

HOUSING AND HEALTH SERVICES COORDINATION COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes July 17, 2013, 10:00 am

Meeting began: 10:02 AM

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Tim Irvine, Chair

The quarterly meeting of the Housing and Health Services Coordination Council (HHSCC) on July 17, 2013 was called to order by Chair Tim Irvine at 10:07 am. The meeting was held at the Brown Heatly Building, 4900 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78751, Room 3501.

Members Present:

Tim Irvine, Chair, Executive Director of the Texas Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs
Paula Margeson, Vice Chair, REACH Resource Center of Dallas (Non-profit Advocate Rep.)
Amy Granberry, Member, Charlie's Place (Health Services Entity Rep.)
Doni Green, Member, North Central TX Council of Governments (Promoting Indep. Rep.)
James Hill, Member, Texas Capital Bank (Financial Institution Rep.)
Mike Goodwin, Member, (Multifamily Housing Developer Rep.)
Jean Langendorf, Member, Easter Seals of Central TX (Rural Communities Rep.), participated by phone
David Danenfelzer, Member, Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation
Kenneth Darden, Member, Macedonia Baptist Church (Minority Issues Advocate Rep.)
Jim Hanophy, Member, TX Dept. of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services
Jonas Schwartz, Member, Health and Human Services Commission
Becky Dempsey, Member, TX Dept. of Agriculture
Laura Vanoni, Member, TX Dept. of State Health Services

Members Absent:

Felix Briones, Member, (Housing Consumer Rep.)
Megan Cody, Member, TX Dept. of Agriculture
Marc Gold, Member (Steve Ashman sat in for Marc), TX Dept. of Aging and Disability Services

TDHCA Staff Present:

Elizabeth Yevich, Director of Housing Resource Center
Kate Moore, Section 811 Manager
Terri Richard, Coordinator of HHSCC

AGENDA

Public Testimony

There was no general public testimony provided at the meeting.

Approval of April 15, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Approval was motioned by Mr. Hill and seconded by Mr. Goodwin. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Discussion and Approval of HHSCC Bylaws Amendments

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Approval was motioned by Mr. Goodwin and seconded by Mr. Hill. Bylaws Amendments were approved unanimously.

Presentation for Rental Assistance for People with Mental Illness

Anna Sonenthal with the Dept. of State Health Services presented and answered questions about the exceptional item approved in the 83rd Legislative Session for Rental Assistance for People with Mental Illness.

- DSHS received \$10.8 million to provide rental (short and long-term) and utility assistance to individuals with mental illness.
- DSHS developed a needs and capacity assessment and sent a Request for Proposal to all of the Local Mental Health Authorities (LMHAs).
- Many LMHAs submitted proposals to state office staff who are currently reviewing the proposals.
- Only individuals who are receiving other services from the LMHA will be eligible for rental and utility assistance.
- Once the LMHAs are selected their Performance Contracts with DSHS will be amended.
- Council members expressed their support for the initiative but asked for more detailed information about how the funds will be spent, what transition planning will occur, and what measures will be used to track success.
- Anna shared with members that most LMHAs have housing expertise and that they are using the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration tool kit.
- Anna assured the group that LMHA's own housing developments will be used as a last resort.
- A suggestion was made to work in cooperation with TDHCA's 811 PRA Program to allow DSHS' dollars to go further.
- Another suggestion was made to include the information on the 211 Texas website.
- A council member suggested that the scoring methodology be made public.
- Anna agreed to report again on the progress of the initiative.

Update on HUD Section 811 PRA Program and CMS Real Choice Systems Change Grant

Kate Moore (Manager, Section 811) presented an update on the Section 811 PRA grant activities. Ms. Moore began by providing an overview of the project. Texas was awarded a Real Choice Systems Change Grant to conduct activities to prepare for the application for the Section 811 PRA program. The funds from Real Choice enabled Texas to create an 811 Team that worked on the Interagency Partnership Agreement, which positioned Texas to successfully apply for the Section 811 PRA grant. Texas was one of 13 states awarded the grant funds. Texas was awarded the full amount of \$12 million to develop approximately 385 units. Texas targeted three populations, including:

1. People with disabilities exiting nursing facilities and Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual and Development Disabilities;
2. People with Serious Mental Illness; and
3. Youth with disabilities aging out of Foster Care.

