“E-wemta” – Bringing together Tribal and Non-Tribal entities to enhance community behavioral health services on the Tohono O’odham Nation

Julia N. Chavez, Tribal Liaison
Community Partnership of Southern Arizona

TKay Estes, Program Director
Pantano Behavioral Health
Intermountain Centers for Human Development
Learning Objections

1. Participants will acquire information regarding collaborative efforts made by Tribal and Non-Tribal entities.

2. Participants will gain insight into the critical diplomatic relationships needed to navigate both the Tribal and State systems.

3. Participants will better comprehend the challenges and unique solutions experienced in providing services on the Tohono O’odham Nation.

4. Participants will learn about providing quality delivery of home based behavioral health services, in a wide geographical area, to preserve the family within the context of their own culture.
Tohono O’odham Nation

- Located in Southern Arizona; along the US/International Border
- 2.8 million acres/second largest reservation & second largest population in the US.
- Sells, Arizona is the central point of Tribal government and services
- 13,465 Tribal Members reside on Tribal Land
- 17,866 Tribal Members reside off Tribal Land
- Total # of Tribal Members – 31,331 (as of June 4, 2012 – TON Enrollment Office)
Tohono O’odham Nation
Department of Health & Human Services
Division of Behavioral Health

Tribal Operated Program for Tohono O’odham Tribal Member and eligible Native Americans.

Services Include:
Intake/Assessment
Individual/Family Counseling
Outpatient Treatment
Residential Treatment
Aftercare/Relapse Prevention
Day Treatment for SMI
Traditional Healing/Sweat Lodge
Acudetox/Full Body Acupuncture
Prevention/Education/Training
Indian Health Services

Federal health care services that encourage optimal physical, mental, spiritual, community well-being among Native American and Alaskan Natives throughout the United States.

Services Include:
- Behavioral Health consults for Tribes
- Triage and referrals
- Direct Care
- Clinical Supervision
- Prescription/Medication consults for Primary Care Physicians
Community Partnership of Southern Arizona

CPSA serves zip codes primarily in Pima County in Southern Arizona.

Tribal Nations located within the CPSA service area are the Tohono O’odham Nation and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe (TRBHA).

Some Tribal Nations work with multiple RBHA’s.
CPSA Provider Network
Member Services
(520) 318-6946 or 1-800-771-9889

Adults

Pantano Behavioral Health Services
(520) 623-9833

COPE Community Services
(520) 792-3293

La Frontera Center
(520) 884-9920

Marana Health Center (MHC)
(520) 682-4111 or (520) 616-4976

CODAC Behavioral Health Services
(520) 327-4505

Children’s

Pantano Behavioral Health Services
(520) 623-9833

Providence Service Corporation
(520) 748-7108

La Frontera Center
(520) 884-9920

Casa de los Niño's
(520) 881-1292

Marana Health Center (MHC)
(520) 682-4111 or (520) 616-4976

Crisis Services & Detoxification Treatment
Community Wide Crisis Line:
(520) 622-6000 or 1-800-796-6762
Pantano Behavioral Health
Intermountain Centers for Human Development

• Pantano Behavioral Health Services Inc. (Pantano) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization incorporated in 2000. Pantano serves Pima County children and their families who are eligible or enrolled in the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS). Pantano also serves young adults (18-21) as well as children and adults from the Tohono O’odham Nation. As a comprehensive service provider, Pantano maintains quality assurance, manages contracts and claims and provides a complete range of behavioral health services.

• Intermountain Centers for Human Development was established in 1973 as a private not-for-profit service organization with the objective of assisting Native American youth in the acquisition of positive life skills. Intermountain currently provides innovative support services to children, youth and adults who are emotionally and behaviorally challenged, seriously mentally ill adults, and developmentally disabled individuals, in addition to working with families who are in need of parenting skills and community resources in order to provide for their children.
Intermountain begins services on the Tohono O’odham Nation

In 2001 TON Child Welfare approached Intermountain to discuss services for the children under their care.
- Intermountain facilitated discussions and planning with CPSA and Pantano.
- Child Welfare facilitated discussions and approval with the TON Health and Human Services Committee.
- A pilot program was agreed on which included serving 50 children in the Sells village area.
- Pantano provided psychiatric services and administration support while Intermountain providing all home-based services.

Between 2002 and 2008 the pilot program grew in number of children and staff.
- The pilot started with one staff working out of her car and grew to 8 staff with the majority being Tohono O’odham tribal members by 2008
- These initial staff were critical for establishing relationships and access to the children located in various districts and villages.
- In 2003, discussions with all stake holders provided agreements to allow all TON districts in Pima County to be served as well as increasing the number children served to 100.
- The program was provided office space when available in various locations from 2003 to 2008 for office activities and group programming.
Initial Steps to Collaboration


The process involving the signing of the MOA involved numerous individuals and agencies:
- TON Department of Health & Human Services
- CPSA
- TON Attorney Generals Office
- TON Executive Department
- TON Legislative Council

December 2008 – MOA is signed by both Tohono O’odham Nation Chairman, Ned Norris Jr. and CPSA CEO, Neal Cash
Expansion of Services Begins

Needs of the Tohono O’odham Nation
- Additional Adult Services
- Crisis Services

April 2009 – Discussions being on incorporating Adult Services into the ICHD Program and opening an outpatient facility on the Nation

Things to consider:
- Location
- Type of facility (i.e. Tribal Property, Modular, etc.)
- Tribal Sovereignty and Approval

Additional things to consider:
- Building License
- Billing capabilities
What is a CMS Wavier?

