I. **Course Description**

CNEP 5381, Psychodiagnosis and Treatment Strategies, covers types of human distress, as described in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, including the development of tools for the understanding and critical appraisal of abnormal human behavior across the life-span. Strategies and techniques for working with clients in a variety of settings are considered.

II. **Rationale**

Helping professionals (counselors, teachers, ministers, mental-health workers, and social workers) must be aware of a variety of counseling strategies and must be able to effectively apply these strategies to different populations of clients in a variety of different settings. Knowledge, awareness, and skills are all necessary to be able to be effective in ‘helping’ roles.

III. **State Adopted Proficiencies for Teachers and/or Administrators/Counselors**

**Standard I: Learner-Centered Knowledge:** The certified school counselor has a broad knowledge base.

**Standard II: Learner-Centered Skills:** The certified school counselor applies the knowledge base to promote the educational, personal, social, and career development of the learner.

**Standard III: Learner-Centered Process:** The certified school counselor participates in the development, monitoring, and evaluation of a developmental school guidance and counseling program that promotes learners’ knowledge, skills, motivation, and personal growth.

**Standard IV: Learner-Centered Equity and Excellence for All Learners:** The certified school counselor promotes academic success for all learners by acknowledging, respecting, and responding to diversity while building on similarities that bond all people.

IV. **TExES Competencies**

**Competency 001 (Human Development):** The school counselor understands processes of human development and applies this knowledge to provide a developmental guidance program, including counseling services, that meets the needs of all students.

**Competency 002 (Student Diversity):** The school counselor understands human diversity and applies this knowledge to ensure that the developmental guidance and counseling program is responsive to all students.
Competency 003 (Factors Affecting Students): The school counselor understands factors that may affect students' development and school achievement and applies this knowledge to promote students' ability to achieve their potential.

Competency 006 (Counseling): The school counselor understands how to provide effective counseling services to individuals and small groups.

Competency 009 (Collaboration with Others in the School and Community): The school counselor understands how to work collaboratively with other professionals and with community members to promote positive change and to facilitate student learning.

V. Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to enable students to study psychological problems in people, including developing an understanding of the general principles and methods of case conceptualization, assessment and/or diagnoses of mental and emotional disorders, utilizing the DSM 5. The following CACREP standards are covered and assessed in this course.

Core
1. CACREP Standard II F-3-h: a general framework for understanding differing abilities and strategies for differentiated interventions;
2. CACREP Standard II-F-3-d: theories and etiology of addictions and addictive behaviors;
3. CACREP Standard II-F-5-f: counselor characteristics and behaviors that influence the counseling processes;
4. CACREP Standard II-F-5-h: developmentally relevant counseling treatment or intervention plans.
5. II-F-5-i: development of measurable outcomes for clients.
6. CACREP Standard II-F-5-j: evidence-based counseling strategies and techniques for prevention and intervention;
7. CACREP Standard II-F-7-e: use of assessments for diagnostic and intervention planning purposes;
8. CACREP Standard II-F-7-k: use of symptom checklists and personality and psychological testing;

In addition to the objectives listed above, the student will satisfy the following objectives based on their area of emphasis:

Marriage and Family Counseling

The following CACREP standard is covered and assessed in this course:
1. CACREP Standard F-2-d: diagnostic process, including differential diagnosis and the use of current diagnostic classification systems, including the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) and the International Classification of Diseases (ICD).

Specific student learning outcomes (SLOs) for this course include the following:

1. Students will demonstrate understanding of the diagnostic process and treatment planning by providing accurate diagnosis; appropriate treatment objectives, planning, and intervention strategies; appropriate use of medical and adjunctive services; placement criteria and referral services within the continuum of care; and preferred clinician characteristics for multiple case studies designed to reflect a variety mental and emotional disorders as described in the DSM. Assessment will be based on responses to multiple case studies and the mid-term 35 or above
average on case studies and a grade of 105 or above on the mid-term and final examinations. 
*CACREP Standard II-G-5-b;*

2. Students will differentially describe counselor characteristics and behaviors that influence helping processes across multiple case studies and the final project, which are designed to reflect a variety of DSM diagnostic categories. Achievement of this SLO will be evaluated based on a grade of 35 or above average on case studies and a grade of 105 or above on the mid-term and final examinations. **CACREP Standard II-F-5-j CACREP Standard II-F-5-k**