TDHCA is awaiting the draft Cooperative Agreement from HUD and hope to receive it by the end of July or early August. Ms. Moore announced that HUD has announced plans to hold a grantee conference in Washington D.C. in August 2013.

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Ms. Moore gave an update on the Housing and Services Partnership Academy held on May 16, 2013 in Dallas. The Housing and Services Partnership Academy provided local communities the tools and education necessary to create safe, affordable, accessible housing for people with disabilities in their communities.

Selected teams participated in:

- Two pre-academy webinars
- A day and a one half intensive workshop
- Developed Community Strategic Action Plan and Goals
- Learned about Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Demonstration Funds

Participating community teams received:

- A Federal and State Housing and Services Resource Guide
- A Localized Housing and Services Resource Guide outlining existing affordable housing inventory and local available service and housing
- Follow-up webinars; and
- Strategies to build partnerships between housing and services, creating an infrastructure to build capacity and coordination

Last, Ms. Moore informed members that the Housing and Services for Persons with Disabilities Online Clearinghouse has been released for public comment. TDHCA, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, and 2-1-1 Texas are asking for assistance in completing the development of the new Clearinghouse.

The Clearinghouse is an online database residing on the 211Texas.org Website. It is designed to provide persons with disabilities and those who serve them with a searchable public database comprising affordable housing and community-based services resources in their community. Ms. Moore encouraged members to test the Clearinghouse and reported that over 80 people have tested the site and responded to the corresponding survey. Those wishing to test the website can access it at <https://www.211texas.org/211/clearinghouse/main.do> and enter the password “clearinghouse”. The public comment period ends August 12, 2013.

Discussion of Biennial Plan Development

Council Coordinator Terri Richard reviewed the *HHSCC and Technical Assistance Collaborative Recommendations* and the *HHSCC and TAC Recommendations Completed or In Progress* documents. The documents listed all of the recommendations to date from the HHSCC 2010-2011 and 2012-13 Biennial Plans as well as TAC recommendations. In addition, the recommendations that had been completed or In-progress were shared.

A recommendation was made to focus on one or two top priority recommendations and develop implementation strategies to address them.

Consensus of the group was that Ms. Richard would send council members an e-mail asking each member to send her their top three TAC recommendations. She will then compile the results and send back to council members the top three recommendations that received the most votes.

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After the recommendations are identified, council members will provide names of individuals to Ms. Richard (not limited to council members) who will work in subgroups to develop implementation strategies. Ms. Richard will also send the sample implementation plan provided by TAC to use as a template.

Legislative Updates

TDHCA

Update provided by Mr. Irvine.

- Increased funding for affordable housing
- Sunset Bill passed
 - included a 12-year extension as well as measures impacting the scoring of Housing Tax Credit applications, compliance matters, manufactured housing issues, and other administrative functions.
- Housing Trust Fund \$11,000,000
- \$10 million in General Revenue to TDHCA for continued administration of the Homeless Housing and Services Program (HHSP).
- HB 1888 (adds public housing authorities to be eligible in the At-risk set aside),
- SB 109 (adds additional reporting requirements to the State Low Income Housing Plan (SLIHP) and allows flexibility in how TDHCA collects foreclosure data)
- SB 659 (provides a cure period for tax credit properties in compliance matters),
- SB 1892 (adds TDHCA to Texas Coordinating Council for Veterans Services).
- HB 736 changes the composition of the HHSCC to 17 members by adding a representative of the Texas Veterans Commission to the HHSCC.

Dept. of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)

Update provided by Jim Hanophy

- Vocational Rehabilitation received modest increase in general revenue of 1.2%
- Received funding to provide additional training to interpreters
- They received no funding for additional Centers for Independent Living but received full funding of existing 27 centers.
- DARS is required to demonstrate how they measure the effectiveness of the centers (work is currently underway to develop measures)

Dept. of Aging and Disability Services (DADS)

Update provided by Steve Ashman

SB 1 and HB 1025 funding includes: (All funding amounts in millions)

