

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES

**INLAND EMPIRE HIV PLANNING COUNCIL STANDARDS OF CARE
RIVERSIDE / SAN BERNARDINO TRANSITIONAL GRANT AREA
RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS PROGRAM**

This document offers a limited set of focused standards addressing key aspects specific to this service category. Other relevant standards, including the Common Standards, as well as other policies, recommendations and guidelines should be referenced in conjunction with this standard.

Purpose of Standards

These service and care standards are prescribed by the Inland Empire HIV Planning Council (IEHPC). The purpose of these standards is to establish a minimum set of quality expectations to ensure uniformity of service funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) under the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program legislation across the Riverside/San Bernardino Transitional Grant Area (R/SB TGA).

These standards are to be monitored and enforced by means of incorporation into service provision contracts managed by the Ryan White Program (RWP) Office on behalf of the IEHPC, as provided by the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program legislation and HRSA policies, guidance, and other requirements.

Definition of Service (HRSA)

***Psychosocial support services** are the provision of support and counseling activities, child abuse and neglect counseling, HIV support groups, pastoral care, caregiver support, and bereavement counseling. Includes nutrition counseling provided by a non-registered dietitian but excludes the provision of nutritional supplements.*

I. Care and Treatment Goal(s)

To provide support and counseling regarding the emotional and psychological issues related to living with HIV to those affected directly and indirectly by HIV and to promote problem solving, service access and steps towards diseases self-management.

II. Service Goal:

To provide psychosocial support services through the delivery of individual and group counseling to persons living with HIV/AIDS and those otherwise affected by HIV/AIDS in the TGA in order to maintain them in the HIV system of care.

A. Service Objectives:

1. To provide a central and dedicated support contact in order to address and minimize crisis situations and stabilize clients' psychological health status so as to maintain their participation in the care system.

B. Description of Services

Service Components

1. If a Care Plan is in place, the Care Plan should be reviewed and incorporated into the delivery of Psychosocial Support. If a client receiving Psychosocial Support presents with additional service needs, these needs should be incorporated into the clients Care Plan, if they are ever in need of Medical Case Management.
2. Provide individual counseling session(s). Document service provision, goals, and progress.
3. Provide group counseling sessions(s). Document group service provision such as: topics/focus, participant names and HIV status, group duration, group type (open/closed), general group goals.
4. Provide allowable, needed services to family members and significant others in the client's support system, with the goal of developing and strengthening the client's support system to help maintain their connection to medical care.
5. Facilitate successful case conferencing sessions through direct participation and the provision of appropriate information.
6. Coordinate with and make referrals to both interagency and outside mental health professionals, as appropriate.
7. Coordinate with and make referrals to both interagency and outside nutritional support services, as appropriate.

C. Limitations

1. Excludes the provision of nutritional supplements.

III. Service-Specific Staff Qualifications

There are no prescribed staff qualifications specific to Psychosocial Support Services. *Please refer to the Common Standards of Care for general staff qualification requirements.*

IV. Exceptions and Urgent Need

Please refer to the Common Standards of Care for guidance concerning exceptions and Urgent Need.

V. Reportable Units of Service and Financial Eligibility

Please refer to the current service contract for a description of the unit of service and financial eligibility thresholds for each service category.