
- Family
- Employment/Education
- Living Skills
- Residential Stability

Care Intensity & Organization
- Monitoring
- Treatment
- Transportation
- Service Permanence
- Self Care
- Medication Compliance

Caregiver Capacity
- Physical
- Involvement with Care
- Knowledge
- Resources
- Organization
- Safety

Strengths
- Family
- Interpersonal
- Relationship Permanence
- Educational/Vocational
- Well-Being
- Spiritual/Religious
- Talents/Interests
- Inclusion

Unless otherwise specified, *each rating is based on the last 30 days*. Each of the dimensions is rated on a 4-point scale after routine service contact or following review of case files.

The basic design for rating NEEDS is:

A rating of **'0'** reflects *no evidence*,
A rating of **'1'** reflects a *mild degree of the dimension*,
A rating of **'2'** reflects a *moderate degree of the dimension*, and
A rating of **'3'** reflects a *severe or profound degree of the dimension.*

Another way to conceptualize these ratings is:

A **'0'** indicates *no need for action*,
A **'1'** indicates a *need for watchful waiting to see whether action is needed* (i.e., flag it for later review to see if any circumstances change),
A **'2'** indicates a *need for action*, and
A **'3'** indicates the *need for either immediate or intensive action.*

The basic design for rating STRENGTHS is:

A rating of **'0'** reflects *a significant strength that is present*,
A rating of **'1'** reflects *that a moderate level of the strength is present*,
A rating of **'2'** reflects that *a mild level of the strength is present*, and
A rating of **'3'** reflects that *the strength is not present.*

For Strengths, a rating of **'0'** or **'1'** reflects *a strength that can be used to build around*, while a rating of **'2'** or **'3'** reflects *a strength that needs to be developed or identified.*

The rating of **'NA'** for 'not applicable' should be use with cases in the *rare instances where an item does not apply to that particular client.* The rating of **'U'** for 'unknown' can be considered *a flag for a need to find this information* for a complete profile or picture of the needs and strengths of the individual and their family.

The ANSA is an effective assessment tool for used in either the development of individual plans of care or for use in designing and planning systems of care for adults with mental health challenges. To administer the ANSA assessment tool found at the end of this manual, the care coordinator or other service provider should read the anchor descriptions for each dimension and then record the appropriate rating on the ANSA assessment form. One ANSA assessment tool is completed for each case reviewed.

Coding Criteria

Problem Presentation

PSYCHOSIS

This item is used to rate symptoms of psychiatric disorders with a known neurological base. DSM-IV disorders included on this dimension are Schizophrenia and Psychotic disorders (unipolar, bipolar, NOS). The common symptoms of these disorders include hallucinations, delusions, unusual thought processes, strange speech, and bizarre/idiosyncratic behavior.

0 This level indicates an individual with no evidence of thought disturbances. Both thought processes and content are within normal range.

1 This rating indicates an individual with evidence of mild disruption in thought processes or content. The individual may be somewhat tangential in speech or evidence somewhat illogical thinking. This also includes persons with a history of hallucinations but none currently. The category would be used for individuals who are below the threshold for one of the DSM diagnoses listed above.

2 This rating indicates an individual with evidence of moderate disturbance in thought process or content. The individual may be somewhat delusional or have brief or intermittent hallucinations. The person's speech may be at times quite tangential or illogical. This level would be used for individuals who meet the diagnostic criteria for one of the disorders listed above.

3 This rating indicates an individual with severe psychotic disorder. The individual frequently is experiencing symptoms of psychosis and frequently has no reality assessment. There is evidence of ongoing delusions or hallucinations or both. Command hallucinations would be coded here. This level is used for extreme cases of the diagnoses listed above.

IMPULSE CONTROL

Symptoms of Impulse Control problems that might occur in a number of disorders including Intermittent Explosive Disorder or Borderline Personality Disorder would be rated here.

0 This rating is used to indicate an individual with no evidence of impulse problems. Individual is able to regulate and self-manage behavior and affect.

1 This rating is used to indicate an individual with evidence of mild problems with impulse control problems. An individual may have some difficulties with sitting still or paying attention or may occasionally engage in impulsive behavior.

