KERN LINKAGE PROGRAM

Population Served

Level III, Homeless adults who have a chronic and persistent mental illness that might be complicated by a substance disorder and who need intensive mental health services to meet the basic necessities for resources for stabilization.

Operating Information:
8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday
After hours availability as needed.

Kern County Mental Health has been accredited for the following programs: Mental Health Programs- Case Management; Children and Adolescents-Case Management & Crisis Stabilization; Integrated Alcohol & Other Drugs-Case Management & Children & Adolescents-Case Management; Employment Services-Community employment Services

MISSION STATEMENT

Working together to achieve hope, healing and a meaningful life in the community.

VISION STATEMENT

People with mental illness and addictions recover to achieve their hopes and dreams, enjoy opportunities to learn, work, and contribute to their community.

VALUES STATEMENTS

Hope, Healing, Community, Authority
We honor the potential in everyone.
We value the whole person – mind, body and spirit.
We focus on the person, not the illness.
We embrace diversity.
We acknowledge that relapse is not a personal failure.
We recognize authority over our lives empowers us to make choices, solve problems and plan for the future.

KERN LINKAGE

Staff Information:

- Masters Level Clinician (LPHA)
- Licensed Psych Tech
- Recovery Specialists
- Recovery Specialist Aides
- Substance Abuse Specialists

carf
Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities

Working together toward Hope, Recovery and Independence

KLP, HOMELESS TEAM

SERVICES

The Homeless Program is an intensive, short-term case management program which targets adults 18-years old and older, who are homeless with a chronic and persistent major mental illness or dual diagnosis (mental health primary disorder and a secondary substance abuse disorder). Financial requirement: Indigent / no payor source. Case Managers assist individuals in obtaining services for mental health, medical, legal, financial, housing, daily living skills and various community support services. Once stabilized and permanent financial resources are obtained, individuals if appropriate, are then transferred to the geographic appropriate team that provides long-term case management services. Transitional housing is provided that include Board & Care, Room & Board, Motels or Specialty Transitional Housing facilities. Access points in the System of Care are ACCESS and KMC 3B. Individuals who have improved and require no case management services may be transitioned to a mini-clinic or lower level of care.

Unit Name and Contact Supervisor

KLP, Homeless Team
Cathy Clemons, MFT 661-868-1847

Team Leader:
Noah Whitaker, RSIII 661-868-1863

ADMISSION

AB2034 is a component of Kern Linkage Program. Kern Linkage was established in 1986 and funded via a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson foundation in response to the growing number of chronically mentally ill and homeless individuals in Bakersfield. The Kern Linkage Program provides case management to those individuals that were both diagnosed with a severe mental illness and were at risk of becoming or were already homeless.

Offering a comprehensive program, Kern Linkage supports the individuals they serve with essential psychosocial services designed to help them transition from the streets to a more stable community environment.

The core component of the program is an intensive, short-term, linkage oriented type of case management, which has proven extremely effective in helping thousands of mentally ill, and has earned the program state and national recognition.

ADMISSION

ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for help, applicants must be chronically mentally ill and homeless or at serious risk of becoming homeless. They must also be adults 18 to 65 years old and willing to accept services.

HOW TO REFER

Agencies should contact our outreach workers at 868-1840 for a pre-screening.

Staff: The Kern Linkage professional staff includes mental health therapists, psychiatric consultants, nurses, case managers and substance abuse specialist.

Located: Kern Linkage Programs
2525 North Chester
P. O. Box 1000
Bakersfield, CA 93302-1000
661-868-1840 fax: 661-868-1841

Business Hours: Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5: pm, Monday - Friday.
After hours availability as needed.

Funding: Kern Linkage is a program of the Kern County Department of Mental Health