Program Evaluation: A Look at a Case Management Program of Big Spring State Hospital Community Services

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PROGRAM EVALUATION: A LOOK AT A CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
OF BIG SPRING STATE HOSPITAL COMMUNITY SERVICES

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PROGRAM EVALUATION: A LOOK AT A CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
OF BIG SPRING STATE HOSPITAL COMMUNITY SERVICES

by

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THESIS
Presented to the Graduate Faculty of Psychology
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for the Degree of
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Case management services are an expanding program in the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (TXMHMR) system's treatment for chronically mentally ill individuals (CMI). CMI's are individuals who are unable to maintain a stable adjustment to community life because of persistent and serious emotional disabilities. Previous research findings as to the effectiveness of this type of service in other programs have been mixed, and because of differences in program guidelines are not directly applicable to the TXMHMR program. The hypotheses of this study, which was a program evaluation of one specific program of case management, were two-fold: one, that the total number and total duration of hospital stays decrease for individuals involved in the case management program, when pre- and post-initiation of services hospitalizations are reviewed; and two, that there is an inverse relationship between length of time in case management and frequency and duration of hospitalization. The records of 70 CMI's diagnosed with either Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder or Major Depression who were receiving services within this program were analyzed. Statistical analysis of the data supported the first hypothesis but did not support the second hypothesis.