2 This rating is used to indicate an individual with moderate impulse control problems. An individual who meets DSM-IV diagnostic criteria for impulse control disorder would be rated here. Persons who use poor judgement or put themselves in jeopardy would be rated here (e.g., picking fights).

3 This rating is used to indicate an individual with severe impulse control. Frequent impulsive behavior is observed or noted that carries considerable safety risk (e.g., running into the street and dangerous driving).

DEPRESSION/ANXIETY

Symptoms included in this dimension are depressed mood, social withdrawal, anxious mood, sleep disturbances, weight/eating disturbances, and loss of motivation. This dimension can be used to rate symptoms of the following psychiatric disorders as specified in DSM-IV: Depression (unipolar, dysthymia, NOS), Bipolar, Generalized Anxiety, and Phobias.

0 This rating is given to an individual with no emotional problems. No evidence of depression or anxiety.

1 This rating is given to an individual with mild emotional problems. Brief duration of depression, irritability, or impairment of peer, family, vocational or academic function that does not lead to gross avoidance behavior. This level is used to rate either a mild phobia or anxiety problem or a level of symptoms that is below the threshold for the other listed disorders.

2 This rating is given to an individual with a moderate level of emotional disturbance. This could include major conversion symptoms, frequent anxiety attacks, obsessive rituals, flashbacks, hypervigilance, depression, or school/work avoidance. This level is used to rate individuals who meet the criteria for an affective disorder as listed above.

3 This rating is given to an individual with a severe level of emotional disturbance. This would include a person who stays at home or in bed all day due to anxiety or depression or whose emotional symptoms prevent any participation in school/work, social settings, or family life. More severe forms of anxiety or depressive diagnoses would be coded here. This level is used to indicate an extreme case of one of the disorders listed above.

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOR (Compliance with Society's Rules)
These symptoms include antisocial behaviors like shoplifting, lying, vandalism, cruelty to animals, and assault.

0 This rating indicates an individual with no evidence of antisocial disorder.

1 This rating indicates an individual with a mild level of antisocial behavior. Some difficulties in school/work and home behavior. Problems recognizable but not notably deviant. This might include frequent lying or petty theft from family or friends.

2 This rating indicates an individual with a moderate level of Antisocial Personality Disorder. This could include episodes of planned aggression or other antisocial behavior. A rating at this level would be consistent with the diagnosis of an Antisocial Personality Disorder.

3 This rating indicates an individual with a severe Antisocial Personality Disorder. This could include frequent episodes of unprovoked, planned aggression or other antisocial behavior. The individual is a danger to the community.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE
These symptoms include use of alcohol and illegal drugs, the misuse of prescription medications and the inhalation of any substance for recreational purposes. This dimension is rated consistent with DSM-IV Substance Related Disorders.

0 This rating is for an individual who has no notable substance use difficulties at the present time. If the person is in recovery for greater than 1 year he/she should be coded here.

1 This rating is for an individual with mild substance use problems that might occasionally present problems of living for the person (i.e., intoxication, loss of money, and reduced work performance). This rating would be used for someone early in recovery (less than 1 year) who is currently maintaining abstinence for at least 30 days.

2 This rating is for an individual with a moderate substance abuse problem that both requires treatment and interacts with and exacerbates the psychiatric illness. A substance abuse problem that consistently interferes with the ability to function optimally, but does not completely preclude functioning in an unstructured setting.

3 This rating is for an individual with a substance dependence condition that presents a significant complication to the mental health management (e.g., need for detoxification) of the individual.

STAGE OF RECOVERY

This dimension refers to the individual's current status relative to the transtheoretical (e.g. precontemplation, contemplation, preparation, action, maintenance) model of recovery.

0 Individual is in maintenance stage of recovery or has no serious substance abuse difficulties.

1 Individual is actively trying to use treatment to remain abstinent.

2 Individual is in contemplation phase, recognizing a problem but not willing to take steps for recovery.

3 Individual is in denial regarding the existence of any substance use problem.

ADJUSTMENT TO TRAUMA

This rating covers the reactions of individuals to a variety of traumatic experiences. This dimension covers both adjustment disorders and post traumatic stress disorder from DSM-IV.

