

Public Private Partnership Meeting

May 25, 2023

Welcome!

Call to Order the Public Private Partnership (PPP)

Jenifer Jarriel

Introductions

PPP Co-Chairs - Jenifer Jarriel, Erica Bañuelos, George Cannata

Approve January 2023 PPP Minutes

Jenifer Jarriel

OCBCT Updates

Office of Community-Based Care Transition

Single
Source
Continuum
Contractors
(SSCCs)
Updates

- Saint Francis Community Services
- 2INgage
- Our Community Our Kids
- Empower
- 4Kids4Families
- Texas Family Care Network
- Belong

DFPS Updates

Erica Banuelos,
Lindsey Van Buskirk

- Educational Binder Updates
- Medical Consenter

SSCC Performance Measure Updates

Sierra Fischer and Judy Pavone

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES

CBC PERFORMANCE MEASURES

May 2023



TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

LEGACY & SSCC RESULTS OVERTIME



DATA COLLECTION & REVIEW | DATA RELEASE

All SSCCs have quarterly performance reviews with DFPS in which performance results are reviewed and afterwards is available perpetually online.

QUARTERLY REVIEWS

- **Internal & External quarterly performance meetings** with multi-disciplinary DFPS team and vendor staff
 - Review performance measure and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) data with SSCC
 - Make recommendations for CQI plans and contract action
 - Review CQI plans in progress and make recommendations to close based on sustained improvement. CQI efforts will be ongoing.

PUBLICATIONS

- Online Rider Reports two times per year



STAGE 1 & 2 CONTRACT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

LEGACY & SSCC
RESULTS OVER TIME

PPP Membership Roundtable Open Discussion

PPP Members and DFPS Staff

Thank you!

We will now transition to the
PPP and CARP shared agenda

Call to Order the Committee on Advancing Residential Practices (CARP)

Scott Lundy

Welcome and Introductions

PPP Co-Chairs and CARP Co-Chairs

DFPS Updates

Erica Banuelos
Jillian Bonacquisti
Hector Ortiz
Kaysie Taccetta

- Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP)
- Rate Modernization



TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

Senate Bill 1575 (87th Regular Session) Update

PPP/CARP Meeting – May 25, 2023



TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

Background

Pursuant to Senate Bill 1575, there were several issues related to residential care that required addressing according to federal legislation enacted under the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). SB 1575 included a mandate to establish and oversee a workgroup to address these issues and submit a report to the legislature of the findings and recommendations by October 1, 2022.



TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

Background

The workgroup was established in March 2022 with statewide members from various child welfare organizations such as Texas CASA, Texas Network of Youth Services, Texans Care for Children, TexProtects, Texas Alliance of Child and Family Services as well as members from the various residential provider communities and legal teams across the state.



SB 1575 Report to Legislature

The report was submitted by the Children's Commission to the legislature on September 30, 2022, and can be found on their website at:

<http://texaschildrenscommission.gov/media/85028/sb-1575-report-online.pdf>



TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

Legal Recommendations

Alternative Strategies

Court Data

Proposed Statutory Changes

Guardian Ad Litem & Attorney Ad Litem
Duties

Model Court Order



RTC Best Practice Recommendations

Access to Information

Youth Engagement

Family Engagement

Treatment Model

Trauma-Informed & Trauma Responsive

RTC Best Practice Framework

Capacity

Duration of Placement

Transition Planning

Data



TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

Thank you!

PPP and CARP Logistics

Jenifer Jarriel and Scott Lundy

PPP Meeting Adjourned

Jenifer Jarriel

This concludes the PPP
Meeting.

CARP Meeting to follow.

Approve CARP Meeting Minutes from January 2023

Scott Lundy

Unsolicited Proposals

George Cannata



OCBCT Unsolicited Proposal Process

Authority

Under HHSC Grants

- **1.1 Authority**
- The Texas Family Code §264.157(c) authorizes the OCBCT to contract on behalf of the DFPS in expanding community-based care, to, among other actions, “enable satisfactory unsolicited proposals for community-based care services to be accepted and implemented.”
- Texas Family Code §264.157(b) further states the department must “accept and evaluate unsolicited proposals from entities based in this state to provide community-based care services in a geographic service area where the department has not implemented community-based care.” Areas currently under contract with an SSCC can be found here on the [DFPS: Community-Based Care](#) website. An unsolicited proposal cannot be accepted for any of the counties on the map that are colored and represent geographic areas where community-based care has already been implemented.

