

Alcohol/Drug Abuse Women's Center
Alliance of Community Assistance Ministries of
Greater Houston (ACAM)
Amerigroup
Association for Family and
Community Integrity, Inc.
Behavioral Health Alliance of Texas
Bering Omega Community Services
Care for Elders
Career and Recovery Resources, Inc.
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese
of Galveston-Houston
ChildBuilders
CHILDREN AT RISK
Children's Defense Fund
Coalition for the Homeless of
Houston/Harris Co., Inc.
Coalition of Behavioral Health Services
Collaborative for Children
Communities In Schools
Community Family Centers
Community Health Choice, Inc.
Covenant House of Texas
DePelchin Children's Center
Depression & BiPolar Support Alliance
Greater Houston (DBSA)
Easter Seals of Greater Houston, Inc.
Family Services of Greater Houston
Fort Bend Regional Council on
Substance Abuse, Inc.
Gateway to Care
Good Neighbor Healthcare Center
Greater Houston Healthconnect
Gulf Coast CHIP Coalition
Harris County Healthcare Alliance
Healthcare for the Homeless-Houston
Houston Area Association for the Education
of Young Children
Houston Area Community Services
Houston Area Women's Center
Houston Center for Literacy (formerly Houston
READ Commission)
Houston Food Bank
IntraCare Behavioral Health
Jewish Family Service
Jewish Federation of Greater Houston
KIPP Houston
League of Women Voters Houston
Legacy Community Health, Services Inc.
Lesbian Health Initiative
Memorial Hermann Healthcare System
Mental Health America
of Greater Houston
NAMI Gulf Coast
NAMI Metropolitan Houston
NAMI West Houston, Inc.
National Association of Social Workers-Houston
Neighborhood Centers, Inc.
Neuhauser Education Center
New Hope Housing, Inc.
Northwest Assistance Ministries
Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast
Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services
Santa Maria Hostel, Inc.
SEARCH
Spaulding for Children
Spring Branch Community Health Center
St. Luke's Episcopal Health Charities
Texans Together Education Fund
Texas Children's Hospital
Texas Medical Center-Women's Health
Network, Inc.
The Arc of Greater Houston
The Foundation for Hope Village
The Immunization Partnership
The Methodist Hospital System
The Network of Behavioral
Health Providers
The Non-Profit Housing Corporation of Greater
Houston
The Rose
The Women's Home
United Way of Greater Houston
Wesley Community Center
YMCA of Greater Houston

One Voice Texas

A Collaborative for Health & Human Services



Behavioral Health: Continuity of Care Programs for Individuals Leaving Institutional Care and/or Who Are Involved with the Child Welfare and/or Criminal Justice Systems

Position Statement Approved by One Voice Texas: August 10, 2012

Issue/Concern:

Due to a lack of accessible and affordable community based services, many individuals living with behavioral health disorders find themselves cycling in and out of institutional care, such as state hospitals and jails/prisons, and/or involved with the child welfare system. People living with behavioral health disorders who exit institutional care or who are involved with the child welfare and/or criminal justice systems are at an increased risk for recidivism, homelessness, and being non-compliant with their treatment.

Providing on-going supports and services to these individuals would help them more successfully make the transition back to the community and increase their chances for continued stability, recovery, and success at a much lower cost to the state than if they were to return to institutional care.

Specific Policy Recommendation(s):

Support initiatives that fund, create, and expand the availability of continuity of care programs, such as Medicaid Home and Community Based Services and Money Follows the Person, for individuals living with behavioral health disorders throughout the state.

How Will This Impact State Funding? What Can Be Accomplished?

On-going community based services can be provided at a cost that is substantially lower than keeping these individuals in, or returning them to, institutional care and or the child welfare/criminal justice system while improving their outcomes and quality of life.

Supporting Facts/Research Resources:

1. The estimated lifetime cost of maintaining a person in the Texas criminal justice system is more than \$2 million.
2. Case management, individual service plan creation, psychosocial assessment, counseling, medication monitoring, substance use treatment, transportation, life skills education and other services can be funded through the Medicaid Home and Community Based State Plan Amendment Option.
3. The cost of community-based mental health treatment is \$12 per day.
4. The cost of care for a person with mental illness who is incarcerated is \$137 per day.
5. The cost for a visit to the emergency room is \$1265.
6. The cost for state mental health facility hospitalization is \$400 per day.

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