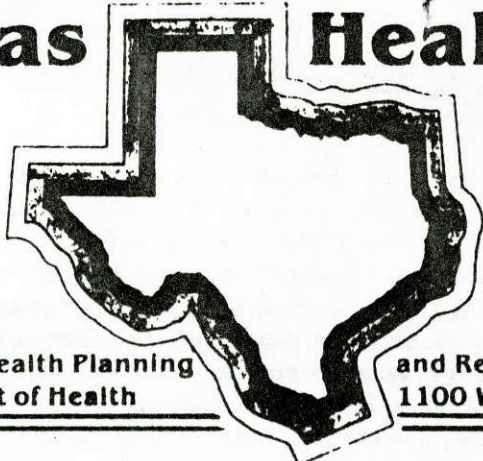


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Texas

Health Planning NEWS



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Bureau of State Health Planning
Texas Department of Health

and Resource Development
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SHCC APPROVES PROPOSED STATE HEALTH PLAN;
GOVERNOR'S APPROVAL EXPECTED BY LATE JULY

The Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC) adopted the Proposed State Health Plan as the 1987 State Health Plan by unanimous vote at its June 27, 1986 meeting in Austin. The plan, after being refined into final form, was sent to the governor for his review and approval in mid-July. Distribution is scheduled for August.

The 1987 document underwent the 30-day public review and comment period from May 8 to June 6, with one statewide and 13 regional public hearings conducted during that time.

The State Health Plan identifies major statewide health-related concerns, recommends strategies to resolve these concerns and analyzes the need for various types of health facilities and services. The goal of the plan is to assure equitable access to needed health care services--at affordable prices--for all residents of the state. The plan is developed under the guidance of the SHCC, a 21-member group of health-care providers and consumers appointed by the governor to develop health planning policies for the state. The council has identified 14 major health issues and the proposed strategies to address these concerns at the state level. The state's 24 regional councils participated in the plan development process and identified health issues of particular concern to their respective regions.

Implementation of the plan is guided by the SHCC and the Texas Department of Health, with the ultimate responsibility residing with managers of the various health-related public agencies and individual providers of health care services in the private sector.

CYCLE IX ENERGY CONSERVATION
APPLICATION DEADLINE NEARING

The Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) has announced its anticipation of a ninth grant cycle for Institutional Conservation Program (ICP) funding which provides matching federal monies for energy conservation studies and capitol retrofit projects in hospitals, schools, local government buildings and public care facilities in Texas. The ICP completed its eighth funding cycle with grants totaling \$2,360,156 being awarded to 49 Texas institutions.

Final figures for the last cycle included the following institutional breakdown of awarded funds for technical assistance and energy conservation measure projects:

Hospitals	\$ 760,993
Colleges and Universities	435,832
Primary and Secondary Schools	1,163,331

Information concerning Cycle IX has been mailed to eligible applicants and application requests will be accepted through October 10 for technical assistance (TA) grants and through December 12 for emergency conservation measure (ECM) grants. Additional information is available from Mel Roberts or Douglas Key at:

Institutional Conservation Program
Public Utility Commission of Texas
Energy Efficiency Division
7800 Shoal Creek Blvd., Suite 400N
Austin, Texas 78757
(512) 458-0301

Growing out of Title III of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act of 1978, the purpose of the ICP is to assist public and private non-profit institutions in reducing energy consumption and in controlling escalating energy costs. Technical assistance grants enable institutions to purchase the services of a professional engineer to identify and assess the potential effectiveness of energy conservation retrofit projects for specific buildings.

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DATA COLLECTION EFFORTS INCLUDE
ANESTHESIA GAS DELIVERY SYSTEMS

The Bureau of State Health Planning and Resource Development is engaged in yet another data collection effort, this time in the area of anesthesia gas delivery systems. Last September, the Texas Department of Health (TDH) was awarded a one-year contract by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to conduct a pilot project survey on the anesthesia gas delivery systems within the state.

It is hoped that the data collected during the study will successfully identify the nature of safety problems encountered in using the equipment. Also, the information will assist the FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health in prioritizing areas for regulating manufacturers and/or providing direction and assistance to users in solving recurring problems.

The surveys being conducted were scheduled to be completed by June 30, 1986 and concentrated on collecting data from 17 hospitals and five freestanding surgical clinics in the state. These facilities were selected in such a way as to provide a representative sample of existing surgical facilities. Selection criteria such as facility size and types, numbers of weekly surgical procedures performed, estimated weekly anesthesia procedures and geographic location were utilized.

Anonymity of the facilities and individuals who participated is required by the contract and was strictly enforced. Participating facilities will be provided copies of their individual data, as well as the final report based on aggregate data from the survey. If necessary, reports identifying problem areas and suggested corrective actions will also be provided.

RESPONSE NEEDED

The State Appropriations Act requires all state newsletters and other periodicals to present a notice in three consecutive issues indicating that anyone desiring to continue to receive the publication so indicate in writing. The agency will furnish future publications of the News only to those persons requesting it. This does not apply to Texas Department of Health employees who receive their issues through bulk shipments and mailings. To continue on the mailing list please fill out the address blank below, sign and date it, and return it to:

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