A CMS Wavier is a document through AHCCCS and the Centers for Medicare/Medicaid that allows a provider to bill for services, from a facility that is not licensed.

In addition, a Tribe and/or Indian Health Services must attest to the provider meeting one or all of the following requirements:

- Is qualified and approved to receive reimbursement from IHS
- Meets standards of a behavioral Health provider under a 638 agreement
- Meets licensure standards established by ADHS as an outpatient clinic pursuant to AAC R9-20. In accordance with 42 CFR 440.90, services shall be furnished by or under the direction of a licensed physician. This includes services furnished outside the clinic by clinic personnel to an eligible person or member who does not reside in a permanent dwelling or does not have a fixed home or mailing address
What is a Courtesy Compliance Survey?

The Courtesy Compliance Survey is a formal inspection of a physical facility and program policies and procedures, to verify compliance with state licensing standards.

It was initiated at the recommendation of ADHS and received as a formal request of the Tohono O’odham Nation, to the Office of Behavioral Health Licensure (OBHL).

The survey verified that Pantano Behavioral Health/ICHD’s outpatient program on the Tohono O’odham Nation met all licensing standards. If the facility were located off the reservation, it could be licensed as an outpatient facility.
October 2009 – Pantano Behavioral Health/Intermountain HD were given approval to begin providing Community Based Adult Services.

April 2010 – Pantano Behavioral Health/Intermountain receive confirmation from AHCCCS that the CMS Wavier was approved and were provided their AHCCCS ID.

Program Overview

Program Currently Serves

- 135 children
- 15 young adults
- 101 adults

Most members are served via home-based services within all villages located in Pima County

- 9 out of 11 Tohono O’odham districts are served.
- 40% of children are served in school with 60% being served in-home and in the community.
- 50% of adults are served in office with 50% being served in-home and in the community.
Program Overview

Staffing Demographics

Pantano
- 1 child psychiatrist
- 1 adult psychiatrist
- nursing support
- 1 care coordinator for clients located off the TON

Intermountain
- 1 children’s team and 1 adult team
- 19 total - 8 Native American - 7 Tohono O’odham
- 16 direct service - 3 leadership & support

Community Partnership of Southern Arizona
- 2 to 3 staff provide ongoing technical assistance and support.
Service Continuum for Enrolled Adults and Children

- Crisis Response 24 Hours a Day, 7 Days a Week
- Intensive In-Home Services
- Positive Living Skills
- Traditional Healing
- Family Support
- Respite & Day Program (Children Only)

Group Therapy
- 10 adult groups currently
- 3 children's groups currently
Sustainable and Culturally Relevant Services

Traditional Healing Services
- Viewed as a fundamental or initial intervention
- Integrated and compatible with behavioral and psychiatric interventions.
- Agreement with 4 traditional healers who are viewed as part of treatment team.
- Tribal and non-tribal staff are educated and trained by healers to be apart of the services.
- Operationalized through out program.
Baboquivari Peak is a sacred place for members of the Tohono O’odham Nation.

Tohono O’odham woman making cemit (tortillas)
Sustainable and Culturally Relevant Services

Gathering the Desert Group

- Curriculum focuses on instruction, development and reinforcement of traditional, seasonal activities that promote Tohono O’odham *himdag* (way of life).
- Culturally relevant replacement behavioral skill sets.
- Addresses multiple treatment needs.
Intermountain members harvesting fruit from a Ha:sañ (saguaro cactus) the traditional way using a kuipad (harvesting pole).

Intermountain members holding bahidaj (saguaro fruit) they just helped pick.
Intermountain adult members learn or relearn how to gather materials from the desert in traditional ways.

These desert materials are used to create traditional baskets.
Challenges

- Most services are home-based in a widely distributed geographic area.

- Recruiting and training staff with preference given to tribal members.

- Keeping members eligible under AHCCCS. Services to members who relocate outside boundaries of the TON.

- Maintaining the facility, equipment and vehicles in a remote program.
Unique Solutions

- Grants obtained for vehicles.
- Co-sharing the transportation costs with other tribal entities.
- Co-sharing medication costs with Indian Health Services.
- Utilizing video media for training and service delivery and to help encountering issues related to transportation.
- Interdisciplinary Child-Family Team and Adult Recovery Teams.
Important Things to Remember

- You are always a guest.
- Relationships are critical to progress.
- Become a part of the community.
- Each Nation has their own way of communicating and organizing.
- Most Nations do not have exclusionary criteria to participate in their services.
- Knowledge and information is sacred.
- Integrate traditional practices in service array.
- Hire tribal members in all positions.
Important People to Thank

-Our system partners
  TON Child Welfare  TON Behavioral Health  Indian Health Services
  TON Probation  TON Children's Program  TON School Districts
  TON Health and Human Services  TON Tribal Council

-Our mentors and teachers
  Community Elders  Community Healers

-The members of the Tohono O’odham Nation we have the honor of serving.

-Our staff who provide the commitment, creativity and hard work to make this program possible.
Contact Information

Julia N. Chavez, Tribal Liaison
Community Partnership of Southern Arizona
Office Phone: (520) 618-8863
Email: Julia.Chavez@cpsa-rbha.org
www.cpsa-rbha.org

Tkay Estes, Program Manager
Pantano Behavioral Health/ICHD
Office Phone: (520) 383-1791
Cell Phone: (520) 241-4656
Email: tkaye@ichd.net
www.ichd.net