Seneca Center Wraparound Services

Program Overview

The focus of Seneca Center Wraparound Services Program in California is to offer family-centered, individualized, and culturally relevant support to biological, foster, kinship, and adoptive families to prevent the placement of children and youth into group care settings.

The program works in close partnership with social services, mental health, juvenile probation, other service providers, and consumer organizations to provide an alternative to group care placements for children and youth with complex and enduring needs.

Seneca’s service philosophy is built around the concept of “unconditional care.” No youth served by the program will be dismissed from the program due to challenging behaviors or service needs. Treatment and support services are tailored to address those behaviors and meet those needs as they change over time.

Seneca has developed a clinical practice model that integrates ideas and methodologies from three intellectual traditions: attachment theory (building healthy relationships), learning theory (replacing negative behaviors with positive ones), and systems theory (addressing environmental factors).

A Child and Family Team is put in place for each child. The team includes the child, family members and other adults connected with the child, the county representative who referred the child for Wraparound, and Seneca staff (a facilitator, support counselor, and family partner). The team builds consensus and leverages the strengths of its members to identify and meet needs to make it possible for the youth and family to reaching their long-term goals.

Resources needed for implementation

Wraparound services are provided by a team of trained professionals that include: wraparound facilitator (master’s level clinician); family therapist (master’s level); support counsellors; and parent partners.

Locations of implementation

San Francisco, Santa Clara, Sonoma, Solano, Marin, Contra Costa, and Orange Counties

Evidence base

Seneca’s Wraparound program was recently added to Sonoma County’s Upstream Investments Portfolio as a Tier One Evidence-Based Practice.