

Chapter No. 5124	Page 1
Issue Date: 02/01/97	
Revised: 05/09/19	

**Notes and
References**

**MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND PROCEDURES/SUICIDE
PREVENTION AND RESPONSE PROCEDURES**

I. Availability and Access to Mental Health Services

- A. While detained in the Los Prietos Boys Camp, all youth will have unlimited access to mental health services. Behavioral Wellness personnel are available 5 days 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. as well as selected Sundays for visitation. The Psychiatrist is available on Monday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. as well as on call. Services include:
 - 1. Therapeutic services
 - 2. Preventative services
 - 3. Crises intervention
 - 4. Initial and periodic medication support
 - 5. Transition planning and referrals
- B. During the Intake process, youth are advised of the availability of mental health services. The days and hours for mental health services are documented in the youth orientation booklet and verbally communicated to the youth during the intake process. This information is also posted in the Intake and Release area.
- C. Prior to acceptance into the program, any significant mental health and/or behavioral concerns will be discussed by LPBC screening staff and the Behavioral Wellness supervisor to ensure the youth is able to safely participate in the program and what accommodations, if any, are needed. Upon entry into the facility, the Behavioral Wellness clinician, in cooperation with the LPBC director, will ensure a treatment plan has been developed to address any significant concerns as well as any accommodations required, including restrictions on work crews and activities. This information will be disseminated to staff on a need to know basis in order to ensure the treatment plan is being followed.

Chapter No. 5124	Page 2
Issue Date: 02/01/97	
Revised: 05/09/19	

Mental Health Services/Suicide Prevention (Continued)

**Notes and
References**

D. Youth may request staff to complete a Mental Health Referral for services or the youth can complete a Confidential Mental Health Referral. Referral forms will be available to youth throughout the course of the day in the dorm. This opportunity will be made for all youth, regardless of their status. The completed confidential referrals will be placed by the youth into the appropriate locked referral box in the dorm. Mental Health referrals will be collected daily during the week by Behavioral Wellness personnel. An agreed pick up time will be established and posted on the box.

1. Urgent mental health requests may be communicated at any time.

E. Any staff may refer a youth for Medical or Mental Health services.

F. Any youth who is suspected or confirmed to have a developmental disability will be referred to Tri-Counties Regional Center within 24 hours of identification, excluding weekends and holidays.

II. Sick Bay

A. Youth who require temporary isolation from the group due to an inability to fully participate in the program may be placed in sickbay with the approval of the Sr. DPO, Sr. JIO or Behavioral Wellness clinician.

1. The youth(s) name(s), date, time and staff initials are to be listed on the sick bay log.

2. The youth's shoes shall be placed outside sick bay.

3. The youth condition will be evaluated at least every 15 minutes and documented by Behavioral Wellness staff in their records and on the room check log.

B. If the number of youth requiring the use of the sick bay exceeds the capacity of the sick bay and are confined to the dormitory, 15-minute bed checks of these youth will be conducted and documented by the JIO assigned to the dorm.

Title 15,
Section 1418

Chapter No. 5124	Page 3
Issue Date: 02/01/97	
Revised: 05/09/19	

Mental Health Services/Suicide Prevention (Continued)

**Notes and
References**

III. Psychiatric/Psychological Evaluations

- A. Psychiatric evaluations are conducted on-site as needed and requested by LPBC Behavioral Wellness personnel.
- B. Psychological evaluation are completed by private psychologists. Arrangements must be made with the assigned Deputy Probation Officer and their SPO.
- C. Staff should be aware that a youth's mental health records, medical records, and health problems/diseases are to be kept confidential. Information in the youth's case file shall be shared with the health care staff when relevant.