0 The individual has not experienced any trauma or has adjusted well to significant traumatic experiences.

1 The individual has some mild adjustment problems and exhibits some signs of distress.

2 The individual has marked adjustment problems and is symptomatic in response to a traumatic event (e.g., anger, depression, and anxiety).

3 The individual has post traumatic stress difficulties. Symptoms may include intrusive thoughts, hyper-vigilance, constant anxiety, and other common symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

PERSONALITY DISORDER

This rating identifies the presence of any DSM-IV Axis II personality disorder other than Antisocial Personality Disorder.

0 No evidence of symptoms of a personality disorder.

1 Evidence of mild degree, probably sub-threshold for the diagnosis of a personality disorder. For example, mild but consistent dependency in relationships might be rated here. Or, some evidence of mild antisocial or narcissistic behavior. Also, an unconfirmed suspicion of the presence of a diagnosable personality disorder would be rated here.

2 Evidence of sufficient degree of personality disorder to warrant a DSM-IV Axis II diagnosis.

3 Evidence of a severe personality disorder that has significant implications for the individual long-term functioning. Personality disorder dramatically interferes with the individual's ability to function independently.

Problem Modifiers

SITUATIONAL CONSISTENCY OF PROBLEMS

This rating captures the variation in problem presentation across different situations and environments in the individual's life (e.g., work, home and school).

0 Problems generally occur in only one environment and/or situation.

1 Problems occur in multiple setting and/or situations but tend to be most severe in a single setting.

2 Problems occur in many settings and/or situations but there is variability in the severity of the problems with the individual doing better in some circumstances than in others.

3 Problems occur consistently in all situations.

TEMPORAL COINSISTENCY OF PROBLEMS

This rating captures the duration of mental health problems experienced by the individual. Include both problems (i.e., symptoms) and risk behaviors in this rating.

0 Problems began in the past six months after the occurrence of a specific stressful event.

1 Problems began more than six months but less than two years ago, or problems began in the past six months in the absence of any specific stressful event.

2 Problems began more than two years ago but the individual has had at least one period of more than one month where he/she has been relatively symptom free.

3 Problems began more than two years ago and the individual has remained fairly consistently symptomatic over this period of time.

MOTIVATION FOR CARE

This rating captures the desire for the individual to participate in their care. The person need not have an understanding of their illness, however they participate in recommended or prescribed care (e.g., taking prescribed medications and attending therapy).

0 The individual cooperates and participates in all recommended or prescribed care.

1 The individual is willing to participate in care, however may need prompts at times.

2 The individual is mostly unwilling to participate in care and participates infrequently.

3 The individual refuses to participate in care including taking prescribed medications or attending therapy.

RISK BEHAVIORS

DANGER TO SELF

A rating of '2' or '3' would indicate the need for a safety plan.

0 No evidence or history of suicidal or self-injurious behaviors.

1 The individual has a history of suicidal or self-injurious behavior but no self-injurious behavior during the past 30 days.

2 The individual has expressed recent (last 30 days), but not acute (today) suicidal ideation or gesture. Self-injurious behavior in the past 30 days (including today) without suicidal ideation or intent.

3 Current suicidal ideation and intent in the past 24 hours.

DANGER TO OTHERS

This includes actual and threatened violence. Imagined violence, when extreme, may be rated here. A rating of '2' or '3' would indicate the need for a safety plan.

0 No evidence or history of aggressive behaviors or significant verbal aggression towards others (includes people and animals).

1 A history of aggressive behavior or verbal aggression towards others but no aggression during the past 30 days. A history of fire setting (not in the past year) would be rated here.

2 Occasional or moderate level of aggression towards others including aggression during the past 30 days or more recent verbal aggression.

3 Frequent or dangerous (significant harm) level of aggression to others. Any fire setting within the past year would be rated here. The individual is an immediate risk to others.

SEXUALLY INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR

Sexually inappropriate behavior includes both aggressive sexual behavior against another individual and inappropriate sexual behavior (e.g., language and disrobing).

