



Texas Department of
Family and Protective Services

House Human Services Interim Committee Hearing
Community-Based Care (CBC) and Family First Prevention
Services Act (FFPSA)

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November 12, 2019

What is Community-Based Care?

- Community-Based Care is a new way of providing foster care and case management services. Within a geographic service area, a single contractor (referred to as a Single Source Continuum Contractor or SSCC) is responsible for finding foster homes or other living arrangements for children in state care and providing them a full continuum of services.
- In 2017, the Texas Legislature directed DFPS through SB 11 to expand this model to include both foster care and relative or "kinship" placements, and give the SSCC sole responsibility for case management - rather than sharing that responsibility with DFPS.
- As Community-Based Care takes shape statewide, CPS' focus will shift to ensuring quality oversight of foster care and services for children and families. The SSCC will be responsible for case management and services that move children from foster care or kinship care into a permanent home.

86th Legislature Expansion of CBC

Community-based Care (CBC) rollout funding totaling \$66.9 million to expand CBC in Stage I to a total of 5 areas and Stage II to 3 of those areas. Funding includes:

- \$10.6 million for start-up costs;
- \$27.4 million for network support; and
- \$22.7 million for additional case management resources (above the DFPS resource transfer).

Current Status of CBC

- **Region 3B (Fort Worth area)**
 - DFPS signed a contract with ACH to enter into Stage II (Case Management) on October 16, 2019.
 - ACH in readiness activities with DFPS, anticipated go-live date of March 1, 2020.
- **Region 2 (Abilene/Wichita Falls)**
 - 2INgage is currently serving children in Stage I (Placement).
 - Contract negotiations to transition to Stage II will begin in late November 2019.
- **Region 8A (Bexar County)**
 - Family Tapestry is currently serving children in Stage I (Placement).
 - Stage II negotiations will begin based on readiness in 2020.
- **Region 1 (Amarillo/Lubbock)**
 - DFPS is currently in Stage I (Placement) readiness activities with St. Francis Ministries, with an anticipated go-live date of January 6, 2020.
- **Region 8B (Counties surrounding Bexar)**
 - Ongoing procurement through HHSC for Stage I (Placement).

Note: Region 8B procurement will be the final CBC procurement funded for the current biennium as per CBC appropriation

Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

- On February 9, 2018, Congress passed the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) as part of a budget agreement. This law restructures federal child welfare funding, particularly Title IV-E and Title IV-B of the Social Security Act, which Texas uses to pay for services for children in foster care and families.
- In FY 2017, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) served 98,730 children from 35,725 families through Family-Based Safety Services and 50,293 children in DFPS Conservatorship. FFPSA could affect many of these services in the future.
- DFPS is thoroughly examining the new law and will be working with stakeholders to understand the services eligible under FFPSA, and what services already in practice can be leveraged with FFPSA. DFPS will also determine the infrastructure needed to implement the law and complete a cost-benefit analysis. All this information will help Texas determine its approach and any subsequent plan.

- First meeting of workgroup DFPS/Executives for SSCCs to deliberate on how FBSS/FFPSA prevention services could be incorporated into the model held on October 10. Next meeting is November 22. Goal to take recommendations from this group to the Public Private Partnership (PPP) advisory committee in January;
- Meetings with Kansas CPS and Missouri CPS peers to discuss how family preservation (FBSS) services are part of outsourced models in those states;
- Participate in Casey Family Programs Learning Collaborative on FFPSA—regular opportunities to engage with other states and experts;
- FFPSA webinar for external stakeholders: held on September 19;
- Stakeholder engagement meetings with Texas CASA Executive Directors (October 26);
- Stakeholder engagement at the Texas Alliance for Children and Family Services at Child Care Administrators Conference on October 1, 2020;
- DFPS Program Directors: October 8;
- Child Protection Round Table: November 4;
- January: Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (BHAC) & Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council (SBHCC);
- February: DFPS Parent Collaboration, Youth Council & Kin Collaboration; and
- Internal work groups examining specific legislative provisions; and more pending!

Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

FFPSA includes five required provisions:

1. Creation of an Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) National Electronic Interstate Compact Enterprise (NEICE) system to quickly and securely exchange data and documents for children placed across state lines;
 2. Creation of a statewide fatality prevention plan to prevent abuse and neglect fatalities;
 3. Establish protocols to prevent inappropriate diagnoses and ensuing inappropriate placements;
 4. Create procedures for providers to conduct abuse and neglect registry and criminal records checks, including fingerprint-based checks; and
 5. Compliance with proposed federal model licensing standards.
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Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

- Texas will use the 86th Interim to study the implementation options and potential costs for FFPSA and inform the 87th Legislature of options for the state.
 - SB 355 requires (per Texas Human Resources code § [40.079](#)) DFPS to submit a strategic plan for implementation of the prevention services provisions of FFPSA.
 - SB 781 requires DFPS to submit an analysis and recommendations associated (per Texas Human Resources code § [40.080](#)) with the placement provisions of FFPSA.
 - These two strategic plans will be combined and completed by September of 2020.
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- Texas received a \$1 million grant from ACF to explore options to better serve kinship caregivers, including those who are not involved with the child welfare system.
- Partnering with 211 to strengthen infrastructure (security and equipment) that would allow for continued service for kinship related calls.
- Development of training to enhance cultural competency of call specialists to better serve kin caregivers. This training will include education on kinship caregiver overview and needs, adverse childhood experiences and trauma informed care.

Creation of an Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) National Electronic Interstate Compact Enterprise (NEICE) System

- The creation of an ICPC/NEICE system would more easily facilitate the placement of children in other states around the country. DFPS works diligently to place children with relatives and adoptive homes, and this sometimes necessitates out-of-state placements.
- Texas received a grant from ACF for \$424,000 to come into compliance sooner than 2027.
- Working on an MOU with American Public Human Services Association (APHSA), who operate NEICE, with a goal to have an MOU by December 6.
- Meeting with ACF to start getting technical assistance (part of grant) in December.