Walk-in Services vs Mobile Field Response

Walk-in services are preferred and appointments are available, but not necessary.

Mobile response is available when deemed appropriate usually to existing community facilities with staff on site. Individual who are aggressive, under the influence or with active medical needs should be referred to your local hospital or law enforcement.

MERT Values

- Safety
- Client Centered
- Practical Information
- Mutual Respect
- Teamwork
- Flexibility
- Cooperation
- Cultural Awareness
- Communication

1400 Emeline Building K
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Phone: 800-952-2335
MERT Services

MERT is a Santa Cruz County Mental Health Crisis Intervention and Evaluation Service for residents of Santa Cruz County regardless of insurance coverage or lack of insurance.

MERT is currently available Monday - Friday excluding Holidays (8:30am - 5:00pm).

We provide both walk-in crisis intervention and field-based response to community-based agencies, schools and group homes to provide acute crisis intervention/stabilization services including 5150 (72 hour hold) assessments in contact with clinicians/staff who are already familiar with the individual involved.

MERT response may include community-based response in collaboration with Law-Enforcement as appropriate to ensure individual, community, and clinician safety.

Who Do We Serve?

• Adults and Children experiencing a significant mental health crisis.
• Individuals who are gravely disabled or at imminent risk of harm to self or others.
• Santa Cruz County Residents with Medi-Cal, private insurance, or no insurance.

**Individuals who are aggressive, under the influence, or who have active medical needs should be referred to the closest hospital or law enforcement.**

The MERT Team Services Includes:

• Crisis assessment including possible assessment for voluntary or involuntary psychiatric hospitalization.
• Walk-in and Mobile Crisis intervention and Behavioral Health Evaluations to determine appropriate level of care.
• Referral and linkage to appropriate treatment and support.
• Safety planning with short term follow

WHAT HAPPENS?

• Walk-in to 1400 Emeline, Building K, or call 800-952-2335
• After a brief screening, a MERT clinician responds.
• Individual meets with a Licensed Counselor to assess need for mental health treatment.
• MERT clinician will develop safety plan incorporating the family’s values, culture, and specific needs.
• Clinician will help youth and family get connected to appropriate help.
• Clinician will follow up to ensure safety and that the individual’s needs were met.

Santa Cruz MERT Services
Santa Cruz County Behavioral Health
1400 Emeline, Building K
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Phone: 800-952-2335