Scope of Proposals

2.1 Proposal

The Applicant must propose a geographic area(s) that have been identified as “open”; meaning the proposed area is not currently part of a SSCC service area and meets criteria:

- Includes a full Texas county or counties
- Includes counties that are contiguous
- Encouraged that the proposed service area does not split a judicial district court

2.2 Eligible Applicants

- Eligible Applicants are governmental entities or community-based nonprofits that have an organizational mission focused on child welfare services, and that meet the qualifications consistent with Texas Family Code Section 264.157, including but not limited to:
- The Applicant must be a nonprofit entity that has an organizational mission focused on child welfare with a majority of the entity's board members residing in this state or a governmental entity;
- The Applicant must be an entity based in this state and must be an HHS licensed Child-Placing Agency (CPA);
- Applicant must demonstrate its experience in providing services to children, youth, and families in the proposed catchment area;
- The Applicant may be a single entity or may submit a proposal through the formation of a consortium of providers, which may include itself. If the Applicant is awarded an SSCC contract, one provider must act as the consortium's lead in directly contracting with DFPS;
- An Applicant that has a Child Placing Agency license, issued under HHS Residential Child Care regulations, within the proposed geographic service area must be in good standing, not on hold, as of the date of the proposal submission and award; and
- DFPS will not contract with any provider for more than a total of two (2) CBC SSCC contracts. Those can be either specified regions by Request For Application award or community directed areas proposed under the unsolicited bid process and awarded.

Instructions

- **3.1 Submission**
- An Applicant may submit a proposal to CBCUnsolicitedProposal@dfps.texas.gov with subject line: ***CBC Unsolicited Proposal***. Within a week, the Applicant will receive an email confirming receipt of the submitted proposal. The OCBCT and the DFPS Contracting Unit will evaluate the submitted proposal and, within its sole discretion, determine eligibility and next steps.
- Within three months of the Applicant's submission, the Applicant will receive notification of the department's decision. DFPS, with the OCBCT, may decide to (1) enter into contract negotiations with the Applicant or (2) deny the Applicant a contract award and procure a competitive Request For Application that could include other providers in the same or similar geographic service area at a later time.

Additional Details

- Public Notice (CBC Site and D-List): Notice of counties proposed and directing additional interest to the site.
- Packet—due within 45-days of notice receipt
 - The Unsolicited Bid Package will be submitted electronically to the DFPSCBCUNSOLICITEDPROPOSAL@dfps.texas.gov.
 - Item 1: Narrative Proposal
 - Item 2: Administrative and Financial Entity Information
 - Financial Processes and Reporting
 - History and Experience
 - Conflicts
 - Litigation and Contract History
- If more than one proposal is received—RFA process

Abeyances, Disallowances, and Agency Home Closures

Jillian Bonacquisti, Bill Walsh, Jenny Hinson



TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

Foster Home Disallowances

What is a Disallowance?

- Determination that a foster home may not be utilized for placement of any child or youth in DFPS Conservatorship
- Determination is made by DFPS Director of Placement Services



TEXAS

Department of Family
and Protective Services

Identifying Homes for Disallowance

DFPS receives disallowance referrals from:

- DFPS Regional Staff
- Single Source Continuum Contractors (SSCCs)
- DFPS Residential Child Care Contracts Division
- Heightened Monitoring Divisions
- DFPS Placement Staff
- Residential Child Care Regulations Staff

Reviews may also be initiated when concerns are brought to DFPS by external stakeholders.



TEXAS

Department of Family
and Protective Services

Disallowance Criteria

Disallowances may occur under any of the following chronic, recurring or problematic circumstances:

- Failure to meet basic needs of the children
- A pattern of non-compliance with licensing standards
- Safety concerns
- Previous or current CPA sharing concerns regarding risk, safety or abilities to meet the needs of the children
- Uncooperative (lack of appropriate cooperation with CPS or CPA staff):
 - when foster parents fail to attend a child's necessary medical appointment due to inappropriate excuses;
 - when foster parents are unwilling to transport child to obtain caregiver training for PMN children (such as Trache trainings for PMN children)
- Failure to provide requested information to CPS or to the CPA or other individuals or entities who are authorized to request information related to the children
- Failure to abide by and cooperate with entities and individuals who are attempting to provide necessary services to the children
- Failure to follow through with requests made by CPS or CPA staff
- Any behavior that places a child's safety at risk and interferes with provision of services to the children



TEXAS

Department of Family
and Protective Services

Disallowance Notifications

- DFPS Placement Division notifies a Child Placing Agency (CPA) of a Foster Home Disallowance with cooperation from DFPS Contracts and Legal Divisions.
- DFPS requests that the CPA retains a copy of the letter in the Foster Home Family File to provide notice to other CPAs that DFPS will not place additional children or youth in the disallowed home.
- CPAs are advised to contact the Director of Conservatorship Services with any questions about a Disallowance Determination.