0 No evidence of problems with sexual behavior in the past year.

1 Mild problems of sexual behavior. For example, occasional inappropriate sexual gesturing or language. Sexually harassing behavior would generally be rated here.

2 Moderate problems with sexual behavior. For example, frequent inappropriate sexual gesturing or language. Frequent disrobing would be rated here only if it was sexually provocative. Inappropriate touching (e.g. molestation) would be rated here.

3 Severe problems with sexually aggressive behavior. This would include the rape or sexual abuse of another person involving sexual penetration.

SOCIAL BEHAVIOR

This rating refers to how an individual behaves in public or social settings and should reflect problematic social behaviors (socially unacceptable behavior for the culture and community in which he/she lives) that put the individual at some risk (not excessive shyness).

0 No evidence of problematic social behaviors.

1 A mild level of problematic social behaviors. This might include occasional inappropriate social behavior. Infrequent inappropriate comments to strangers or unusual behavior in social settings might be included in this level.

2 A moderate level of problematic social behaviors. The individual is engaging in behavior that is forcing sanctions from others.

3 A severe level of problematic social behaviors. This would be indicated by frequent, seriously inappropriate social behaviors such as threatening strangers. The individual is engaged in behavior that is forcing severe sanctions (e.g. involuntary hospitalization, program expulsion).

CRIME

This rating includes both criminal behavior and status offenses that may result from the individual failing to follow required behavioral standards. This category does not include drug usage but it does include drug sales and other drug related activities. Sexual offenses should be included as criminal behavior.

0 No evidence or history of criminal behavior.

1 A history of criminal behavior but none in the past year.

2 A moderate level of criminal activity. This level indicates a person who has been engaged in criminal activity during the past year, but the criminal activity does not represent a significant physical risk to others in the community. Examples would include vandalism and shoplifting.

3 A severe level of criminal activity. This level indicates a person who has been engaged in violent criminal activity during the past year which represent a significant physical risk to others in the community. Examples would include rape, armed robbery, and assault.

VICTIMIZATION

This item is used to examine a history and level of current risk for victimization.

0 This level indicates a person with no evidence of recent victimization and no significant history of victimization within the past year. The person may have been robbed or burglarized on one or more occasions in the past, but no pattern of victimization exists. Person is not presently at risk for re-victimization.

1 This level indicates a person with a history of victimization but who has not been victimized to any significant degree in the past year. Person is not presently at risk for re-victimization.

2 This level indicates a person who has been recently victimized (within the past year) but is not in acute risk of re-victimization. This might include physical or sexual abuse, significant psychological abuse by family or friend, extortion or violent crime.

3 This level indicates a person who has been recently victimized and is in acute risk of re-victimization. Examples include working as a prostitute and living in an abusive relationship.

FUNCTIONING

INTELLECTUAL/DEVELOPMENTAL

This rating is intended to capture a functioning problem such as low IQ, mental retardation, or other developmental disability.

0 No evidence of intellectual or developmental impairment.

1 Low IQ (i.e., 71 to 85) or mild developmental delay.

2 Mild mental retardation (i.e., 50 to 70).

3 Moderate to severe mental retardation (less than 50) or severe or Pervasive Developmental Disorder.

KNOWLEDGE OF ILLNESS

This rating is intended to capture an individual's awareness and understanding for their psychiatric symptoms and diagnosis.

0 This level indicates a person who is aware of his/her psychiatric diagnosis and can verbalize an understanding of the nature, symptoms, and course of the illness. Any person who is sub-threshold on psychiatric diagnoses would be rated here.

1 This level indicates a person who is aware that he/she has an illness but is not clear about its implications.

2 This level indicates a person who is unaware that he/she has an illness but recognizes that there is a problem.

3 This level indicates a person who refuses to accept his/her illness despite clear evidence of a psychiatric disorder.

PHYSICAL/MEDICAL

This rating includes both health problems and chronic/acute physical conditions.

0 No evidence of physical or medical problems.

1 Mild or well-managed physical or medical problems. This might include well-managed chronic conditions like diabetes or asthma.

