



Connecting to Care
a non-profit organization that uses innovative
technology to help people connect to care



Connecting to Care

Other Services Available:

Assistive Technology

Connecting to Care provides Assistive Technology assessments, training, and hands on sessions. Services for non-verbal, hearing and vision-impaired individuals needing technology in order to communicate and function more independently.

TeleBehavioral Health

Services for individuals experiencing symptoms of (or diagnosed with) depression, anxiety, PTSD, etc. TeleBehavioral Health is a way for the primary care provider to refer patients for outside services without having to leave their community.

Contact us for more information about our services:

Connecting to Care
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TELEPSYCHIATRY



Services for dual diagnosed individuals with developmental disabilities, providing psychotropic medication management with specialty psychiatrists from Southern California.

**For individuals, families, and
care providers located in
Northern California
rural counties**



Partially Funded by
Far Northern
Regional Center

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF TELEPSYCHIATRY?

- ◆ Primary care providers and Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC) are able to refer patients to outside specialty psychiatrists without leaving the community
- ◆ Eliminates traveling long distances, saving time and money
- ◆ Use of secure, HIPAA compliant, broadband and high definition video equipment, allowing the psychiatrist to connect with the individual and his or her care team from a distant location
- ◆ Greater continuity of care, as the primary care provider stays involved, by receiving all consultation notes and recommendations



WHAT IS TELEHEALTH?

TeleHealth was developed due to a shortage of specialists, especially in rural areas. TeleHealth allows Far Northern Regional Center to connect consumers with specialty providers at distant locations using video conferencing technology without having to travel outside of the community.

TelePsychiatry brings the patient, family and support professionals (known as the “care team”) together in a *virtual* clinic. The psychiatrist conducts the same assessment as would be done in person in a regular in-office setting. The individual and/or care team are welcome to invite additional family members or other professionals involved in the care of the individual, to the appointments to better understand the needs of the individual.



Who is Connecting to Care?

Connecting to Care is a non-profit TeleHealth organization established to fill gaps in healthcare due to limited local resources in rural communities.

HOW TO ACCESS TELEPSYCHIATRY SERVICES

The patient/care team and primary care provider will request Connecting to Care TelePsychiatry services from their Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC) Service Coordinator.

An intake packet can be obtained from our office (can also be faxed, mailed or emailed) and must be completed and signed by the appropriate individuals.

Once FNRC authorizes services, the TeleHealth Coordinator will schedule an initial consultation with the Psychiatrist.

How long does the appointment last?

The initial consultation is scheduled for an hour, follow up consults are generally scheduled for 30 minutes. The psychiatrist is also available for phone consultations in between video consultations.

What happens during the appointment?

Using special video equipment, the psychiatrist will consult with the patient/care team. The psychiatrist will suggest treatment recommendations which will be communicated to the primary care provider who will then order any pertinent testing and/or prescribe any recommended medications.

