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CRCG Events Calendar

July 13 – Monthly Leader Training, 10-11 a.m. CDT

July 19 – CRCG Bridge Call, 1:30-3 p.m. CDT

August 10 – Monthly Leader Training, 10-11 a.m. CDT

August 15 – CRCG Bridge Call, 1:30-3 p.m. CDT

September 14 – Monthly Leader Training, 10-11 a.m. CDT

September 20 – CRCG Bridge Call, 1:30-3 p.m. CDT

State CRCG Office Updates

2020-2021 CRCG Legislative Report

The State Community Resource Coordination Groups (CRCG) Office is currently writing the 2020-2021 biennial legislative report. The report utilizes data gathered from local CRCGs about the number of persons served through CRCGs, information on outcomes of the services provided, a description of barriers identified on the state's ability to provide effective services to persons needing multi-agency services, and additional information relevant to improving the delivery of services to persons needing multi-agency services. Once the report is completed later this year, it will be posted to the [CRCG website](#) and shared with each partner agency, the Governor, and the Texas Legislature.

To read previous CRCG legislative reports, please visit the [Reports and Community Impact](#) webpage.

CRCG Site Visits

State CRCG Office Conducts Virtual Site Visits with CRCG Leaders

Coke, Concho, Crockett, Irion, Reagan, Sterling, Tom Green Counties CRCG

The State CRCG Office met with the Concho Valley CRCG to help welcome their new leaders. At the

Resources

CRCG Website

The [CRCG website](#) has great resources for leaders and members, including guidebooks covering all things CRCGs, and resources for families and community members. Popular links include:

[CRCG Training Toolkit](#)

[Overview of CRCGs](#)

[Get Help from Your CRCG](#)

Webinar Recordings

The State CRCG Office webinars bring valuable resources and information to CRCG partners and members.

[Equipping Families with Early Childhood Resources](#)

[Post Adoption Services](#)

[Aging and Disability Resource Centers and Area Agencies on Aging](#)

Visit the [CRCG Training and Technical Assistance webpage](#) to view other past webinar recordings.

Sharing Is Caring

Please share our newsletter with your colleagues or anyone that might benefit from this information!

Contact Us

We would love to hear from you! If you have thoughts, concerns, comments, ideas, or anything else that you would like to share, please contact the State CRCG Office.

CRCG@hsc.state.tx.us

(512) 206-5255

meeting, the State CRCG Office oriented leaders to their new roles, reviewed CRCG resources, and answered questions. Please join us in welcoming William Tucker, Cathy Love, and Samantha Crumrine as the new leaders of the Concho Valley CRCG. We look forward to hearing about the great work they will continue to do.

State CRCG Office Available for Virtual Technical Assistance

The State CRCG Office is available for virtual training and technical assistance, including helping navigate virtual platforms and attending practice meetings. Please email the State CRCG Office at CRCG@hsc.state.tx.us or call 512-206-5255 for assistance.

Spotlight on CRCGs

CRCG Success Stories

The State CRCG Office asked local leaders to share success stories and highlight how their CRCG has impacted their work, communities, and the people they serve. These successes will be included in the biennial CRCG legislative report and we would also like to share some of them here.

Potter and Randall Counties CRCG

“We have an amazing, hardworking collaborative effort between all of the state agencies and local organizations in our community. This group works to find creative and beneficial services for the youth and families that are struggling and are staffed with our group. I am proud to be a part of this group for over 10 years.” – **Carissa Wingate, CRCG Leader, and Ginger Guy, CRCG Leader**

Bexar County CRCG

“The Bexar County Children and Youth CRCG has evolved from a group of individuals discussing a situation into an entity that listens and uses group-solving power to find solutions. The CRCG quickly pivoted and learned from the sheltering-in-place experience and we will be moving forward as a hybrid meeting space to accommodate as many as possible. The success of our CRCG has inspired the community to revive the Bexar Children and Youth System of Care. With the support of Texas System of Care and commitment of ten local organizations, we have launched our taskforce.” – **Alice Alvarez, CRCG Leader**

Cooke County CRCG

“The CRCG is vital to our community since we are a rural area.

