

Mental Health Committee
2/5/08

Present: Jim Higdon, Kelly Bauermeister, Amy Karozos, April Vanlonden Degner

At our committee meeting there were three situations presented that posed areas of difficulty between the State Protocols and the practical implications for the Pilot Sites. It was decided that the State Protocols for the Administration of the MAYSI-2 would not need to be changed or modified.

The results of our discussions are listed below. Please review this document carefully, as you site may be presented with some of the same situations. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either Jim Higdon or April Vanlonden Degner, co-chairs of the Mental Health Committee.

1. Youth ordered to serve weekends. There are detention centers that have an ongoing number of juveniles that are court ordered to serve weekends. The question posed was: **The screening of these juveniles may result in 5 screens over the course of 10 weekends, can there be an exception to the “once every 14 days” screening protocol?”**

Yes. The committee recommends that the juvenile be screened at the first admission and not necessarily subsequent weekend admission. IF each weekend admission is included in the “Admissions” for the month, a “record of youth not administered the MAYSI-2” will need to be completed with the reasoning being the “weekender” status. IF the youth is not counted as a new admission each weekend, no form will need to be completed.

It is strongly recommended that discretion be employed. If a youth presents with behaviors or comments that warrant further exploration, reoffends, or experiences change in their typical situation, a MAYSI-2 screen should be administered to determine the possible need for an assessment.

2. Juveniles pending bond. Youth are brought to detention centers for unpaid traffic fines, smoking violations. Typically the youth is picked up by the parents within four hours. **Can staff use discretion on city court charges in terms of administering the MAYSI-2?**

Yes. If there appears to be issues other than the ones with which the youth appears at the detention center, the MAYSI-2 should be administered. The protocol states that the MAYSI-2 must be administered in the first 24 hours, within the first 2-4 hours **optimal** (not required).

Mental Health Committee
2/5/08

Again, if the youth is counted as an admission, the fact that they were not administered the MAYSI-2 screen needs to be included in the monthly statistics forwarded on to the Project Director. The reason would be that the youth was “waiting bond and was in house less than 24 hours.” If the youth spends 24 hours or more in detention, then the MAYSI-2 must be administered. If the youth is not counted in the monthly number of admissions, no statistics need to be collected.

- 3) **Is the MAYSI-2 instrument valid for a youth that is MMR?** Yes. Youths who are MMR should be able to verbalize what they are feeling. It may be that the youth will need to have the MAYSI-2 administered orally. There is an oral component to the software program. It may be that is the youth is more moderately handicapped, they will need the questions explained to them. Employ discretion as to which way the MAYSI-2 is best administered to these youths.