2 Chronic physical or moderate medical problems.

3 Severe, life threatening physical or medical conditions.

FAMILY FUNCTIONING

The definition of family should be from the perspective of the individual (i.e., who does the individual consider to be family). Family functioning should be rated independently of the problems experienced or stimulated by the individual currently assessed.

0 No evidence of family problems.

1 A mild to moderate level of family problems including marital difficulties and problems between siblings.

2 A significant level of family problems including frequent arguments, difficult separation and/or divorce, and siblings with significant mental health, developmental or criminal justice problems.

3 A profound level of family disruption including significant criminality or domestic violence.

EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING

This rates the performance of the individual in school or work settings. This performance can include issues of behavior, attendance or achievement/productivity.

0 No evidence of problems at work or school. Individual is gainfully employed or in school.

1 A mild degree of problems with school or work functioning including limited educational progress or mild behavior problems. Individual may have some problems in work environment with attendance, performance, or relationships.

2 A moderate degree of school or work problems including job instability or significant problems with attendance, performance, or relationships. The individual may have history of frequent job loss or may be recently unemployed. An individual enrollment in school or a vocational program has significant problems with attendance, performance, or relationships.

3 A severe degree of work or school problems. Chronic unemployment without school or vocational programming would be rated here. Additional problems may include aggressive behavior towards coworkers, supervisors or teachers.

INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS

This rating focuses on the presence or absence of short or long-term risks associated with impairments in independent living abilities.

0 This level indicates a person who is fully capable of independent living. No evidence of any deficits that could impede maintaining own home.

1 This level indicates a person with mild impairment of independent living skills. Some problems exist with maintaining reasonable cleanliness, diet and so forth. Problems with money management may occur at this level. These problems are generally addressable with training or supervision.

2 This level indicates a person with moderate impairment of independent living skills. Notable problems with completing tasks necessary for independent living are apparent. Difficulty with cooking, cleaning, and self-management when unsupervised would be common at this level. Problems are generally addressable with in-home services.

3 This level indicates a person with profound impairment of independent living skills. This individual would be expected to be unable to live independently given their current status. Problems require a structured living environment.

RESIDENTIAL STABILITY

This item is used to rate the caregiver's current and likely future housing circumstances for the individual. If the individual lives independently, their history of residential stability can be rated.

0 There is no evidence of residential instability. The individual has stable housing for the foreseeable future.

1 The individual has relatively stable housing but has either moved in the past three months or there are indications that housing problems could arise at some point within the next three months. Also, a mild degree of residential instability if living independently, characterized by the potential loss of housing due to the person's difficulty with self-care, disruptive behavior, financial situation, or other psychosocial stressor. A recent move for any reason that the individual found stressful would be rated here.

2 The individual has moved multiple times in the past year. Also, a moderate degree of residential instability if the person is living independently, characterized by recent and temporary lack of permanent housing.

3 The individual has experienced periods of homelessness in the past six months. Also, significant degree of residential instability if living independently, characterized by homelessness for at least 30 days as defined by living on the streets, in shelters, or other transitional housing.

CARE INTENSITY AND ORGANIZATION

MONITORING

This item is used to rate the level of monitoring needed to address the safety and functioning needs of the individual.

0 The individual has minimal monitoring needs.

1 The individual has some monitoring needs. For example, a caregiver would need to check on the individual during awake hours but not during asleep hours.

2 The individual has significant monitoring needs. For example, a caregiver would need to be in the same room or nearby most of the time during awake hours and nearby during asleep hours.

3 The individual needs 24-hour awake monitoring.

TREATMENT

This item is used to rate the intensity of the treatment needed to address the problems, risk behaviors, and functioning of the individual.

0 The individual has no behavioral, physical, or medical treatment needs.

1 The individual requires weekly behavioral, physical, or medical treatment.

2 The individual requires daily behavioral, physical, or medical treatment. This would include ensuring that the individual takes daily medication.

3 The individual requires multiple and complex daily behavioral, physical, and medical treatments.

TRANSPORTATION

This item is used to rate the level of transportation required to ensure that the individual could effectively participate in his/her own treatment.

