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CRCG Events Calendar

Jul. 17-19 — 2019 Texas System of Care and CRCG Conference, Austin, TX

Jul. 23 — CRCG Bridge Call, 2-3 p.m. CT

Aug. 20 — CRCG Bridge Call, 2-3 p.m. CT

Aug. — CRCG Webinar Series, date to be announced

Sep. 17 — CRCG Bridge Call, 2-3 p.m. CT

CRCG State Office Updates

Highlights from 2016-2018 Report

Each biennium, the State CRCG Office prepares a statewide report on CRCG activities for the Texas Legislature, Governor, and chief executive officers of state agencies. The report summarizes the number of people served by CRCGs, barriers to services, and other information related to improving the delivery of services to people with complex needs.

As of January 2019, there were 125 distinct CRCGs covering 221 counties in Texas. A web-based survey collected information from CRCGs. Eighty-three percent (104) of the CRCGs completed the survey, representing 190 counties. Only eight of the CRCGs had paid positions assigned to support the CRCG.

CRCGs reported over 4,000 case staffings conducted during the three-year period. About 66 percent of these staffings related to first-time encounters and 34 percent were follow-up sessions. Eighty-one percent of all staffings conducted resulted in a community-based solution. Individuals referred to CRCGs most often expressed needs or concerns regarding mental health care (78 percent), risk behaviors (75 percent), academics or school (72 percent), risk for placement in a residential facility (69 percent), and family therapy or family-based services (61 percent).

Approximately half of CRCGs reported barriers with service availability (53 percent), physical access (50 percent), and agency capacity (46 percent). Just over one-third of CRCGs (37 percent) reported barriers related to client choice or preference. CRCGs also reported which partners regularly attended staffings. The most frequent attendees were juvenile probation officers (80 percent), local mental health authorities (70 percent), school districts (64 percent), and HHSC state benefits offices (60 percent).

Many CRCGs shared success stories related to successful resource coordination, improved agency collaboration, avoiding placement in facilities, increasing self-sufficiency, and meeting the needs of entire families. These stories will be featured in the [Spotlight on CRCGs](#) section of this newsletter. The [full report is available online](#) on the HHS website.

CRCG Site Visits

The State CRCG Office and Workgroup welcomes the opportunity to engage and visit with local CRCG partners. Local meetings increase our awareness of community strengths and needs, which improves our ability to provide effective technical assistance and support.

State CRCG Office staff members recently visited three Texas regions (Jackson County, McLennan County, and six counties in the Brazos Valley). In April, the Jackson County CRCG came together to reestablish their CRCG. The meeting was attended by many members of their community including school districts, the Red Cross, a local hospital, and others joining the conversation. A case staffing was also completed during the meeting.

The McLennan County Adult CRCG held a monthly meeting in May. Because there were no community members requesting CRCG support at the time, the group learned from a partner about Maximus benefit enrollment services.

Finally, six counties from the Brazos Valley area gathered to launch a peer learning group in June. Leaders from Brazos, Burleson, Grimes, Leon, Madison, and Robertson counties discussed the roles and responsibilities of CRCGs and helped each other identify the best ways to gain participation from key partners.

Thank you for sharing of your time, experiences, best practices, and challenges. Please contact the State CRCG Office if you would like to schedule a site visit or discuss other opportunities for technical assistance and support. You can email the office at crcg@hhsc.state.tx.us or call 512-206-5255.

Resources

CRCG website

The [CRCG website](#) has great resources for leaders and members, including guidebooks covering all things CRCGs, and resources for families and community members.

Webinar Recordings

The State CRCG Office webinars bring valuable resources and information to CRCG partners and members. Click the links below to view previous recordings.

[Linking Children and Families to Prevention Programs](#)

[CRCGs Developing Vital Partnerships](#)

[Empowering CRCGs in 2019 and Beyond](#)

[CRCG Data Collection System Training](#)

[CRCG and Permanency Planning](#)

Sharing Is Caring

Please share our newsletter with your colleagues or anyone that might benefit from this information!

Contact Us

We would love to hear from you! If you have thoughts, concerns, comments, ideas or anything else that you'd like to share, please contact the State CRCG Office.

CRCG@hhsc.state.tx.us

512-206-5255

CRCG Legislative Updates

Senate Bill 241 was passed during the 86th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2019. The bill amends language in Sections 531.421(3) and (4) of the Government Code by repealing the word "consortium" and replacing it with "commission." The State CRCG Office is developing an implementation plan and will update local CRCGs as more information is gathered.

Learn about bills that pertain to CRCGs and track them through the [Texas Legislature Online](#) website.

Spotlight on CRCGs

The State CRCG Office acknowledges efforts and successes of different CRCGs in this spotlight section. To share success stories for upcoming newsletters, send an email to CRCG@hhsc.state.tx.us.

Family Chooses Alternative to Placement

The Johnson County CRCG met with a foster/adoptive family that was seeking a referral to Waco Center for Youth. When CRCG members talked to the family, they learned a more appropriate resource could be the Texas Challenge Academy. The CRCG worked to get the young man into the program instead of residential placement and he has excelled. He enjoys the structure and routine of the academy and developed an interest in a military career. His adoptive father and mentor work together to encourage his success while also continuing to maintain contacts in the community for when he returns home from the program. The young man is focused on his future and fulfilling his goals. The family is thankful the CRCG helped them find another option that provides him with additional opportunities.

School Districts Join CRCG

Colorado County CRCG members successfully engaged school districts across the county. Now all the districts regularly participate in the CRCG and support the process. The CRCG reports great cohesion between schools and local agencies because of these efforts.

