



Senate Bill 24 (88R) Implementation Update

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Family Health Services



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

September 19, 2024

Family Support Services (FSS)

- FSS promotes healthy families and communities through:
 - Parent education
 - Home visiting for parents of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers
 - Supporting positive youth development
- 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 FSS 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 FSS positions.



Transition Planning for Grantees

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

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



FSS Transfer Next Steps

Strategic Planning, 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 Funding

Fiscal Years	Total Appropriation
2022-2023	\$100,022,732
2024-2025	\$165,000,000

- The fiscal year 2024-2025 appropriation includes \$25,000,000 to be expended June 2023-June 2025.
- HHSC reserved \$500,000 for a TTF impact evaluation and \$7,500,000 for new pilot projects from the 2024-2025 appropriation



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 (HHS0013943) 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 posted on September 11.



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.





Thank You

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