

H350.6

B764

3:2



# CRCG

# THE BRIDGE

Government Publications  
Texas State Documents

JUN 11 1997

Depository  
Dallas Public Library

A Publication of the COMMUNITY RESOURCE COORDINATION GROUPS of Texas

"Bridging the Service Gap for the Youth of Texas"

## Shriners Hospitals

### A Valuable Resource

Children with special health care needs require prolonged care and services from multiple providers, both public and private. These providers have different funding sources as well as specific responsibility and accountability to their funding sources. They have differing eligibility requirements that include factors such as age limitations, financial thresholds and diagnostic categories served. There are also differing legal and policy mandates inhibiting comprehensiveness or continuity of care.

The Shriners Hospital for Children have 19 tertiary orthopedic hospitals and three tertiary burn institutes, as well as many outpatient services, community-based diagnostic clinics and augmentative services (such as physical therapy, occupational therapy and adaptive equipment). The quality of their staff is outstanding and their equipment and physical plants are state-of-the-art. The quality of their service is considered to be among the finest in the world. Services are **ABSOLUTELY FREE TO PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES!**

Due to their tertiary hospital-based focus, Shriners patients and their families have had limited access to and utilization of community-based providers of care. By necessity, the Shriners system has provided acute, long-term follow-up care for its patients at its hospitals. This has led to less than maximal utilization of the available resources.

The hospital-based service system imposes hardships upon children and families receiving services due to long distances that most have to travel to get necessary care and follow up. Currently, the Shriners hospitals do not have the capabilities and resources to provide for these community based services. Linkages with community resources via the development of service delivery networks at the community level would enhance and expand services to the Shriners patient population and their families.

Available within every county in the state, the CRCGs offer a perfect avenue to develop a collaborative system with the Shriners Hospitals. With the stringent eligibility restrictions brought on by welfare reform, this hospital system presents a unique opportunity for children needing orthopedic and burn medical care.

*M. Duane Thomas, Ph.D.*

*Texas Department of Health Representative on the State CRCG Team*

The following are the contacts and a brief description of the types of services they provide.

**Orthopedic Contact**  
Kathy Gunner, RN, MSN  
Director of Patient Care  
Shriners Hospital for Children  
6977 Main Street  
Houston, TX 77030  
(713) 793-3765

**Orthopedic Services Provided:** scoliosis; brittle bone disease; hip, feet, hand and back problems; limb deficiencies, birth defects of the spine; leg length discrepancies; orthopedic problems from neuromuscular disorders; rickets; juvenile rheumatoid arthritis.

**Burn Contact**  
Janet Marvin, RN, MN  
Director of Nursing  
Shriners Burns Institute for Children  
815 Market Street  
Galveston, TX 77550  
(409) 770-6776

**Burn Services Provided:** acute burns; rehabilitation and reconstructive surgery for burn injuries; cleft lip and palate; hemangiomas and other birthmarks; nutrition support; pain management; and school re-entry.

## The RFP is Out!

### Four Grants to Be Awarded

The RFP (Request for Proposal) from the **Families Are Valued Project** through the State CRCG Office is out effective March 1, 1997. The response is due back by May 1, 1997. This is an opportunity for communities to respond collaboratively to increase the services and supports to families who have a child or children with developmental disabilities at risk of out-of-home placement. One local Family Support Collaborative will be selected from each of the following areas: metropolitan, urban, rural and border by May 31, 1997.

Copies of the RFP may be obtained by contacting the State CRCG Office, **Families Are Valued Project** (512) 424-6544. Also the RFP may be obtained from the CRCG website (<http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/CRCG/favrfp.htm>). ★

**New State CRCG Members**

Welcome to three new State CRCG Team Members:

- Thomas Chapmond, Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services
- Edgenie Lindquist, Texas Commission for the Blind
- Joe Papick, Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services

A current roster of the State CRCG Team and local CRCGs is enclosed.

<p>The Community Resource Coordination Groups of Texas are a collaborative process serving the Youth of Texas.</p> <p><i>In partnership with families and:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Texas Commission for the Blind</li> <li>Texas Department of Health</li> <li>Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation</li> <li>Texas Education Agency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Texas Juvenile Probation Commission</li> <li>Texas Youth Commission</li> <li>Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse</li> <li>Texas Department of Human Services</li> <li>Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services</li> <li>Texas Interagency Council on Early Childhood Intervention</li> <li>Texas Rehabilitation Commission</li> <li>Private Child Serving Providers</li> </ul>	<p><i>The Bridge</i> is published by the State Office of CRCG Texas Health and Human Services Commission</p> <p>Send comments to: P.O. Box 13247 Austin, Texas 78711 or call 512/424-6561 (voice or TDD) or e-mail us at <a href="mailto:bernicer@hhsc.state.tx.us">bernicer@hhsc.state.tx.us</a></p>
---	--	---

# Non-Educational Funds

## Learn How to Access Funds from ESCs

Beginning this last September, applications for the Non-educational Community Support Funds (also known as "non-ed" dollars) are made to regional Educational Service Centers (ESCs). These applications historically have been jointly submitted by school districts, mental health and mental retardation authorities, and/or local CRCGs.

