



Presentation to House Defense and Veterans' Affairs Committee

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Services

Office of Mental Health Coordination



Mission

Collaborate with stakeholders to improve policies, programs, and systems to achieve positive behavioral health outcomes for all people in Texas.

Vision

Cultivate multi-system collaborations to improve the behavioral health system in Texas.

Framework

Aligned with the Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council and Texas Statewide Behavioral Health Strategic Plan.



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Areas of Operation

Stakeholder
Engagement &
Strategic
Planning

Policy, Systems
Coordination,
and
Programming

Veterans
Mental Health
Coordination
and Programs

Statewide
Opioid
Response
Coordination



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Veterans Mental Health Coordination and Programs

- Mental Health Program for Veterans
- Texas Veterans + Family Alliance Grant Program
- Long-Term Action Plan to Prevent Veterans Suicides



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Mental Health Program for Veterans

Program Summary

Texas Health and Safety Code, Section 1001.222, and Texas Government Code, Sections 434.352 and 434.401 direct the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) and the Texas Veterans Commission to jointly administer this program and provide:

- Peer-to-peer counseling
- Access to licensed mental health professionals
- Training to peers and providers, including suicide prevention training
- Training to community and faith-based organizations
- Jail diversion service coordination
- Mental Health First Aid specifically designed for veterans



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Mental Health Program for Veterans

In Fiscal Year 2021:

- 78,675 peer services delivered
- 1,732 peer service coordinators and volunteer peers trained
- 12,127 interactions with justice-involved veterans
- 833 clinical mental health sessions with a veteran counselor
- 247 service members, veterans, and family members trained in the veterans' module of Mental Health First Aid (MHFA).



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Texas Veterans + Family Alliance Grant

Program Summary

Texas Government Code, Section 531.0992, requires HHSC to administer a mental health grant program that:

- Provides mental health care services and treatment to veterans and their families
- Coordinates mental health care services for veterans and their families with other transition support services

2020-2021 biennium: 31,141 people served



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Texas Veterans + Family Alliance Grant

Services include:

- Interventions such as cognitive behavioral therapy
- Individual, group, family, and couples peer support services
- Suicide prevention services
- Treatment of substance use disorders
- Individual and family counseling
- Navigation services such as case management and referral services



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House Bill 1802 (87R)

Directs HHSC to collaborate with Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) to conduct a study on the efficacy of alternative therapies to treat veterans with posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

- Study includes:
 - ▶ Clinical trial on efficacy of psilocybin for treatment-resistant PTSD in veterans
 - ▶ Literature review on accessibility, safety and efficacy of MDMA, psilocybin, and ketamine to treat PTSD
- HHSC and BCM are finalizing the contract to fund the study
- Report on study results due to Legislature by December 1, 2024



Medicaid IMD Exclusion & Rider 34, 87th Legislative Session

Federal law generally prohibits use of federal financial participation (FFP) for payment of services delivered to individuals ages 21-64 who are patients in an Institution for Mental Disease (IMD).

Availability of FFP for Medicaid Services		
Setting Type	FFS	MCO
Acute Care Hospitals	All ages	All ages
IMDs	20 years of age and younger & 65 years of age and older	20 years of age and younger, 65 years of age and older; 21-64 years of all ages* *In-lieu-of an acute care hospital stay - up to 15 calendar days if medically necessary and the MCO and person receiving services agree to an IMD setting.

Rider 34: "HHSC shall prepare and submit an application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for approval of a Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver in order to receive FFP for services furnished to Medicaid-eligible individuals during short-term stays for acute care in psychiatric hospitals or residential treatment settings that qualify as institutions of mental disease. HHSC shall only prepare and submit the application if HHSC determines it would result in a net savings to the state."