- Rates
 - Attendant care base wage increased to \$7.50 per hour in Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 and \$7.86 per hour in FY 2015 (\$40.9 General Revenue (GR) / \$95.6 All Funds (AF))
 - Nursing Facility (NF) rate increased by 2 percent in FY 2014 and an additional 4 percent in FY 2015 (\$103.0 GR/ \$246.6 AF)
 - Promoting Independence (\$28.1 GR / \$69.2 AF)
 - 400 Home and Community-based Services (HCS) waiver slots for large and medium Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with an Intellectual Disability (ICF/IID)
 - 300 HCS waiver slots for individuals at-risk of ICF/IIDs institutionalization

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- 192 HCS waiver slots for children aging-out of the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) Foster Care
 - 360 HCS waiver slots (120 in FY 2014 & 240 in FY 2015) for relocation of individuals with IDD from NF
 - 25 HCS waiver slots for DFPS children with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD)
 - 100 Community-Based Alternatives (CBA) waiver slots for individuals at risk of NF institutionalization
- Community Expansion (\$56.5 GR / \$139.1 AF)
 - 712 waiver slots for Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS)
 - 100 waiver slots for Deaf Blind with Multiple Disabilities (DBMD)
 - 1,374 waiver slots for HCS
 - 120 waiver slots for Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP)
 - 490 waiver slots for STAR+PLUS
 - 3,000 waiver slots for Texas Home Living (TxHmL)
 - 262 waiver slots for CBA in FY 2014 (Program transfers to Health and Human Services Commission in FY 2015)
 - Habilitation services to 11,902 individuals with IDD beginning FY 2015 (\$106.5 GR / \$371.4 AF)
 - Cognitive Rehabilitation Therapy to the CBA, CLASS and HCS waivers (\$0.4 GR / \$1.0 AF)
 - Enhanced Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) (\$9.8 GR / \$23.8 AF)
 - Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
 - 96 additional slots at current sites
 - Three additional PACE sites with up to 150 slots per site

Health and Human Services Commission

Update provided by Jonas Schwartz

- SB7 – Delivery System Redesign for the Provision of Acute Care Services and Long-term Services and Supports to Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. They are seeking individuals wishing to serve on the Advisory Committees created by the bill. Applications are on the HHSC website. The legislation also includes “carving in” nursing facility care into Star+PLUS managed care.
- SB8 – relating to the provision and delivery of certain health and human services in this state, including the provision of those services through the Medicaid program and the prevention of fraud, waste, and abuse in that program and other programs. Includes changes to Medical Transportation.
- SB 58 – relating to delivery of and reporting on mental health, behavioral health, substance abuse, and certain other services.

Texas Department of Agriculture

Update provided by Becky Demsey

- Received \$18 million for Texans Feeding Texans programs such as Meals on Wheels

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- Received an increase from \$1.8 to 2.9 million in a surplus Ag grant program.
- No changes to Retire in Texas
- Community Development Block Grant increased by 5% because of increase in Texas population

Dept. of State Health Services

Update provided by Laura Vanoni

- Received \$48 million to eliminate the wait lists at LMHAs.
- \$20 million being reserved for new individuals expected to request services (surge) after the wait list has been eliminated.
- Received funding for Public Awareness Campaign
- \$20 million for emergency room diversion program for people with serious mental illness
- Funding for a collaborative project with the Bridge in Dallas to address serve people who are homeless with mental illness
- \$4 million for veterans with mental illness
- \$10 million for Harris County jail diversion program
- Increase in Substance Abuse funding by \$1.1 million

In response to a question from a member, Ms. Moore gave a brief update on Project Access – vouchers reserved for people with disabilities via TDHCA Section 8 program

- 140 vouchers reserved – due to budget constraints 75 issued and 175 on the wait lists
- In efforts to address the wait list, TDHCA is developing a guidance for Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) administrators, Relocation Specialists, Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs), Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), and Centers for Independent Living to allow TBRA to be used by individuals on the Project Access wait list until their name comes up on the list. The guidance is expected to be released in the next two weeks. TDHCA will also provide technical assistance to those wishing to utilize the process.

Discussion of Next Steps & Staff Assignments

Chair Irvine announced that Jim Hanophy will be leaving DARS and this was his last meeting.

The Council decided that the next quarterly meeting would take place on Wednesday, October 9 at 10am.

There was a request to provide council members with a new contact list. Ms. Richard will revise and send to members.

ADJOURN

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 12:08 pm.