Representatives from these areas are still the prime players, with an increase of CRCG involvement in order to maximize community resources for individual interagency service planning. This fund is intended for child-specific, non-educational support services for children at-risk of residential placement for educational reasons.

Many ESCs have met and conducted training to local CRCGs about the protocol for their particular region in applying for these moneys. If you are not knowledgeable about your local procedure, contact your CRCG education representative and ask them for their assistance in contacting the non-ed contact person from your regional ESC. An informational session about the non-ed process can then be provided to your CRCG. You may also contact the State CRCG Office to get more information. Enclosed is a list of the non-ed contact persons and allocations for FY 97. ★

---

## State Grants Team

### Resource for grant writing training and notices

Now that you have a cohesive CRCG team, you want to go after some funding? Flexible dollars or a CRCG coordinator position seems to be the next step for many CRCGs according to what has been reported to the State CRCG Office.

A resource for grant notification and grant writing training is the State Grants Team through the Governor's Office of Budget and Planning. Background information about the State Grants Team and grant writing training schedule are enclosed.

The State Grants Team compiles and distributes the *Grant Alert*. The *Grant Alert* is a notification that is available through their fax service or website. The State Grants Team is an excellent resource for local CRCGs as many move into directions of procuring funds.

Please call the State Grants Team if you would like to schedule a seminar. You can contact them through their website (<http://www.governor.state.tx.us/grantstm.htm>) or call Ron Ayer at (512) 463-6678 or Denise Francis (512) 305-9415. ★

---

## Thank You Kindly!

### 1996 Data Analysis Coming Soon

Thank you for submitting 1996 CRCG staffing forms. Sixty percent of the 155 CRCGs sent in 1996 staffing information. The 1996 data analysis will be sent when completed. Quarterly reports will be sent detailing which counties/CRCGs have submitted staffing forms. This will hopefully enable all of us to track the incoming information better.

*Thanks again for all your help!*  
State CRCG Staff

## Updates

**WE ARE NOW CONNECTED!** As promised the State CRCG Office has a website ([www.hhsc.state.tx.us/crcg/crcg.htm](http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/crcg/crcg.htm)) through the home page of Texas Health and Human Services Commission ([www.hhsc.state.tx.us](http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us)).

**MDCP PROGRAM AND RULE CHANGES**—Nine hearings regarding the changes are scheduled (enclosed) around the state in March and April.

**VITAL CRCG INFORMATION**—Thank you for submitting your CRCG information changes. We have update the database. Please submit any further changes to us so we can ensure you will receive timely information. Contact us at (512) 424-6561.

## Marketing Tool!

### Use Media Release for Community Awareness

An opportunity is available for you to market the work of your local CRCG through the local media. The State CRCG Office through Texas Health and Human Service Commission has recently submit a news release to statewide weekly publications. The news release highlights the achievement of statewide CRCG coverage for all 254 Texas counties.

Feel free to use the enclosed "draft" release when customizing yours to include information such as when your CRCG was initiated, how a family has benefited from your CRCG, and what makes your group successful in the bridging gaps for the children, youth and their families in your community. The media responds to releases that include local information. Statewide CRCG coverage is a very big accomplishment and a wonderful caveat for you to raise public awareness in your community(ies) about the collaborative work that you are doing. **Jump on the chance!** ★

---

## State of Texas Access Reform CRCGs and Medicaid Managed Care

The roll out of the statewide Medicaid Managed Care sites or STAR Program has begun. Local CRCGs have a role in the Request for Application (RFA) process. The HMOs whom are responding to the RFA are required to get a letter of agreement (there is a standardized letter) from the CRCGs that are involved in the targeted region. This is an effort to involve new initiatives/systems with existing effective mechanisms in providing health and human services. Statewide coverage will be obtained in 2001. The implementation schedule is available through the State Medicaid Office (SMO) at 1-800-252-8263 or at their website ([www.hhsc.state.tx.us/med/med.htm](http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/med/med.htm)).

Also available is a new edition of *Texas Medicaid in Perspective* (second edition). This publication addresses just about everything you want to know about Medicaid but were afraid to ask. It is \$10.00 or available free from the SMO website (see address above). It is a great resource and is very "user-friendly!"

Questions regarding the role of CRCGs in the STAR program, contact the State CRCG office at (512) 424-6561. Questions about the STAR program roll out or the Medicaid publication, contact the State Medicaid Office. ★