

COMCARE Program Video

(Music playing)

(Male spokesperson)

Good mental health is fundamental to overall health and is essential to personal well being and the ability to lead a healthy and productive life. It is estimated that 1 in 5 people suffer from some type of mental illness and according to the U.S. Surgeon General's report more than half of all Americans with a mental illness fail to seek treatment. Overall quality of life is greatly improved with an early diagnosis and appropriate treatment. If you or someone you know needs mental health or substance abuse treatment and don't know where to turn COMCARE of Sedgwick County can help.

(Music playing)

(COMCARE worker)

Good Morning, COMCARE Intake and Assessment, may I help you?

(Spokesperson)

COMCARE's Intake and Assessment Center takes all incoming calls from persons seeking mental health or substance abuse services. The intake and assessment center offers a user friendly single point of contact where staff gathers information and arrange appointments as necessary. At the appointment, individuals will meet with a qualified mental health professional. The focus of intake and assessment is to match the client with the best available treatment options based on the consumer's concerns and treatment goals. Medication services are also available when medication management is determined as an appropriate treatment.

Crisis Intervention Services provides mental health emergency services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to all residents of Sedgwick County. Receiving over 55,000 phone calls per year at crisis, usually results in telephone or face to face crisis intervention. Staff also utilize a mobile crisis van when necessary, to facilitate a crisis intervention in the community. When appropriate, clients will see a member of the medical team to assess the need for medication. COMCARE's Crisis Intervention Services also serve as the County's own Suicide Prevention Hotline.

Other available services include: (Reads directly from screen)

COMCARE's Crisis Stabilization Unit is located at 1720 E. Morris and is staffed by a qualified mental health professional and a case manager 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. COMCARE's consumers experiencing a psychiatric crisis may be referred to the crisis stabilization unit as an alternative to hospitalization.

COMCARE's Children's Services is dedicated to helping children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbance live at home and remain involved in the community. This is achieved by assisting youth and families and accessing the wrap around network of

community services that is available in Sedgwick County. Treatment for children with mental health needs works best when a child has an individualized treatment plan that is child centered and family focused. These plans may be developed as a part of a wrap around meeting where the focus is on the child's strengths and developed in ways to meet the child's needs. Through the treatment and services available today at COMCARE's Children's Services there is hope for families affected by mental illness. Children's Services can assist families facing the challenge of raising a child with special mental health needs. Service providers can work with families so that these children can remain in their homes and lead productive lives.

(Music playing)

The good news is that mental illness can be effectively treated and most people with mental illnesses enjoy a good quality of life. COMCARE's Outpatient Service provides mental health services designed to help adults 18 years of age and older. Individual therapy allows the consumer to improve their mental health symptoms and develop new skills to live productively. Group therapy is designed to assist each individual in emotional growth and personal problem solving. Group therapy can be tailored to address a variety of symptoms related to mental illness. COMCARE's Outpatient Services also supports a large medical staff who help consumers in reaching their treatment goals.

COMCARE's Addiction Treatment Services proudly employs a diverse team of certified addiction counselors and licensed, qualified mental health professionals who provide a variety of treatment options to consumers suffering from addiction.

(Reads exactly from screen)

Addiction Treatment Services offers chemical dependency assessments and evaluations to determine the level of care needed. The primary treatment program offers group therapy, family education, continuing care and linkage with community and social support systems. Addiction Treatment Services specialty programs include the co-occurring disorders, a treatment program and a women's treatment program. Designed for adults ages 18 and older, Addiction Treatment Services assists the consumer in reducing the use of alcohol and drugs thereby improving overall quality of life.

Schizophrenia, bi-polar disorder, and major depression are example of severe and persistent mental illnesses also known as SBMI. SBMI can impair the ability to socialize, maintain employment, or take care of one's self. Case Management Services assists SBMI consumers. Case managers help these consumers obtain further assistance through community resources such as the Food Bank. The Community Integration program involves a variety of treatment groups that help consumers manage their mental illness. The primary groups are focused on symptom management, healthy living, social skills and chemical addiction. Supported Employment and Education is a program that provides direct assistance to consumers and various supports related to returning to work or school. Such assistance could include: help with writing resumes, job interview practice, or obtaining necessary accommodations. At the Community Support Services medical clinic psychiatrists and nursing staff support the consumer through medication

and wellness education for symptom management. The clinic pharmacy offers easy access to medications and other pharmacy services. The pharmacy staff can help consumers apply for and maintain pharmaceutical patient assistance programs and offer assistance with cost of medication.

(Music playing)

COMCARE's Homeless Program, known as Center City serves individuals who have a serious mental illness and who live at places not considered adequate shelter. The Homeless programs assertive outreach team goes into the community to parks, under bridges and into homeless shelters to assess mental health needs. The Homeless program uses a no-wrong-doer approach where all resources and options are considered, to assist homeless individuals to access available community services.

The Sedgwick County Offender Assessment Program addresses the needs of individuals who have a severe mental illness, who have come into contact with the criminal justice system. In some circumstances individuals can be redirected from incarceration and participate in community based treatment to address behaviors that lead to arrest. This diversion from incarceration is achieved through collaboration between COMCARE and the criminal justice system.

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