



Collin County Final Local Plan for Indigent Behavioral Health Services

Presented to the Collin County Commissioners Court
September 28, 2015

Process Recap April – August 2015



- » April 1: Collin County received approval from DSHS and HHSC of the Preliminary Local Plan for Indigent Behavioral Health Services
 - » LifePath Systems was approved as the future Local Behavioral Health Authority (LBHA)
- » August 26: Consultant Team and LifePath Systems leadership met with the new DSHS-HHSC Transition Team
- » August 31: Received the checklist of items to address in the final plan
- » September: Prepared the final plan draft
- » September 4 and 15: Conducted stakeholder review and comment sessions
- » September 16: submitted the final draft

What does the final plan do?



- Expands certain sections of the preliminary plan
 - Access to local funds
 - Development of other funding streams
 - Commits to provision of required services
 - Providers provisionally agreeing to participate in new network
 - Assures LifePath Systems will serve as provider of last resort
 - Addresses authority functions for substance abuse funds
 - Provides details on expanding crisis services
 - Clarifies performance of mental health authority functions
 - Contingency plan if funding is insufficient
 - Anticipated tasks and timelines for transition

Aim and the Overall Goal of the Final Plan



Aim

Describe based on current requirements to the best of our knowledge and understanding, the proposed structure, functions and timelines associated with a successful transition out of NorthSTAR to a locally managed program of mental health and substance abuse services for indigent clients.

Addresses Medicaid services to the extend required.

Goal

Inform the reader about the envisioned system, the principles on which the new system will be based, and strategies associated with developing it.

Major Plan Components



- ✓ Executive Summary
- ✓ Authority organization structure and functions
- ✓ Engagement of stakeholders
- ✓ Transition plan: Tasks and Schedule
- ✓ List of Services to be provided
- ✓ List of other programs outside basic MH/SA funding streams
- ✓ Compliance with all state requirements for the LBHA

Principles and Values articulated in the plan document



Principles

- Access
- Rights
- Responsiveness

Values

- Effective management practices with checks and balances
- Transparency and fairness of procedures
- Network cooperation to produce improvements and optimum health outcomes
- Continuous engagement with stakeholders



Requirements

1. 13 services must be provided in the community through the network or in some other way (page 4 of the plan)
2. Other services may be developed as state contract or with other sources (page 4 of the plan)
3. All Authority functions must be assured (page 12 of the plan)
4. Access to local funds must be assured
5. Procedures to develop the network and make payments to contractors must be defined
6. Intent to integrate primary care and behavioral health care
7. Gaps in current services and strategies to address them must be included (Section V.D. in the plan)

Section V. D. Areas of focus identify gaps and strategies



1. Re-design existing crisis response and intervention systems
2. Enhance and expand services for offenders
3. Expand inpatient treatment options and improve discharge planning
4. Establish a full continuum of outpatient care
5. Expand treatment options for substance use disorders
6. Establish well-coordinated early detection and intervention/prevention programs

Functions of the LBHA

Powers and responsibilities delegated by the State



- Conduct a structured local planning process
- Develop and manage a local provider network that meets standards for structure, performance, reporting, and contract requirements
- Perform Quality and Utilization Management activities according to standards
- Make, promulgate and ensure compliance with policies
- Determine eligibility for services
- Provide consumer benefits and advocacy services
- Train and credential provider staff

Concerns were expressed regarding the authority-provider structure in LifePath Systems



- Checks and Balances when the organization is both the Authority and a local provider
 - We provided information, references and hand-outs to the stakeholders regarding sections of the Texas Health and Safety Code and the Texas Administrative Code that define the authority, the community center, and establishes performance requirements and standards
- 2016 Performance Contract items
 - We provided a reference to learn more about the details
<http://dshs.state.tx.us/mhcontracts/FY-2016-Performance-Contract.aspx>
- We clarified the process the authority must use to develop the Local Service Area Plan and how the Planning and Network Advisory Committee functions



