



Senate Bill 24 (88R) Implementation Update

Crystal Starkey, Deputy
Executive Commissioner,
Family Health Services



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

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Prevention and Early Intervention (Family Support Services)

PEI/FSS promotes healthy families and communities through:

- Parent education
- Home visiting for parents of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers
- Supporting positive youth development

PEI/FSS includes:

- 98 full-time equivalents (FTEs) and
- 147 grant agreements





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Overview of Transition Efforts

Project kick-off: August 16, 2023

Coordinated effort with the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) and the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)

- Project governance structure
- Project management approach

Transition Planning for Staff

DFPS and HHSC staff participated in functional workgroups to define and assign tasks necessary to successfully transition by September 1, 2024

HHSC Family Health Services worked with PEI to establish relationships and share program expertise

- Knowledge transfer sessions
- Participation in Partners in Prevention annual conference
- Presentations at staff and leadership meetings, e-mail communications, etc.

HHSC participated in the hiring process for PEI positions



Transition Planning for Grantees

To assist grantees with transition, HHSC and PEI took the following steps:

- HHSC staff participated in RFA evaluations for new PEI funding
- HHSC leadership participated on a panel with DFPS at the Partners in Prevention grantee day
- HHSC conducted joint local site visits to PEI grantees



PEI Transfer Next Steps

Strategic Plan, including:

- Identify methods to leverage resources of funding or provide support for existing community-based efforts to provide family support services.
- Needs assessment
- Report on outcomes
- Increase local capacity for delivery of services
- Collaboration and coordination with other state agencies and with other HHSC programs.



Thriving Texas Families Program

Senate Bill 24 codified the Thriving Texas Families Program (TTF), formerly known as Alternatives to Abortion, in Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 54.

The purpose of TTF is to:

- promote healthy pregnancy and childbirth;
- promote childbirth as an alternative to abortion;
- increase access to resources that promote family and child development;
- encourage family formation;
- help parents establish and implement successful parenting techniques;
- increase the number of families who achieve economic self-sufficiency; and
- provide a local approach and personalized support to pregnant women to promote childbirth in all instances of pregnancy.



Thriving Texas Families Continued

Senate Bill 24 also:

- Establishes eligible TTF program client types and required services;
- Identifies TTF program outcomes;
- Establishes minimum TTF grantee requirements; and
- Requires HHSC to procure for an impact evaluation.



Thriving Texas Families Program Outcomes

HHSC worked with TTF grantees to develop a framework for identifying and measuring TTF outcomes as required by Senate Bill 24

The framework includes program goals, outcomes and associated metrics to demonstrate the impact of TTF services on clients

HHSC also developed a new TTF program database to support the framework. The database allows HHSC to maintain more comprehensive data on program activities, services received, client needs, and program outcomes

The new outcomes framework and database are effective September 2024



Thriving Texas Families Program Pilot Projects

On November 8, 2023, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) released a Request for Applications for TTF program pilot projects

The purpose of the pilot projects is to fund innovative initiatives that utilize research-based strategies to provide TTF services and demonstrate performance outcomes

Those outcomes, as noted in Health and Safety Code Section 54.006 include:

- Improving healthy pregnancy and childbirth outcomes;
- Improving child health and development;
- Assisting families in achieving economic self-sufficiency and stability;
- Increasing workforce participation; and
- Promoting marriage and family formation for participating parents.



Thriving Texas Families Program Impact Evaluation

Required by SB 24 to measure the effects of services on participants receiving services through the program and to report on measured performance outcomes

Contract must be with an external third party

RFP expected to post in September 2024



Thriving Texas Families Program Future Procurement

TTF core program and pilot projects will expire on August 31, 2025

HHSC will release a new TTF Request for Applications (RFA) to solicit for a network of TTF service providers that meet the requirements of Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 54

The new TTF RFA is expected to post in December 2024. A pre-solicitation notice is available on the HHSC Procurement Forecast webpage

