



# **House Bill 1575 Implementation Updates**

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Health and Human  
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# Summary of House Bill (HB)1575



## Goal

Improve health outcomes for pregnant women under Medicaid and Thriving Texas Families

# 4

Major components

1

Screen pregnant women\* for non-medical health-related needs then coordinate appropriate services or referrals

2

Increase provider options for women eligible for Case Management for Children and Pregnant Women (CPW) services

3

Expand CPW standardized case management training

4

Collect data, analyze, then report to understand the impacts



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\*Participants must opt-in to the screening

# Non-Medical Needs Screening

In April 2024, HHSC shared the finalized questions, the non-medical needs screening will be conducted by managed care organizations (MCOs) and Thriving Texas Families (TTF)

**Need** →  *Food* |  *Housing* |  *Transportation* |  *Child Care*

## HHSC Non-Medical Needs Screening

### Food

For you and your household, please answer if the next two statements are sometimes true, or never true.

1. Within the past 12 months, have you ever had to go without money to buy food?
  - a. Often true
  - b. Sometimes true
  - c. Never true
  - d. Decline to answer
2. Within the past 12 months, have you ever had to go without money to get medicine?
  - a. Often true
  - b. Sometimes true
  - c. Never true
  - d. Decline to answer

If the member answers "Never true" to question 3 and go to question 16.

3. Would you like help with food?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Decline to answer

### Housing

7. What is your living situation to date?
  - a. I have a steady place to live
  - b. I have a steady place to live, but I don't have a steady place to live in the future.
  - c. I don't have a steady place to live, but I have a steady place to live in the future.
  - d. I don't have a steady place to live, and I don't have a steady place to live in the future.

Think about where you live now.

8. Do you have problems with your home's conditioning or structure?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Decline to answer
9. Do you have problems with your home's location?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Decline to answer
10. Do you have problems with your home's safety?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Decline to answer

### Child Care

15. In the next 12 months, will you need help finding or paying for child care?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Decline to answer

If the member answers "No" or "Decline to answer" for question 15, skip question 16.

16. Would you like help with child care?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Decline to answer

### Transportation

4. Within the past 12 months, has a lack of reliable transportation kept you from medical appointments or getting medications?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Decline to answer

5. Within the past 12 months, has a lack of reliable transportation kept you from doing things you need to do, such as grocery shopping or getting to work or school?

- a. Yes



# Summary of Implementation Medicaid

Once the screening was distributed in April 2024, activities began shortly thereafter

## May - August 2024

11 voluntary MCOs prepare & conduct screening pilot with consenting members - data collected will be used for initial reporting

## September 1, 2024

Contract amendments are effective - all MCOs begin using the screening

### MCO Responsibilities



#### Complete the Screening

For all consenting pregnant members within 30 days of the member's enrollment or after the MCO identifies a pregnant member



#### Use the Results

Determine if the member requires:

- Covered services, like CPW
- Service coordination
- Value-added services
- Referrals to community resources



#### Report Data

First full report starts January 2025, then required monthly





# Summary of Implementation

## Thriving Texas Families

Thriving Texas Families Program began grantee training and implementation planning in early 2024

### May - August 2024

Thriving Texas Families Program trained grantees on the screening tool and informed consent requirements. A new database was developed to capture data related to the screening and referrals

### September 2024

Thriving Texas Families Program contract amendments are effective - grantees begin using the screening

### Thriving Texas Families



#### Complete the Screening

Grantees screen all consenting clients at the time of intake



#### Use the Results

Screening results will be used to support the client's:

- Service plan
- Care coordination
- Referrals to community resources



#### Report Data

Data is submitted monthly beginning October 2024



# Case Management for Children and Pregnant Women (CPW)

## About CPW



CPW services are a Medicaid benefit for children birth through 20 years of age and pregnant women of any age who have a health condition, health risk, or high-risk condition. CPW transitioned to managed care\* in September 2022.

### Current CPW Services

- Licensed nurses
- Social workers

Case management for medical, social, educational & other services

MCO service coordinators are primary to help members access medical and social services



### With HB 1575

#### Expands who can provide CPW services

- *Community Health Workers (CHW)*
- *Doulas*

#### New needs may be identified

*Specific focus on food, housing, transportation and child care needs*

#### More coordination options

*If member has an established relationship or preference, they can keep their CPW provider to address medical and social needs*



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\*Medicaid fee-for-service clients still get this benefit

# Expanding to Doulas and Community Health Workers

Four critical categories of activities

1

Finalize the criteria to become CPW providers

2

Outreach and training

3

Federal approvals for provider type changes

4

Enroll and credential the new provider types



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# Finalize the Criteria to Become CPW Providers

## Doulas

- Conducted a review of other state practices
- Gathered stakeholder feedback and incorporated it into criteria
- Determined two appropriate pathways to certification
  - Experience or training



Complete June 2024

## Community Health Workers (CHWs)

- Worked in collaboration with Department of State Health Services to ensure:
  - Proof of certifications are available for existing CHWs
  - Sufficient resources are available to train new CHWs wanting to enroll



Complete July 2024





# Outreach and Training

## Outreach

Inform CHW and doula communities of these new CPW case management opportunities

Credentialed CHWs informed by a notice

Doula organizations informed by email

## Training

### Expanded CPW Training

Required for all CPW providers to enroll in Texas Medicaid

 Self-paced online

### New CPW Case Management

Full case management with new module

*Doulas and CHWs must take all training  
Existing providers must take new module*



Summer: Virtual instructor-led



Fall: Self-paced online

### Upcoming Changes

Voluntary webinar about updates on HB 1575 and other changes

*Versions for new and existing providers*





July: Webinars



Recordings posted online



# Federal Approvals, Enrollment and Credentialing

July	August	September	December	2025
<p>HHSC submitted updates to the State Plan with new provider types to CMS for approval</p>		<p>★ Proposed effective date of September 1, 2024</p>	<p>Begin enrollment in HHSC Provider Enrollment Management System (PEMS)</p>	<p>Begin credentialing with MCOs</p> <p>Begin claims submission</p>
				



# Legislative Report Content Plan

Even-numbered year reporting to the legislature will summarize the data collected from the non-medical needs screening, and data about women receiving CPW, during the previous biennium

**December 1, 2024**

## Initial Report



HB 1575  
Implementation  
activities

Summary of  
non-medical  
needs data  
from MCO pilot

**December 1, 2026**

## Ongoing Reporting



Summary of the screening data

For women receiving CPW:

- ➔ Data on non-medical needs
  - ➔ # and types of non-medical referrals
- ➔ Birth outcomes for the women





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**Thank you**

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