3. Students will demonstrate principles of developmentally appropriate biopsychosocial case conceptualization and treatment planning that demonstrates understanding of strategies for interventions appropriate for differing abilities of clients as assessed by evaluation of responses to multiple case studies and the final project. Achievement of this SLO will be evaluated based on a grade of 35 or above average on case studies and a grade of 105 or above on the mid-term and final examinations. **CACREP II-F-3-h, F-3-H CACREP Standard II-F-5-j CACREP Standard II-F-8-b**

4. Students will identify appropriate approaches to clinical evaluation, including diagnostic interviews, mental status examinations, symptom inventories, and other assessments, across a variety of DSM categories and diagnoses. Assessment will be based on selection of appropriate evaluation strategies and measures on multiple quiz case studies and the final project. Achievement of this SLO will be evaluated based on a grade of 35 or above average on case studies and a grade of 105 or above on the mid-term and final examinations. **CACREP Standard II-F-7-e: CACREP Standard II-F-7-k CACREP Standard II-F-8-b**

5. Students will identify appropriate uses of a variety of psychotropic medications, including indications and contraindications, as well as demonstrate understanding of appropriate medical referral, as related to a variety of DSM categories and diagnoses. Assessment will be based on multiple quiz 35 or above average on case studies and a grade of 105 or above on the mid-term and final examinations. **CACREP Standard II-F-7-e:**

VI. **Course Topics**

The major topics to be considered are:

Knowledge, awareness, and skills in diagnosis and treatment planning, to be gained by studying the psychological problems that many people experience as categorized in the DSM, and effective counseling strategies for dealing with these concerns. In addition, psychopharmacological treatment for various disorders will be addressed. Crisis and trauma-causing events and appropriate treatments are included in the course. A detailed list is included under the Tentative Course Schedule section.

VII. **Instructional Methods and Activities**

Methods and activities for instruction include:

A. Traditional Experiences: discussion and application.
B. On-line Experiences: lecture, discussion, readings, and evaluation.
C. Clinical Experiences: case study homework, examinations, group project.

VIII. **Evaluation and Grade Assignment**

The methods of evaluation and the criteria for grade assignment are:

A. Evaluation Methods and Scoring
1. Preparation checks: This class integrates the use of Black Board distance learning technology to deliver course content and evaluate preparedness for each class meeting. PowerPoints, videos, and other material will be posted there. In order for us to make good use of the time in class, it is critical that you prepare by reading assignments and otherwise getting yourself ready to participate in active learning within the class time. You will be able to use in-class time for application of the material, getting feedback from peers and from me, and working on case studies. Because preparation for this kind of class is so important, Preparation Checks will be used for each class. These will consist of a brief series of objective questions that must be completed via Black Board prior to class. Preparation checks will generally cover broad material rather than very detailed material, and hints may be provided in the posted material for some subject matter. You will be able to earn up to 10 points for each check. Because of the class format, you are responsible to cover material that would ordinarily be covered in class so that you are prepared for in-class applications and activities.

2. Homework: There will be eight homework assignments during this course. Each homework assignment is due by the beginning of class on the date assigned. The first homework covers general information about the DSM-5, information from the psychopharmacology text, and general information from Black Board for the first class. All subsequent homework assignments are case studies covering material in the DSM, the psychopharmacology text, lecture, material from the Selecting Effective Treatments text, and class discussion.

Homework will not be accepted late and there will be no make-up provided; however, the lowest homework grade for each student will be dropped. While not recommended, students who fail to submit up to one homework will not be penalized. Each face-to-face class will provide opportunities for active learning relevant to the next week’s homework and/or case studies and exams.

4. Midterm Exam and Final Examinations: For the midterm you will provide appropriate diagnosis and justification for five separate cases. Each case may have multiple diagnoses. For the final, you will select one of the case studies provided and submit a document that addresses the questions and instructions that are shown in the contents section of Blackboard. You will provided a choice of case studies to use as the basis for your examination. The final exam document will be available to you by the middle of the course so that you may be thinking and perhaps working ahead. Detailed instructions will be provided in class and will be posted in BlackBoard. Both the midterm and final exams are individual projects. Group work and consultation with peers is not allowed.

B. Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preparation Checks</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
<td>225</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>225</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1250</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

A= 1125-1250; B=1000-1124; C= 875-999; D=750-874; F= 749 and below

All written assignments must reflect graduate level presentation, including APA (6th ed.) format, correct spelling, and appropriate punctuation and grammar. Point deductions will be taken for errors in writing skills and APA style.
Please talk with me if you are having problems (sooner rather than later).