Given the opportunity to meet with multiple agencies at one time is so beneficial to helping the families in our community. We serve both children and adults through networking and staffing cases. If we don't have a staffing, we will have a speaker at the monthly meetings. We continued to meet virtually throughout the pandemic and actually increased our participation during the pandemic. The state CRCG team has been a wonderful resource for our CRCG.” – **Cheryl Gomez, CRCG Leader**

Ellis County CRCG

“Since COVID in 2020, the Ellis County CRCG has met virtually. For the past two years we have had 25+ agency members from all the independent school districts, Department of Family and Protective Services, local mental health authority, substance abuse, local intellectual and developmental disability authority, psychiatric hospitals, residential treatment centers, Medicaid specialists, YES Waiver, and other child-serving agencies attend each month. COVID was an extremely difficult time for children with serious mental health issues. Our agencies and families repeatedly reported that the CRCG process was a lighthouse/beacon of hope for them during a difficult time. We were able to ‘think outside the box’ and collaborate and work together across the social services systems to find help for our families.” – **Janis Burdett, CRCG Leader**

Camp, Franklin, Morris, Titus Counties CRCG

“CRCG has often answered prayers for many families in our communities. When they have tried all they know to try, through CRCG they are able to find caring people to assist them in finding hope. Although CRCG may not be

able to fix the problems the family has in one setting, the family is motivated and encouraged to not give up. Our CRCG team is persistent and works hard to help any family referred find services in the community as best as possible to avoid removing children from their homes and communities.” – **Eboney Roney, CRCG Leader**

The State CRCG Office acknowledges efforts and successes of CRCGs and how they impact people and communities. If you are a part of a CRCG or your life has been impacted by a CRCG and you would like to share your story for our legislative report or upcoming newsletters, please email the State CRCG Office at CRCG@hhsc.state.tx.us.

Upcoming CRCG Events

CRCG Monthly Bridge Call and Regional Cohort Meetings

The State CRCG Office hosts a monthly bridge call for local CRCG leaders and members to share ideas, discuss challenges, and network. During the call, CRCG leaders have an opportunity to join regional cohort breakouts to connect and build partnerships with other leaders in their region.

CRCG leaders receive a monthly calendar invite for the bridge call with instructions for joining via Microsoft Teams. CRCG members can contact their CRCG leaders to obtain the meeting information. For questions or additional information, please email the State CRCG Office at CRCG@hhsc.state.tx.us.

- July 19, 2022, 1:30–3 p.m. CDT / 12:30–2 p.m. MDT
- August 16, 2022, 1:30–3 p.m. CDT / 12:30–2 p.m. MDT
- September 20, 2022, 1:30–3 p.m. CDT / 12:30–2 p.m. MDT

Monthly Leader Training

The State CRCG Office hosts a monthly leader training for both new and existing leaders to provide tailored support to CRCGs. Each monthly training covers different sections of the training toolkit, highlights the support offered by the State CRCG Office, and allows time for topic discussions and questions.

All CRCG leaders are welcome and encouraged to join each month. The training occurs every second Wednesday of the month from 10–11 a.m. CDT. A calendar invite will be sent to all CRCG leaders with the meeting information. For questions or additional information, please email the State CRCG Office at CRCG@hhsc.state.tx.us.

- July 13, 2022, 10-11 a.m. CDT / 9-10 a.m. MDT
- August 10, 2022, 10-11 a.m. CDT / 9-10 a.m. MDT
- September 14, 2022, 10-11 a.m. CDT / 9-10 a.m. MDT

CRCG Partner Agency Updates

Texas Health and Human Services Commission

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Pandemic Emergency Assistance Funds (PEAF)

Over \$17 million is being allocated to Texas families with dependent children diagnosed with a mental health condition, intellectual or developmental disability, and or substance use disorder that need housing support through local mental health authorities (LMHAs), local behavioral health authorities (LBHAs) or local intellectual and developmental disability authorities (LIDDAs).

