

## Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

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For Immediate Release

### **Mobile Crisis Services for Children, Youth and Young Adults Up to the Age of 25 Years**

ODMHSAS has implemented an initiative to provide rapid, community-based mobile crisis intervention services for children, youth and young adults up to the age of 25 who are experiencing behavioral health or psychiatric emergencies. Simply call 1-833-885-CARE (2273) from anywhere in Oklahoma to find help. Calls are answered 24-hours a day, seven days a week and are toll-free.

Calls from families experiencing crisis are addressed by call center staff and are triaged accordingly. Staff are able to link 911 emergency services if needed, can refer to resources or initiate mobile response services utilizing county specific crisis teams. These teams provide on-site, emergency face-to-face response within one hour of referral. This can be changed to a 24-hour time window at the request of the involved family. Follow-up service will last up to 72 hours, until the involved youth is stable, or up to 8 weeks if the youth is transferred to another level of care.

The goals of this initiative include:

- Rapid response to non-life threatening emotional symptoms/behaviors that are disrupting the youth's functioning;
- Immediate assistance to youth and caregivers in deescalating those symptoms/behaviors;
- Prevention/Reduction of needed care in a more restrictive setting, such as inpatient psychiatric hospitalization or detention, by providing timely community-based response;
- Development of a plan for appropriate treatment to minimize risk, aid in stabilization and improve life functioning;
- Support the youth to remain at home in the community; and
- Assist youth and caregivers with identified supports, resources and services in their community.

Crisis intervention teams at the county level are managed by the ODMHSAS Systems of Care provider agency for that service area. [Click Here](#) for a listing of Systems of Care (SOC) contacts across the state. For more information about this initiative and services available in your area, contact the local Systems of Care provider or Sheamekah Williams, MSW at 405-248-9393 or [sxwilliams@odmhsas.org](mailto:sxwilliams@odmhsas.org).

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