

Dear Community Partner,

The purpose of this letter is to introduce the Behavioral Health Emergency Response Plan Form (previously called San Diego County Emergency Response Plan Form). The Emergency Response Plan (ERP) is a form that can be used to provide first responders with valuable information that is important for them to know when assisting someone during a crisis situation.

The form will provide first responders with information that is unique to the person they are serving and allow them to be aware of the person's wishes for their treatment in the event of a crisis. The ERP form will provide information such as diagnoses, medications, current treatment providers, preferred hospital, preferred crisis house, and insurance information. Specific instructions such as pet care, dietary needs, cultural and religious considerations, care of dependents or minor children, can also be listed on the ERP form.

The ERP form provides the person in crisis and their family a method to communicate important information to first responders during times of crises when obtaining this information can be difficult or impossible. It is suggested that the form be filled out by the consumer, or their family member, prior to a time of crisis and to have the completed form available for first responders should they be called to assist in a time of need.

The ERP form belongs to the consumer, or family member, and should be returned to the person who provided it to first responders once they have retrieved the necessary information from the form. The ERP form should not be placed in the person's medical record and communication with emergency contacts and providers listed on the ERP require specific consent from the consumer.

We encourage you to share the ERP form with anyone that you feel may benefit from using the form. An electronic form-fill version is available that can be printed and copied, or filled out and printed by the consumer or their family member.

The PERT Advisory Committee