IX. Course Schedule and Policies

A. Tentative Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic &amp; Assignments Due</th>
<th>Course Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug-28</td>
<td>Introduction and Orientation to Course</td>
<td>Instructor material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Healthy Human Functioning</td>
<td>P, O’N, &amp; T 3-60; 235-250</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction to Effective Treatment Planning</td>
<td>DSM 5 Sec. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DSM 5 and How it Should be Utilized</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Basics of Psychopharmacology</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept-4</td>
<td>Neurodevelopmental and Disruptive Disorders</td>
<td>DSM 31-86; 461-480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preparation check 1 due</td>
<td>P, O’N, &amp; T 251-272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept-11</td>
<td>Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders</td>
<td>DSM 5 87-122</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preparation check 2 due</td>
<td>P, O’N, &amp; T 219-230</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Homework 1 due</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept-18</td>
<td>Bipolar and Depressive Disorders</td>
<td>DSM 5 123-188</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Preparation check 3 due</td>
<td>P, O’N, &amp; T 75-104; 169-208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Homework 2 due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept-25</td>
<td>Anxiety Disorders and Obsessive Compulsive Disorders</td>
<td>DSM 5 189-264</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preparation check 4 due</td>
<td>P, O’N, &amp; T 101-122; 209-218</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Homework 3 due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct-2</td>
<td>Trauma and Stressor-Related Disorders</td>
<td>DSM 5 265-290</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preparation check 5 due</td>
<td>P, O’N, &amp; T 133-140</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Homework 4 due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct-9</td>
<td>Other Conditions That May be a Focus of Clinical Attention;</td>
<td>DSM 5 715-727, 783-806</td>
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<td>Conditions for Further Study</td>
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<td>Preparation check 6 due</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Homework 5 due</td>
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<td>Oct-16</td>
<td>Feeding and Eating Disorders</td>
<td>DSM 5 329-354; P, O’N, &amp; T 147-154</td>
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<td>Take Home Mid-term Examination Due</td>
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<td>Oct-23</td>
<td>Substance Related and Addictive Disorders</td>
<td>DSM-5</td>
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<td>Preparation check 7 due</td>
<td>481-590</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Homework 6 due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Preparation check due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct-30</td>
<td>Personality Disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov-6</td>
<td>Dissociative Disorders; Somatic Symptom Disorders;</td>
<td>Preparation check 9 due</td>
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<td>Elimination Disorders; Sleep/Wake Disorders; Gender Dysphoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov-13</td>
<td>Sexual Dysfunctions; Paraphillia Disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov-20</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec-4</td>
<td>Final Exam due by 7pm</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**B. Course Policies**

**Attendance, Participation, & Professionalism**

Like any class, this class may be considered a rather large group. As in any group, commitment—as reflected by attendance and active participation—is vital. Because of the strong experiential component (role play, group exercises, etc.) in this class, your attendance is important not only for your own learning but for the learning of others and for class spirit. Therefore, in order to receive points, you must both attend and participate (i.e., talk, contribute to group activities) in class discussions about readings and in other activities. This will require that you read assigned material prior to the class period in which the reading is discussed. More than two unexcused absences will result in loss of one letter grade for the course, a third unexcused absence will result in non-credit for the course. Missing more than 30 minutes of any class meeting constitutes an absence.

**Late Work Policy**

One added challenge to attending graduate school coursework is that many students have families, work part or full-time jobs, and have to negotiate a number of responsibilities outside of the classroom. As a faculty member I acknowledge that it is understandable that life circumstances may take precedence to your school work and encourage you to plan, when possible, the turning in of your assignments and completion of course activities in the event that you should have to miss class. As a policy, all assignments are to be turned in by the beginning of class on the due day. I do not accept any late work that is not accompanied by documentation (e.g. medical professional, computer technician report, etc.); however, I will accept incomplete work and score what work has been completed.

**Laptops**
Students are encouraged to bring laptops or tablets to class if they have them as their use may shorten the amount of time needed to complete homework assignments. It is also acceptable for students to share any information developed during the face-to-face class with peers in the class by using Bb mail with attachments. This will allow those who do not have laptops or tablets available to bring to class to utilize the same information without penalty.

**BlackBoard**

This course uses Black Board for delivery of materials necessary for class. Students may contact me or class members via email. For more rapid response from me, please use my university email address listed above.