Funding must be used to address urgent, direct, and ancillary needs of those families through the provision of direct financial assistance or services aimed at short-term stabilization efforts for families. A family can be eligible for a cumulative value of services of up to \$7,000 per eligible person and \$10,000 for families of two or more over the entirety of the four-month service period. Financial assistance is NOT income-based. Funds can be used for retroactive pandemic-related expenses to April 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Eligible services under this contract may include:

- Housing Support Services – Provide direct financial assistance to eligible participants to prevent immediate homelessness by assisting needy families to obtain or maintain housing. These activities may include rent and utility assistance, security deposit assistance, and other time-limited expenses to help needy families maintain current housing or move quickly into housing;
- Housing Modifications – Provide direct financial assistance for home modifications to make housing for needy families accessible and safe for dependent children with a diagnosis of a mental health condition, intellectual and developmental disability, or substance use disorder. The lack of accessible housing is a major barrier for families of children with IDD and children with serious emotional disturbance. Funding

home modifications will help stabilize and create safer housing options-
-without uprooting families;

- Emergency Housing and Hotel Vouchers – Provide direct financial assistance for short-term emergency housing or hotel vouchers when a member of the household tests positive for COVID-19 to reduce the chances of spreading the virus and to eliminate the financial burden associated with a safe and healthy living environment; and
- Ancillary Expenses – Provide financial assistance for short-term basic needs such as purchasing diapers, clothing, emergency food, burial assistance, and personal care items to promote short-term family stability.

CRCGs can reach out to their LMHA or LBHA to discuss funding opportunities.

To find your local LMHA or LBHA contact information, visit the [HHSC Find Services](#) webpage.

Texas Department of State Health Services

Children with Special Health Care Needs

The Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Systems Development Group supports population-based services for children with special health care needs relating to the Title V Block Grant and is part of the Maternal and Child Health Section at the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS).

The program partners with community-based contractors around Texas to provide support for families with children and youth with special health care needs and disabilities. Services may include in-home or center-based respite, parent to parent connections, educational trainings and workshops, support groups, community recreational activities and more. Not all services are available in all parts of the state. Case management for families is also available through DSHS regional offices.

The program leads two statewide learning collaboratives that meet quarterly by webinar to share knowledge, implementation strategies, and best practices. The meetings are open to everyone interested, including youth and young adults, parents, and providers; as well as representatives from local community organizations, hospital and university systems, and health care plans.

Upcoming calls are scheduled on the following dates:

[Medical Home Learning Collaborative](#)

Wednesday, July 13, 2022, 10–11:30 a.m. CST

Amanda Gerard, MS, Certified Genetic Counselor, will share expertise on resources for families and professionals to better navigate genetic services in Texas. There is a lot to learn. Did you know that today, geneticists recommend that everyone with autism spectrum disorder and/or an intellectual disability receive genetic testing?

[Transition to Adulthood Learning Collaborative](#)

Wednesday, August 10, 2022, Noon–1:30 p.m. CST

Samhita Ilango with Got Transition will be the featured speaker. She will present on a frequently overlooked aspect of transition – planning for the move from pediatric to adult-based health care. Samhita will share tools and resources to partner with the school team to incorporate “health” into transition planning at school.

Meeting dates are subject to change.

Program resources on transitioning to adult health care, medical home, and more are free and can be ordered through the [CSHCN Resource Order Form](#) webpage.

For more information about the Learning Collaboratives and the CSHCN program, please email Ivy Goldstein, State CSHCN Health Coordinator, at Ivy.Goldstein@dshs.texas.gov.

Other News and Events

Trauma-Informed Practice Webinar Series

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Office of Mental Health Coordination, is hosting Trauma-Informed Practice: From Information to Application as part of its Trauma-Informed Practice webinar series. The webinar will be offered on Wednesdays from 2-3:30 p.m. CDT every other month between April and December 2022. Participants will take a deeper dive into the six principles of trauma-informed care and learn how to apply them in the workplace.