0 The individual has no transportation needs.

1 The individual has occasional transportation needs (e.g., appointments). These needs would be no more than weekly and not require a special vehicle.

2 The individual has occasional transportation needs that require a special vehicle or frequent transportation needs (e.g., daily to work or therapy) that do not require a special vehicle.

3 The individual requires frequent (e.g., daily to work or therapy) transportation in a special vehicle.

SERVICE PERMANENCE

This item is used to rate the stability of the service providers who have worked with the individual or family.

0 Service providers have been consistent for more than the past two years. This level also is used to rate an individual/family who is initiating services for the first time or re-initiating services after an absence from services of at least one year.

1 Service providers have been consistent for at least one year, but changes occurred during the prior year.

2 Service providers have been changed recently after a period of consistency.

3 Service providers have changed multiple times during the past year.

SELF-CARE

This rating focuses on current status of self-care functioning.

0 No evidence of self-care impairments. This is characterized by the ability to independently complete all activities of daily living such as bathing, grooming, dressing, cooking, and managing personal finances.

1 A mild degree of impairment with self-care. This is characterized by self-care difficulties that impair the individual's level of functioning, but do not represent a significant short or long-term threat to the person's well-being.

2 A moderate degree of self-care impairment. This is characterized by an extreme disruption in one self-care skill or moderate disruption in more than one self-care skill. The person's self-care does not represent an immediate threat to the person's safety but has the potential for creating significant long-term problems if not addressed.

3 A significant degree of self-care impairment. This is characterized by extreme disruptions in multiple self-care skills. The person's self-care abilities are sufficiently impaired that he/she represents an immediate threat to himself/herself and requires 24-hour supervision to ensure safety. (Suicidal or homicidal ideation or behavior would not be coded here, however, an acute eating disorder would be coded here).

MEDICATION COMPLIANCE

This rating focuses on the level of the individual's willingness and participation in taking prescribed medications.

0 This level indicates a person who takes psychotropic medications as prescribed and without reminders, or a person who is not currently on any psychotropic medication.

1 This level indicates a person who will take psychotropic medications routinely, but who sometimes needs reminders to maintain compliance. Also, a history of medication noncompliance but no current problems would be rated here.

2 This level indicates a person who is somewhat non-compliant. This person may be resistant to taking psychotropic medications or this person may tend to overuse his or her medications. He/she might comply with prescription plans for periods of time (1-2 weeks) but generally does not sustain taking medication in prescribed dose or protocol.

3 This level indicates a person who has refused to take prescribed psychotropic medications during the past 30 day period or a person who has abused his or her medications to a significant degree (i.e., overdosing or over using medications to a dangerous degree).

FAMILY/CAREGIVER CAPACITY

Caregiver refers to parent(s) or other adult with primary care-taking responsibilities for the individual. This dimension would not be applicable to an individual living in an institutionalized setting, however would apply to someone living in group homes.

PHYSICAL/BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Physical and Behavioral Health includes medical, physical, mental health, and substance abuse challenges faced by the caregiver(s).

0 The caregiver(s) has no physical or behavioral health limitations that impact assistance or attendant care.

1 The caregiver(s) has some physical or behavioral health limitations that interfere with provision of assistance or attendant care.

2 The caregiver(s) has significant physical or behavioral health limitations that prevent them from being able to provide some needed assistance or that make attendant care difficult.

3 The caregiver(s) is unable to provide any needed assistance or attendant care.

RESOURCES

This item is used to refer to the financial and social assets (extended family) and resources that the caregiver(s) can bring to bear in addressing the multiple needs of the individual and family.

0 The caregiver(s) has sufficient resources so that there are few limitations on what can be provided for the individual.

1 The caregiver(s) has the necessary resources to help address the individual's major and basic needs, but those resources might be stretched.

2 The caregiver(s) has limited resources (e.g., a relative living in the same town who is sometimes available to assist with the individual).

3 The caregiver(s) has severely limited resources that are available to assist in the care and treatment of the individual.