Challenges identified

- Establishing effective cooperation agreements between the new Collin County LBHA as LifePath Systems and the proposed new NTBHA
- Developing appropriate SUD services array that balances the community's needs with available services dollars;
- Ensuring that community needs are met by accessing all available resources in addition to the General Revenue funding



Opportunities identified

- Convening stakeholders around common goals
- Innovating and developing a more robust system of resources for behavioral healthcare locally
- Accessing funding sources and other resources heretofore inaccessible to Collin County
- Improved coordination and reduced duplication of services among providers

Summary: stakeholder input on final plan draft



- Authority – Provider separation, checks and balances
- Issues on Access, Waiting Lists, Benefits and Choice
- Need an Ombudsman program
- Include the Clubhouse model in formal dialogue
- Ensure the system is pro-active, including targeted outreach, education, and advocacy programs especially for at-risk populations;
- Access to inpatient services
- Consult with existing crisis services providers to achieve maximum billing processes for crisis related services
- Identify current system efficiencies and strengths upon which to build

Next Steps



- September 28-30: Receive feedback from DSHS
- October 1-5: Complete Edits and submit final documents
- October 2015 – June 2016:
 - Develop local community coalition, building on the planning groups developed since January 2015, based on the model of “Mental Health Connections,” that will add value to the new LBHA system. (*Develop and endorse innovation, identify issues or barriers to a robust and responsive system, and pursue strategies to overcome obstacles, solutions to problems and resources to achieve goals*).
 - Establish services utilization baselines (*services types, by diagnoses, by zip code, by provider*) using State Fiscal Year 2014-15.
 - LifePath Systems works with DSHS transition team to develop its management infrastructure in preparation for assuming authority functions for mental health and substance abuse services as the Collin County Local Behavioral Health Authority effective January 1, 2016.

Mental Health Connection of Tarrant County

- <http://www.mentalhealthconnection.org/>
- A community coalition of stakeholders who work together to continuously improve the mental health service delivery system in Tarrant County, Texas
 - The stated purpose of its 501(c)3 charter is to create and support the implementation of a comprehensive plan to improve the delivery of mental health services to all residents in Tarrant County, Texas and to enhance collaborative opportunities
 - The board of directors develops five-year strategic plan for long-term changes in the system while addressing key issues and providing immediate solutions where possible.
 - It is supported through membership dues, sponsorships, grants and private donations
 - It facilitates a collaboration of public and private interests, healing professions, individuals and families to an exceptional behavioral health system emphasizing accessible, quality care

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www.mentalhealthconnection.org/index.php

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Mental Health Connection of Tarrant County

The next regular membership meeting will be held:

Monday, October 12, 2015
8:30-10:00 a.m.
Lena Pope
3200 Sanguinet
Fort Worth, Texas 76107

Program
Tarleton State University in Fort Worth

Announcements
Job Openings
Minutes of previous meetings
Bylaws

Quick Links



Next Mental Health Connection meeting: Monday, October 12, 2015, 8:30 a.m., Lena Pope
[Click here](#) for Kenneth Ginsburg, M.D.'s, PowerPoint presentation on resilience
[Click here](#) for an update on the 1115 Waiver projects
[Click here](#) to learn more about helping children through traumatic experiences
[Click here](#) to see "The Changing Expectations of the Juvenile Justice System in Texas"

Family-Run Organization Kicks Off

With support from Hand in Hand, a core group of families who have children with mental health issues have developed a new family-run organization in Tarrant County. To reinforce the ties it hopes to have with Mental Health Connection, the group named the new organization *Family Connection*. In the months since January, Family Connection members have been in the organizational stages, developing a vision, mission and committee structure.

Mission: Connecting and empowering families to improve the mental health system in Tarrant County
Vision: Building on strengths, we will advocate for improved mental health resources for Tarrant County families in collaboration with our community partners.

Family Connection plans to focus on networking, education and advocacy to work towards its vision.

The group will hold educational meetings on the third Wednesday of every month at Lena Pope, 3200 Sanguinet in Fort Worth. Meetings begin with a light breakfast at 9 a.m. at Lena Pope, 3200 Sanguinet, Fort Worth.