**Electronic Device Notice**

As a matter of courtesy to your classmates and the instructor, please turn off your beepers, cell phones, pagers, MP3 players, texting devices, and any other electronic except laptops/tablets. Students who, because of work, child, or other external requirements, must have pagers or cell phones turned on should place them on courtesy mode and should respond only to emergency messages. Unnecessary use of electronic devices will result in being asked to leave class. Please limit in-class use of your computer to note-taking or working on that day’s assignment.

**Academic Integrity Policy**

The TAMUCC (2010) Graduate Catalog and the TAMUCC Student Handbook provide definitions of academic integrity. Specifically, university students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, plagiarism, complicity, and forgery. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with university academic integrity policies, procedures, and penalties. Ignorance of policy is not an acceptable defense in my class or in graduate work.

Students should make note that using materials from websites also require appropriate documentation from the specific website from which the material is obtained. Copying material from websites without appropriate attribution is a form of plagiarism and will be treated as such. Only scholarly web materials are acceptable for reference materials.

Any student who is found to have violated the academic integrity policy in this course is subject to a grade of 0 on the particular assignment and a grade of F in the course. The faculty member must file a record for each case of academic dishonesty with the Dean, who will forward a copy to the Office of Student Affairs. The student has the right to appeal the judgment or the penalty and should contact the Office of Student Affairs for guidance about how to do this. Academic misconduct may also be referred to the CNEP department for consideration. Please note: saving of any homework assignments, case studies, or exam material is considered a violation of academic integrity in this class. While I understand that you may need to download homework assignments, mid-term and final exams, and case study documents to use during the course, you must delete it once this course is completed. Sharing the information with
students who come after you, even though this material is regularly changed, is a form of cheating and will be dealt with as such. Losing a flash drive from which you have not deleted this information is not an excuse.

Statement of Academic Continuity
In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

X. Textbooks

The textbooks adopted for this course are:


* the latter half of the course will require you to integrate theories of counseling into your conceptualizations of case studies- it is recommended that retain your theories text.

XI. Bibliography

The knowledge base that supports course content and procedures includes but is not limited to:


**Play Therapy**


**XII. Grade Appeals**

As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he
or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

XIII. Disabilities Accommodations

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Driftwood 101.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

XIV. Grading Rubrics

Please note: For all assignments, it can and will impact grades if there is plagiarism in your work. Appropriate citation and references are required for all material, whether paraphrased, summarized, or quoted. If you use direct quotations, quotation marks and page numbers must be provided using appropriate APA styling. There is one exception, which applies to this course only: When you are justifying your diagnoses and using specific criteria outlined in the DSM, you do not have to quote the material. In this course only, it will be understood that you are taking the information directly from specific pages in the DSM 5. This exception is NOT consistent with APA style, but is absolutely reasonable in this course.

Mid-term and Final Examination: The mid-term exam involves providing multiple diagnoses, with justifications for case studies (225 pts. each).

The final exam (225 points) will be a case study, which you will choose from those provided to you. You will provide a diagnosis and justification and a detailed case presentation/treatment protocol, using a theoretical orientation. For the final examination, you will provide basic tenets of the theory chosen, the reasons you chose the theory along with expected outcomes (both to be based in literature and research), specific interventions appropriate for the theoretical approach.
chosen, and responses regarding medications, clinician characteristics, and prognosis.

Cases will be drawn from any diagnostic category covered since the beginning of class for each exam. Detailed instructions for the Mid-term and Final Exams will be found on the documents posted in Black Board by mid-semester. In addition to the point structure outlined, up to 30 points may be deducted for writing style, APA 6th edition adherence, bibliography, and other writing issues. Students may lose additional points for serious citation issues within the body of the paper.
## Diagnosis

### Levels of Consideration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biological</th>
<th>Psychological</th>
<th>Social</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Conceptualizing Etiology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biological</th>
<th>Psychological</th>
<th>Social</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brain Systems Affected:</td>
<td>Cause of Problems Based on Theory:</td>
<td>Social factors affecting the disorder:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Moderating Variables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biological</th>
<th>Psychological</th>
<th>Social</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neurotransmitters that are Involved:</td>
<td>Theory-based interventions:</td>
<td>Relational Strengths:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mitigating Factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biological</th>
<th>Psychological</th>
<th>Social</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medications:</td>
<td>Outcomes targeted by interventions:</td>
<td>Community Resources Available:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>