

CHILDREN'S COMMUNITY GATE SUBCOMMITTEE

EVALUATE RECOMMENDATIONS

COMMITTEE IDEAS	ADDRESS WHAT NEED?	SUPPORT WHICH OUTCOME(S)	BEST PRACTICE MODEL / STRATEGY	TARGET WHAT POPULATION?	EXPANDS EXISTING SERVICE? CREATES NEW SERVICE?
1. Create a system that identifies at risk youth earlier and develop prevention services for those youth. <u>Top Priority</u>	Children/youth served earlier to prevent escalation into higher levels of care	Keep children/youth at home, in school, out of trouble	Screening & Assessment linkage with Community Programs, Schools, Primary Care Physicians	Children/youth at risk of escalation further into interagency systems	Expand community contracts Expand county capacity
2. Improve customer service. <u>Top Priority</u>	Provide simple, centralized, responsive access/referral for mental health needs	Consumer satisfaction Identify needs earlier	"One-stop" clearinghouse for Mental Health referral issues	Santa Cruz County Medi-Cal children & youth	Expand current ACCESS/Community Gate services; Improve comprehensiveness
3. Improve the local response to youth in psychiatric crisis. <u>Top Priority</u>	No in-county psychiatric beds Long wait in Emergency Room for transportation to out-of-county beds	Improve quality of service Increase consumer satisfaction Provide local services	Review MERT operations and relationship with Dominican Hospital	Children/Youth evaluated for psychiatric emergency and possible hospitalization	Need to explore options with Dominican Hospital Review MERT process