Upcoming CRCG Events

2019 Texas System of Care and CRCG Conference

July 17-19, 2019, Austin, Texas

Be sure to [register for the Texas System of Care \(SOC\) and CRCG Conference](#)! This is an interagency conference for youth, family members, state leaders, child-serving providers, and community leaders to hear from experts, network with other leaders, and gain information about best practices for coordinating systems and services for young people with significant mental health or cross-agency needs. The registration fee is \$175 per person and continuing education credit is available.

CRCG Bridge Call Series

The State CRCG Office offers a monthly bridge call series for local CRCG leaders and members to share ideas, discuss challenges, and network. Bridge calls are held every third Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m. (CT). During each call, a CRCG leader presents an overview of group structure and processes followed by audience questions and discussion relevant to CRCGs. Mark your calendars for the upcoming bridge calls and join other CRCGs for collaborative discussions!

Dial-in number: (877) 820-7831, check CRCG Website for [new Access Code](#)

- July 23, 2:00–3:00 p.m. CT / 1:00–2:00 p.m. MT (special date)
- August 27, 2:00–3:00 p.m. CT / 1:00–2:00 p.m. MT (special date)
- September 17, 2:00–3:00 p.m. CT / 1:00–2:00 p.m. MT

CRCG Webinar Series

The State CRCG Office offers webinars that cover resources, programs, and technical assistance to support CRCG efforts. A notice will be sent to all CRCGs and a registration link will be posted on the [CRCG website Resources page](#) when each webinar is scheduled. The next webinar will occur in August 2019. Recordings for past webinars are available on the [Resources page](#).

CRCG Partner Agency Updates

HHSC Early Childhood Intervention

[Early Childhood Intervention \(ECI\)](#) is a statewide program for families with children from birth to 36 months of age with developmental delays, disabilities, or certain medical diagnoses that may impact development.

ECI works with other state agencies and organizations to provide services for children and families in Texas. ECI builds partnerships with state and local organizations to help ensure families are connected to the resources and supports they need. One valuable resource for families is the [Navigate Life Texas](#) (NLT) website. HHSC created the NLT website to inform and empower parents of children with disabilities or special healthcare needs. The website was developed by parents, for parents. The NLT website includes information on many topics, such as health care, [education](#), [insurance](#), [medical diagnoses](#), and [transition to adulthood](#).

There is also a section on the website about connecting with other parents. To find additional resources for families of children with developmental delays or disabilities, professionals, and anyone interested in the well-being of young children and their families, visit the [ECI Resource Guide](#).

HHSC Office of Mental Health Coordination

The Office of Mental Health Coordination coordinates policy and delivery of mental health services throughout Texas. The following topical resources are recommended for providers, community organizations, and the public.

Suicide Prevention Resources

The [Suicide Prevention Resource Center](#) released, "[After Suicide: A Toolkit for Schools](#)," to help schools implement a coordinated response to the suicide death of a student. This second edition contains new information and tools.

Veterans Resources

The Military Veteran Peer Network (MVPN) provides peer-to-peer support and resource awareness for service members, veterans, and their families through embedded Peer Service Coordinators (PSCs) at 37 local mental health authorities throughout Texas. PSCs coordinate and provide training on military-informed care, military cultural competency, and specific evidence-based methods of identifying and addressing mental health issues to create a statewide network of military trauma-affected veteran peer support. Learn more and contact a local PSC through the [MVPN website](#).

Department of Family and Protective Services

The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) hosts the HelpandHope.org website to compile parenting information, tips, and a resource directory. Click on “find help” to search for available programs.

DFPS created the Texas Prevention Network (TPN) to bring together experts and prevention partners to combine intellectual and material resources to guide state efforts in preventing child abuse and neglect. Go to the [TPN subscription page](#) to sign up for information from the group.

Department of State Health Services

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) [Children with Special Health Care Needs \(CSHCN\) Systems Development Group](#) supports population-based services for children with special health care needs related to the Title V Block Grant. CSHCN partners with community-based contractors around Texas to provide support for families with children and youth with special health care needs and disabilities. Services may include in-home or center-based respite, parent to parent connections, educational trainings and workshops, support groups, community recreational activities, and more. Not all services are available in all parts of the state. Case management for families is also available through DSHS regional offices.

Needs Assessment Survey

Every five years, DSHS conducts a statewide needs assessment of families of CSHCN and disabilities and young adults with disabilities. Survey distribution will begin in April and the findings will guide work through 2025.

Learning Collaboratives

The CSHCN Systems Development Group leads two statewide learning collaboratives that meet quarterly by teleconference call to share knowledge, implementation strategies, and best practices. Providers, youth, young adults, parents, caregivers, representatives from health care plans, hospital and university systems, and local community organizations are invited to participate. The next call dates are:

- [Medical Home Learning Collaborative](#), July 17, 10:00-11:30 a.m. CT
- [Texas Title V Transition Workgroup](#), August 21, 12:00-1:30 p.m. CT

For registration details related to the learning collaboratives or to learn more about CSHCN programs, email Ivy Goldstein, State CSHCN Health Coordinator, at Ivy.Goldstein@dshs.state.tx.us or call 512-776-3406.

Other News and Events

Conferences

Adult Protective Services Conference

Save the date for the 36th Annual Adult Protective Services (APS) Conference, November 19-22, 2019 in Austin, Texas. This is an annual gathering of professionals in adult protective services, law enforcement, criminal justice, social work, counseling, and beyond. Sessions will focus on self-care, service delivery, collaborating, casework practice, financial exploitation, investigations, innovations, and more. [Watch for more information at the APS conference website.](#)