ORGANIZATION

This rating should be based on the ability of the caregiver(s) to participate in or direct the organization of the household, services, and related activities.

0 The caregiver(s) is well organized and efficient.

1 The caregiver(s) has minimal difficulties with organizing or maintaining the household to support needed services. For example, the caregiver(s) may be forgetful about appointments or occasionally fails to call back the case manager.

2 The caregiver(s) has moderate difficulty organizing or maintaining the household to support needed services.

3 The caregiver(s) is unable to organize the household to support needed services.

SAFETY

This item is used to refer to the safety of the assessed individual. It does not refer to the safety of other family or household members. The presence of an individual (family or stranger) that presents a safety risk to the individual should be rated. This item does not refer to the safety of the physical environment in which the individual lives (e.g., a broken or loose staircase).

0 This rating indicates that the current placement presents no risk to the safety of the individual in his/her present condition.

1 This rating indicates that the current placement presents some mild risk of neglect or exposure to drug use, but that no immediate risk is present.

2 This rating indicates that there is risk to the individual including such things as the risk of abuse or exposure to individuals who could harm the individual.

3 This rating indicates that the current placement presents a significant risk to the well-being of the individual. Risk of harm is imminent and immediate.

STRENGTHS

FAMILY

All family with whom the individual remains in contact, along with other individuals in relationships with these family members.

0 Significant family strengths. This level indicates a family with much love and mutual respect for each other. Family members are central in each other's lives.

1 Moderate level of family strengths. This level indicates a loving family with generally good communication and ability to enjoy each other's company. There may be some problems between family members.

2 Mild level of family strengths. Family is able to communicate and participate in each other's lives, however, family members may not be able to provide significant emotional or concrete support for each other.

3 This level indicates an individual with no known family strengths.

INTERPERSONAL

This item is used to refer to the interpersonal skills of the individual as they relate to others.

0 Significant interpersonal strengths. The individual is seen as well liked by others and has significant ability to form and maintain positive relationships. The individual has multiple close friends and is friendly with others.

1 Moderate level of interpersonal strengths. The individual has formed positive interpersonal relationships with peers and other non-caregivers. The individual may currently have no friends, but has a history of making and maintaining friendships with others.

2 Mild level of interpersonal strengths. The individual has some social skills that facilitate positive relationships with peers but may not have any current healthy relationships, but has a history of making and maintaining healthy friendships with others.

3 This level indicates an individual with no known interpersonal strengths. The individual currently does not have any friends nor has he/she had any friends in the past.

RELATIONSHIP PERMANENCE

This item is used to refer to the stability of significant relationships in the individual's life. This likely includes family members but may also include other individuals (do not include paid relationships such as relationship to service provider).

0 This level indicates an individual who has very stable relationships. Family members, friends, and community have been stable for most of his/her life and are likely to remain so in the foreseeable future.

1 This level indicates an individual who has had stable relationships but there is some concern about instability in the near future (one year) due to transitions or illness.

2 This level indicates an individual who has had at least one stable relationship over his/her lifetime but has experienced other instability through factors such as divorce, moving, removal from the home, and death.

3 This level indicates an individual who does not have any stability in relationships.

EDUCATIONAL/VOCATIONAL

This item is used to refer to the strengths of the school/vocational environment and may or may not reflect any specific educational/work skills possessed by the individual.

0 This level indicates an individual who is in school or employed and is involved with an educational plan or work environment that appears to exceed expectations. There is no foreseeable potential for job loss or the school works exceptionally well with the individual and family to create a special learning environment.

1 This level indicates an individual who is working or in school, however, there have been problems such as tardiness, absenteeism, reductions in productivity, or conflict with supervisors or teachers.

2 This level indicates an individual who is either in school but has a plan that does not appear to be effective or is temporary unemployed. A history of consistent employment should be demonstrated and the potential for future employment without the need for vocational rehabilitation should be evidenced. This also may indicate an individual with a clear vocational preference.

3 This level indicates an individual who has dropped out of school or is in a school setting that does not further his/her education. This level also indicates significant vocational impairment. This may be characterized by either chronic unemployment, as defined by at least three years without consistent employment, or evidence that vocational rehabilitation would be necessary in order to be employed in a competitive work environment. This level indicates an individual with no known or identifiable vocational skill and no expression of any future vocational preferences.