Future meetings will feature:

http://www.mentalhealth... Mental Health Connection ...

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Accomplishments

Trauma-Informed Community



Building on its work during the Bridging the Gap symposium years, Mental Health Connection continued to address ways to develop Tarrant County as a trauma-informed community. The organization's Trauma-Informed Committee worked with the Communications Committee to develop *Recognize Trauma*, a public awareness campaign that focuses on the impact of trauma in children. The campaign is designed both to educate and to provide hope that children suffering from post-traumatic stress can recover. The Committee also spearheaded the symposium, "Building Resilience: Children and Trauma," featuring Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg, a pediatrician specializing in Adolescent Medicine at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Dr. Ginsburg's presentation received two standing ovations during the day-long symposium. [Click here](#) to review his PowerPoint presentation. Work is currently underway to determine next steps in Mental Health Connection's work with trauma and resilience.

Strategic Plan

After completing the work outlined in two five-year strategic plans, Mental Health Connection worked with more than 200 volunteers across the community to develop a new plan that will lead it through the upcoming years. The new plan focuses on access, engagement, outcomes, quality of care, sustainability and workforce development. [Click here to see the current Strategic Plan.](#)

"Bridging the Gap: Research, Practice and Policy"



In an effort to speed research to the field and establish Tarrant County as a leader in evidence-based practices, Mental Health Connection conducted a series of five symposiums in partnership with Texas Christian University. During the first four of these symposiums, nationally renowned experts shared their knowledge about system transformation, research on best practices in mental health care and bringing the evidence-based practices to patients and families. The fifth symposium focused on the changing demographics of this area, in addition to planning for the future of Mental Health Connection.

Learning Communities and Implementation Teams

Following each symposium, working groups met to determine the best evidence-based practices for the community, and to find ways to implement those practices. Six Learning Communities scoured research about addictions, at-risk/prevention, autism, externalizing disorders, internalizing disorders and trauma. Each returned with a proposed pilot program.

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9/28/2015

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www.mentalhealthconnection.org/current_members.php

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- [ACH Child and Family Services](#)
- [Cook Children's Medical Center](#)
- [Fort Worth Independent School District](#)
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- [Lena Pope Home, Inc.](#)
- [MHMR of Tarrant County](#)
- [Tarrant County](#)

Agency/Organization (Contributing between \$150 and \$5,000 annually)

- [Alliance for Children](#)
- [CampFire USA](#)
- [Catholic Charities](#)
- [Child Study Center](#)
- [First United Methodist Church, Fort Worth](#)
- [Greater Mount Tabor Christian Center](#)
- [Mental Health America of Greater Tarrant County](#)
- [Mesa Springs](#)
- [Millwood Hospital](#)
- [Jordan Elizabeth Harris Foundation](#)
- [NAMI of Tarrant County](#)
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- [Samaritan House](#)
- [Santa Fe Youth Services, Inc.](#)
- [Sundance Hospital](#)
- [Tarrant County Challenge, Inc.](#)
- [The Art Station](#)
- [The Excel Center](#)
- [The Parenting Center](#)
- [Trauma Support Services of North Texas](#)
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- [The Women's Center](#)
- [Youth Advocate Programs, Inc.](#)

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100%

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**“Don’t rush me! I need some time
to process everything.”**



Fiscal Year 2015 Texas LMHA contract: volume and sample page

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Information Item C

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Crisis services expansion - funded



1) Establish a liaison and decision support program to engage law enforcement in consultation around crisis calls prior to a potentially unnecessary transport to inpatient or observation facilities in Dallas;

2) Establish a Crisis Clinic in an existing LifePath clinic (7308 Alma Drive; Plano, TX 75025) that will be open on weekdays between 6 and 9 PM, and on Saturday from noon to 5 PM.

The Crisis Clinic will

- divert persons in crisis from the criminal justice system
- and from psychiatric inpatient facilities
- and reduce unplanned use of local emergency departments for psychiatric crisis,
- by intervening earlier in the crisis event through those two systems and through other crisis system entry points in Collin County including law enforcement.