To register, visit the [Trauma-Informed Practice Webinar Series GoToWebinar Registration](#) webpage.

Texas Parent to Parent Conference

Texas Parent to Parent will hold its 17th Annual Statewide Parent Conference in-person at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Austin on July 22-23, 2022. The conference offers 50 different sessions with several tracks, each covering a different topic including:

- Advocacy (general and legislative);
- Parenting and sibling challenges;
- Special Education law (basic to advanced);
- Medical needs, medical home, and Medicaid waiver programs;
- Behavior, mental health, parent leadership, resources and services; and
- Self-advocacy, transition for youth and young adults with disabilities, and creating a good life for people with disabilities.

Conference Features:

- Seven sessions in Spanish; Interpreters available for three to four other sessions;
- Skilled childcare – space is limited;
- Sibshop workshop for siblings;
- Peer to Peer Summit – a two-day conference within the conference for teens and young adults with and without disabilities;
- Family Fun Night - light appetizers and entertainment for the whole family; and
- Approximately 50 Exhibitors including nonprofit organizations, state agencies, therapy centers, specialized products, mobility vendors, and many more.

Through seminars and face-to-face networking, parents, self-advocates, family members, caregivers, and professionals learn from each other. Texas Parent to Parent's goal is for everyone to leave with renewed energy and passion along with tools and information to make positive changes for people with disabilities in Texas.

To learn more, visit the [conference](#) webpage.

Texas HHSC Institute

The HHSC Institute (The Institute) is a three-day conference, held August 8-10, 2022 in San Marcos and virtually, that provides education and training for state agencies, private providers, clinicians, caregivers, and other

stakeholders with a vested interest in addressing the intellectual, mental, and behavioral health needs of a variety of populations. Sessions will promote individual, program, and system-level approaches that foster health and resilience and recovery; increase permanent housing, employment, education, and other necessary supports; and reduce barriers to equity and inclusion.

To learn more, visit the [HHSC Institute](#) webpage.

10th Annual Texas Primary Care Consortium Summit

On September 8-9, 2022, join the Texas Primary Care Consortium (TPCC) in Austin, Texas for the 10th Annual TPCC Summit. The theme of this year's summit is "A Decade of Powering Primary Care Transformation." The summit will honor the past 10 years of convening health champions as well as continue the shared pursuit of improving the health of Texans through accessible, equitable, and coordinated person-centered primary care.

To address the prioritization of primary care in our health care system, the summit is a space for dialogue and collective learning among professionals from diverse backgrounds across the public health and health care spectrum. Attendees leave equipped with a more comprehensive understanding of today's health care challenges, best practices, lessons learned, and available resources in order to improve the health of Texans.

To learn more, visit the [TPCC Summit](#) webpage.

2022 Partners in Prevention Conference

The 2022 Partners in Prevention (PIP) Conference, hosted by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, will be held on September 13-15, 2022 in Corpus Christi, Texas. The PIP Conference is the largest annual gathering of prevention and early intervention professionals in Texas. The conference attracts parent educators, youth service providers, civic leaders, policy advocates, researchers, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services staff, prevention and early intervention grantees, and others with a professional interest in child and family well-being, youth development, and juvenile justice.

Attendees benefit from a wide variety of presentations, including but not limited to lived experience from parents and youth, fatherhood engagement, ethics, diversity, equity and inclusion, program evaluation, home visiting, and positive youth development.

To learn more, visit the [PIP Conference](#) webpage.

5th Annual Judicial Summit on Mental Health

The 5th Annual Judicial Summit on Mental Health, hosted by the Texas Judicial Commission on Mental Health (JCMH), will be held on November 2-4, 2022 in Grapevine, Texas and presented both live and virtually. The summit will address topics across the sequential intercept model. The second day will be divided into two tracks: Adult and Juvenile.

To learn more, visit the [2022 JCMH Summit](#) webpage.