



# **Children's Mental Health Strategic Plan**

---

**Courtney Harvey, Chair, Statewide Behavioral Health  
Coordinating Council  
Texas Health and Human Services**

**August 5, 2023**



# Children's Mental Health Strategic Plan: Rider Requirement (1 of 2)

2024-2025 General Appropriations Act, House Bill 1, 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023 [Article IX, Section 10.04(g)], requires the Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council (SBHCC) to:

- Develop a strategic plan specific to the behavioral health of children and youth.
- The plan must incorporate the full continuum of care needed to support children and families to include the following:
  - ▶ Descriptions of who provides what services to which children;
  - ▶ Strategies to identify and address gaps in care;
  - ▶ Discussion of workforce shortages;
  - ▶ Information on funding and reimbursement; and
  - ▶ Children-specific data and expenditure information.

# Children's Mental Health Strategic Plan: Rider Requirement (2 of 2)

---

- The SBHCC shall develop a subcommittee to draft the strategic plan, minimally comprised of the following:
  - ▶ The Health and Human Services Commission;
  - ▶ Department of State Health Services;
  - ▶ Department of Family and Protective Services;
  - ▶ Texas Education Agency;
  - ▶ Texas Juvenile Justice Department; and
  - ▶ Medical practitioners with expertise and facilities which provide inpatient and outpatient care.
- The plan is due to the Legislative Budget Board and Governor's Office by December 1, 2024.

# Children’s Mental Health Strategic Plan: Subcommittee Members

Texas Workforce Commission	Texas Pediatric Society
Texas Medical Association	Behavioral Health Executive Council
Local Mental Health Authorities and Local Behavioral Health Authorities	Children’s Hospital Association of Texas
Texas Association of Health Plans	Texas Association of Community Health Centers
National Alliance on Mental Illness Texas	Texas Association of Community Health Plans
The Center for Young Minds	Texas Family Voice Network
Texas Department of Criminal Justice-Reentry and Integration Division-Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments	Lifeworks
Texas Alliance for Child and Family Services	Children’s Commission
National Training and Technical Assistance Center for Child, Youth, and Family Mental Health	Behavioral Health Advisory Committee-Children and Youth Behavioral Health Subcommittee
Texas Hospital Association	

**Note: The above chart does not include state agencies required to participate per the authorizing rider.**



## **Children's Mental Health Strategic Plan: Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Questions and Comments**

---

- During the May 5, 2023, Behavioral Health Advisory Committee meeting, members posed the following questions and comments for consideration:
  - ▶ Q1: Will transition-aged youth be considered in the plan?
  - ▶ Q2: Will substance use services be included in the plan?
  - ▶ Recommendation: Ensure the voices of people with lived experience and organizations providing peer and recovery supports are represented.

# Children's Mental Health Strategic Plan: Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Answers

---

- Q1 Response: The covered age range will be birth through age 17.
- Q2 Response: Yes. Though the rider is titled *Children's Mental Health Strategic Plan*, it directs that the plan is specific to the behavioral health of children and youth. Behavioral health is inclusive of mental health and substance use disorders, services, and supports.
- Recommendation: The following organizations representing the perspectives of people with lived experience or providing peer and recovery supports have been invited to serve on the subcommittee:
  - ▶ Local Mental Health Authorities and Local Behavioral Health Authorities;
  - ▶ National Alliance on Mental Illness Texas;
  - ▶ The Center for Young Minds;
  - ▶ Lifeworks; and
  - ▶ Texas Family Voice Network.



# **Thank you**

---

For more information about the  
strategic plan, contact:  
[Laura.Lucinda@hhs.texas.gov](mailto:Laura.Lucinda@hhs.texas.gov)