WELL-BEING

This rating should be based on the psychological strength that the individual may have developed including both the ability to enjoy positive life experiences and manage negative life experiences. This should be rated independent to the individual's current level of distress.

0 This level indicates an individual with exceptional psychological strengths. Both coping and savoring skills are well developed.

1 This level indicates an individual with good psychological strengths. The person has solid coping skills for managing distress or solid savoring skills for enjoying pleasurable events.

2 This level indicates an individual with limited psychological strengths. For example, a person with very low self-esteem would be rated here.

3 This level indicates an individual with no known or identifiable psychological strengths. This may be due to intellectual impairment or serious psychiatric disorders.

SPIRITUAL/RELIGIOUS

This rating should be based on the individual's involvement in spiritual or religious beliefs and activities.

0 This level indicates an individual with strong religious and spiritual strengths. The individual may be very involved in a religious community or may have strongly held spiritual or religious beliefs that can sustain or comfort him/her in difficult times.

1 This level indicates an individual with some religious and spiritual strengths. The individual may be involved in a religious community.

2 This level indicates an individual with few spiritual or religious strengths. The individual may have little contact with religious institutions.

3 This level indicates an individual with no known spiritual or religious involvement.

TALENTS/INTERESTS

This rating should be based broadly on any talent, creative or artistic skills an individual may have including art, theater, music, athletics, and so forth.

0 This level indicates an individual with significant creative/artistic strengths. An individual who receives a significant amount of personal benefit from activities surrounding a talent would be rated here.

1 This level indicates an individual with a notable talent. Fore example, an individual who is involved in athletics or plays a musical instrument would be rated here.

2 This level indicates an individual who has expressed interest in developing a specific talent or talents even if they have not developed that talent to date.

3 This level indicates an individual with no known talents, interests or hobbies.

INCLUSION

This rating should be based on the individual's level of involvement in the cultural aspects of life in his/her community.

0 This level indicates an individual with extensive and substantial long-term ties with the community. For example, involvement in a community group for more than one year, may be widely accepted by neighbors, or involved in other community activities or informal networks.

1 This level indicates an individual with significant community ties although they may be relatively short-term (i.e., past year).

2 This level indicates an individual with limited ties and/or supports from the community.

3 This level indicates an individual with no known ties or supports from the community.

INVOLVEMENT WITH CARE

This item is used to rate the level of involvement the caregiver(s) has in the planning and provision of mental health related services.

0 This level indicates a caregiver(s) who is actively involved in the planning and/or implementation of services and is able to be an effective advocate on behalf of the individual.

1 This level indicates a caregiver(s) who is consistently involved in the planning and/or implementation of services for the individual but is not an active advocate on their behalf.

2 This level indicates a caregiver(s) who is minimally involved in the care of the individual. Caregiver(s) may visit the individual when living in an out-of-home placement, but does not become involved in service planning and implementation.

3 This level indicates a caregiver(s) who is uninvolved with the care of the individual. The caregiver(s) may want the individual out of home or fails to visit the individual when in residential placement.

KNOWLEDGE

This item is used to rate the caregiver's knowledge of the specific strengths of the individual and any problems experienced by the individual and their ability to understand the rationale for the treatment or management of these problems.

0 This level indicates that the present caregiver(s) is fully knowledgeable about the individual's psychological strengths and weaknesses, talents, and limitations.

1 This level indicates that the present caregiver(s), while being generally knowledgeable about the individual, has some mild deficits in knowledge or understanding of either the person's psychological condition or his/her talents, skills, and assets.

2 This level indicates that the caregiver(s) does not know or understand the individual well and that significant deficits exist in the caregiver's ability to relate to the person's problems and strengths.

3 This level indicates that the present caregiver(s) has little or no understanding of the individual's current condition. The caregiver(s) is unable to cope with the individual given his/her status at the time, not because of the needs of the person but because the caregiver(s) does not understand or accept the situation.