IV. Suicide Prevention Protocol

- A. Training
 - 1. Prior to assuming any responsibility for the supervision of youth, staff will participate in orientation training that includes suicide prevention and response to suicide attempts.
 - 2. Staff will also receive suicide prevention and awareness training In Juvenile Institutions Office Core.
 - 3. Annually, staff will complete the suicide prevention and awareness refresher training and successfully complete the test.
- B. Screening
 - 1. All youth are screened for risk of suicide at intake and again as needed during their commitment.
 - 2. Any youth identified during the screening for being at risk will be referred to Behavioral Wellness for a complete suicide risk assessment.

Empty box for Notes and References.

Chapter No. 5124	Page 4
Issue Date: 02/01/97	
Revised: 05/09/19	

Mental Health Services/Suicide Prevention (Continued)

**Notes and
References**

- C. All suicide threats, gestures and attempts are to be taken seriously.
 - 1. All suicide signs, threats, gestures and attempts will be regarded as legitimate even though they may occasionally appear manipulative, superficial or ingenuine.
- D. Staff will immediately inform the lead staff on duty (Senior Deputy Probation Officer (Sr. DPO)/Sr. Juvenile Institutions Officer (Sr. JIO)/Lead Staff Person (LSP)) of the situation.
- E. The Sr. DPO/Sr. JIO/LSP will immediately contact Behavioral Wellness staff for consultation and inform the Los Prietos Boys Camp (LPBC) Manager/Supervising Probation Officer (SPO) of the situation.
 - 1. After Behavioral Wellness coverage hours, staff will contact Behavioral Wellness Mobile Crisis at (805) 739-8709 for a consultation regarding the youth.
- F. Overt Gestures/Attempts
 - 1. In addition to contacting Behavioral Wellness or Mobile Crisis, staff will also take the following action dependent on the youth's condition:
 - a. If a youth is making overt gestures or has made a suicide attempt that has resulted in, but not limited to, loss of consciousness, excessive bleeding, breathing difficulties, etc., staff will summon on-site medical aide and contact 9-9-1-1.
 - b. If the youth is making overt gestures or has made a suicide attempt that has resulted in visible injury not amounting to a life threatening injury, such as those listed above, staff will contact on-site medical or the on-call physician.
 - 2. If the youth's mental health is such that he needs to be evaluated for rehousing at Santa Maria Juvenile Hall (SMJH) or in a psychiatric hospital for his safety, Behavioral Wellness will make the determination.

Chapter No. 5124	Page 5
Issue Date: 02/01/97	
Revised: 05/09/19	

Mental Health Services/Suicide Prevention (Continued)

**Notes and
References**

- a. If it is determined that the youth must be transferred to SMJH or a hospital, he will be supervised 1 on 1 by a designated staff until he is accepted at SMJH.
- 3. A youth shall not be denied the opportunity to participate in programs, services and activities unless it is determined to be necessary for the safety of the youth or the security of the facility.
 - a. This determination will be made by LPBC Administration in consultation with Behavioral Wellness.
 - b. The decision to withdraw a youth from participation in camp activities will be documented in a WSR.
- G. Completion of Worker's Special report (WSR)
 - 1. When completing the WSR after a suicidal gesture or attempt is made, the WSR shall be titled as "Suicide gesturer/attempt".
 - 2. When completing the WSR when a suicidal threat or statement is made, the WSR shall be titled as "Suicide threat/statement".
- H. Debriefing of Suicides or Suicide Attempts
 - 1. As soon as possible following a suicide or suicide attempt, a team of mental health professionals will be assembled to provide services to the youth and staff affected by the events.
 - a. Participation will be voluntary.
 - b. Access to services will be on-going and available upon request.
 - 2. LPBC Administration will complete an Incident Debrief Report (IDR). The IDR will address:
 - a. Circumstances

Chapter No. 5124	Page 6
Issue Date: 02/01/97	
Revised: 05/09/19	

Mental Health Services/Suicide Prevention (Continued)

**Notes and
References**

- b. Responses before, during and after the event
- c. Review of policy
- d. Recommendations

Empty space for notes and references.