TEXAS

Department of Family
and Protective Services



TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

HHSC RCCR Agency Home Closure Recommendation Overview

Remedial Order 21



Agency Home Closure Recommendation Overview

In response to Remedial Order 21, HHSC developed the Agency Home Closure Recommendation process.

Remedial Order 21:

Effective immediately, RCCL and/or its successor entity, shall have the right to directly suspend or revoke the license of a placement in order to protect children in the PMC class.

Agency Home Closure Recommendation Overview

The purpose of agency home reviews is to ensure agency homes with a suspected or identified risk level that poses an elevated risk to children in foster care are assessed and if the risk cannot be controlled, that HHSC CCR recommends the Child Placing Agency closes the home. In order to achieve this goal, **CCR established the following criteria to identify homes that require a review:**

Agency homes that have **two or more deficiencies** in the following high weighted standards as outlined in RCCR Policy 4451.1:

- inappropriate discipline;
- inadequate supervision;
- unsafe living conditions;
- safe sleep violations;
- children's rights;
- interference with an investigation;
- failure to report to the CPA a household member or frequent visitor for background checks.





Agency Home Closure Recommendation Overview

Agency Home Reviews, cont.

The purpose of agency home reviews is to ensure agency homes with a suspected or identified risk level that poses an elevated risk to children in foster care are assessed and if the risk cannot be controlled, that HHSC CCR recommends the Child Placing Agency closes the home. In order to achieve this goal, **CCR established the following criteria to identify homes that require a review:**

- Agency homes with a validated (Reason to Believe) abuse or neglect finding where there has not been a Determination of Immediate Threat (DIT) finding by CCR's Centralized Background Check Unit (CBCU), and
- Agency homes on the DFPS Disallowance list

Agency Home Closure Recommendation Overview

Factors CCR considers when assessing agency homes for an agency home closure recommendation:

1. The compliance history and regulatory status of the agency home, including whether the home was previously closed for deficiencies by another CPA;
2. The nature and severity of the minimum standard deficiency or deficiencies or child abuse or neglect findings;
3. The number of and patterns in intakes and investigations;
4. Patterns and repeated violations of high risk deficiencies;
5. The length of time that has elapsed between abuse or neglect investigations or minimum standard deficiencies;
6. The role of the perpetrator of the abuse or neglect intake or investigations in the agency home;
7. The protective capacity of the caregiver(s) in the agency home; and
8. The vulnerability of the child(ren) the home is currently caring for or is verified to provide care for.





TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Agency Home Closure Recommendation Overview

A recommendation for an agency home closure will be made when the assessment of the home concludes that a caregiver cannot provide a safe and appropriate environment based on their prior actions, decisions, or reactions and there is no reasonable assurance that the Child Placing Agency can provide support to the home to provide on-going safety in the home.

Final decision is made by the CCR Associate Commissioner and, if a recommendation is approved, the CPA will be notified.

