



## ABOUT TELECARE

Telecare is a family- and employee-owned company that has been treating individuals with serious mental illness since 1965. We specialize in innovative, outcomes-driven services for high-risk individuals with complex needs. Our programs are recovery focused and clinically effective and are designed in partnership with local, county, state and other behavioral health organizations. We currently provide services in California, Texas, Oregon, North Carolina, Nebraska and Washington, and have over 2,200 employees.

### TELECARE'S MISSION

Telecare's mission is to deliver and manage excellent services and systems of care for persons with serious mental illness.

### OUR STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

We exist to help people with mental impairments realize their full potential.

### CONTACT VIPS

5810 Ralston Street, 2nd Floor  
Ventura, CA 93003  
Phone: 805-642-7033  
Fax: 805-642-7732  
vips@telecarecorp.com  
www.telecarecorp.com/vips

## REFERRAL GUIDELINES:

To participate in the VIPS program, individuals must meet the following criteria:

- Meet any of the warning signs
- Be 16-25 years old
- Live in West Ventura County

## GET CONNECTED!

If you are interested in receiving information, education, and/or materials on early symptoms of psychosis or know of a young person in need, please contact us at: 805-642-7033.

TELECARE CORPORATION

# VIPS:

## Ventura early Intervention Prevention Services

5810 Ralston Street, 2nd Floor  
Ventura, CA 93003

Serving young people ages 16-25 in Ventura County at risk for developing psychosis. For more information or referrals please call: 805-642-7033.



TELECARE CORPORATION | WE EXIST TO HELP PEOPLE WITH  
SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS REALIZE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

## ABOUT VIPS: WHO WE ARE

VIPS is an exciting new program offered by Ventura County Behavioral Health in partnership with Telecare Corporation. This program is modeled after the Portland Identification and Early Referral (PIER) model and is funded through the Mental Health Services Act.

## WE HELP THE COMMUNITY TO BE AN ACTIVE AND ESSENTIAL PART OF THE TREATMENT PROCESS

Research has indicated that educating the public and community leaders will increase the chances that a young person will receive early treatment that can slow the progression of psychosis. VIPS actively outreaches to the communities of Ventura County to provide information about early identification and treatment.

## WHO CAN HELP?

Community members who are most likely to help identify these young people include:

- Staff at high schools and colleges
- Nurses and physicians
- Spiritual leaders
- Police
- Mental health professionals
- Community centers



## WHO WE SERVE

VIPS provides confidential assessment and early assistance for young people between the ages of 16 and 25 who are at risk for mental illness in West Ventura County.

## SYMPTOMS MAY INCLUDE:

The following symptoms are behaviors or feelings that can indicate a temporary reaction to significant stressors, or they can be early signs of a developing psychotic illness. If the young person presents a combination of symptoms, or the symptoms appear to worsen over time, this may indicate the onset of a mental illness.

- Difficulty in maintaining focus, concentration or memory
- Hearing sounds or voices, seeing visions, or experiencing strange sensations that others don't perceive
- Difficulty with conversations or being understood
- Feeling overly fearful or suspicious
- Changes in sensitivity to light, sound or touch; decreased sense of smell
- Dramatic changes in behaviors, ideas, sleep or appetite
- Withdrawal from friends and family
- Deterioration in school or work functioning
- Suicidal thoughts

## WHAT WE DO

VIPS consists of a diverse clinical team trained to assess and treat young people experiencing the early warning signs of psychosis.

The VIPS team assists young people and their families to build coping skills, reduce stress, and increase performance in all areas of the young person's life. Consultations and assessments with trained professionals will determine whether an individual could benefit from VIPS services.

## OUR TEAM WILL:

- Educate community members who will help identify young people who are exhibiting the early warning signs of psychosis
- Conduct confidential assessments specifically designed to identify risk for actual psychosis
- Provide individualized treatment for the young person and their family

## TREATMENT INCLUDES:

- Multi-Family Groups
- Psycho-education
- Psychiatric/Medication options
- Occupational Therapy
- Education and Employment Support
- Nursing Services