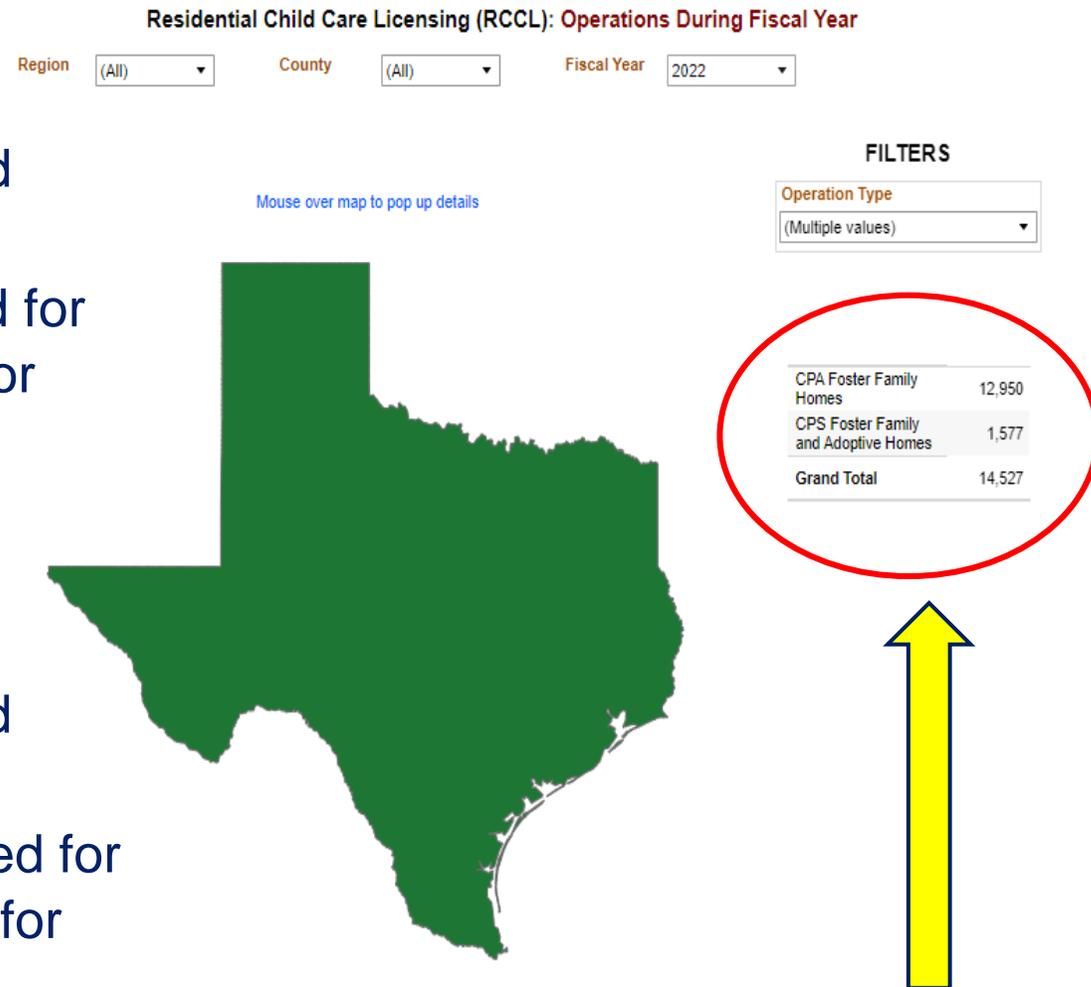
Agency Home Closure Recommendation Overview

FY 2022

- **10** homes referred
- **6** homes approved for recommendation for AHC

FY 2023 (to date)

- **15** homes referred
- **10** homes approved for recommendations for AHC





TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Closing

Jenny.Hinson@HHS.Texas.Gov

Agency Home Transfers

Jenny Hinson

Due Process

Jevi Rodriguez

Incentives and Remedies Update

Bill Walsh

House Bill 5 Grants Updates

Bill Walsh

DFPS Updates

Hector Ortiz
Lindsey Van Buskirk

- Supervision Definitions
- Medical Consenters
- Child Sexual Aggression
- Medication Logs
- Awake/Night
Supervision Logs
- Educational Binders

Licensing Standards for Kinship Caregivers

Hector Ortiz, Rocky Hensarling, Rachel Ashworth-
Mazerolle

Placement Updates

Hector Ortiz

- General Placement Search
- DFPS Placement Teams Update



TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

General Placement Search (GPS)

05/25/2023
Update

Centralized Placement Unit (CPU)-update



TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

- Moved all statewide CPU staff responsible for paid placements into one functional team reporting to State Office Placement Division.
- This transition will support consistency in processes, accountability, equitable workloads among placement staff, and a streamlined process to ensure youth are in safe and licensed placements.

Providers Statistics



TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

- 100% of providers have entered their contact information in GPS.
- New providers are contacted once DFPS contract is executed to assist with first time logins and address any questions.
- A GPS User Guide is provided for reference in using GPS and making any needed updates for contact information, vacancy availability as well as preferences for placement such as gender, ages range and level of care withing licensing parameters. Accurate contact, vacancy availability and preference information entered in GPS allows the placement team to complete accurate placement searches and secure placements for youth in need of out of home placements.



Preference Data

- 92% of active providers have preference data entered in GPS totaling over 4200 placements! This is an increase of 8% from last year.
 - Leaving 8% of providers showing no preference data in GPS beyond contact information for the provider.
- 39% of placement updates are coming through electronic data transfer Case Management Systems such as Gateway, Extended Reach, KaleidaCare and Casebook.

Providing Assistance

- DFPS Placement Team compiles weekly data on:
 - Providers entering data
 - Errors with electronic data transfers
 - Preference data that is outside of the license data
- Remember vacancies should to actual vacancies with current staffing patterns not licensed vacancies
- We will contact you if we are seeing a concern with your data and to assist with updates if needed.



TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

We are here to help



TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

Our Team is ready to assist with
any issue you may be experiencing
with GPS.

Contact us at
dfpsgpsproject@dfps.texas.gov



TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

Thank you

CARP Meeting Adjourned

Scott Lundy