Children and Youth Behavioral Health Subcommittee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, July 14, 2021

Agenda Item 1: Welcome and Introductions

The Children and Youth Behavioral Health Subcommittee meeting was called to order at 10:01 am by Barbara Granger (CYBHS co-chair). Barbara Granger provided a welcome to the members and invited all attendees to place their names and email addresses in the chat box for attendance tracking purposes. She also asked attendees to indicate in the chat box if they desired to offer public comment during that section of the agenda. Table 1 shows attendance for the meeting. Quorum was met at 10:01 am.

Table 1: The CYBHS Subcommittee member attendance.

MEMBER NAME	YES	NO	MEMBER NAME	YES	NO	
Behavioral Health Advisory Council			Advocacy Organizations			
Donna Fagan	X		NAMI Texas			
Shannon Hoffman	Х		Greg Hansch		Х	
Jordan Smelley		X	Alternate: Matthew Lovitt	х		
Community Provider Representatives			Texans Care for Children			
Heart of Texas Center			Josette Saxton	x		
Ron Kimbell		Х	Alternate: Stephanie Ruben		x	
Alternate: Telawna Kirbie		Х	Suicide Prevention	•		
Tri-County Behavioral Healthcare			Lisa Sullivan		X	
Melissa Zemencsik		X	тсооммі	<u> </u>		
Alternate: Shannon Miller	Х		Emily Eisenmann		X	
Family Representatives			Alternate: Bettina Grant	X		
Barbara Granger	X		Dept. of Family and Protective	e Servi	ces	
Valencia Gensollen		X	Che'Vun Lane		X	
Alternate: Verlyn Johnson	X		Alternate: Nicole Weaver		X	
Health and Human Services Commission			Dept. of State Health Services			
Behavioral Health Services Veronica Martinez		X	Claire Niday		X	
Alternate: Liz Pearson	X		Alternate: Cristell Perez		X	
Behavioral Health Services Suzanne Alley	X		Texas Education Agency			
Medicaid John Huffine	х		Julie Wayman	х		
Office of Mental Health Coordination Lillian Nguyen	x		Alternate: Denise Magallanez		x	

MEMBER NAME	YES	NO	MEMBER NAME	YES	NO	
Office of Mental Health Coordination Kisha Ledlow	X		Texas Juvenile Justice Department			
Higher Education			Susan Palacios	X		
UT-TIEMH Molly Lopez	X		Alternate: Marie Welsch		X	
			Youth/Young Adult			
			Callie Dupree		X	
			Calista Hughes		X	

Yes: Indicates attended the meeting

No: Indicates did not attend the meeting

Also in Attendance: Arnoldo Amador, Alice Alvarez, Suzanne Alley, Jennifer Bacak, Krystin Beach, Letisia Balderas, Meagan Blanco, Jolene Bossier, Marlene Buchanan, Adriana Flores, Rebecca Helterbrand, Megan Holter, Nowlin Jendrzey, Danielle Kailing, Tracy Levins, Linda Litzinger, Kelley Martin, Greta James Maxfield, David McClung, Shea Meadows, Denise Meunnink, Terrie Mayfield, Cara Milianti, Ana O'quin, Leela Rice, Gabrielle Rogers, Molly Sanders, Leslie Sirrianni, Lynn Sherman, Ysabelle Sosing, Louanne Southern, Sara Strader, Kate Thierry, Ryan Trevino, Sara Underwood, Christine Vo, Zatara Lumen

Agenda Item 2: Youth Panel Experience

Barbara Granger introduced Lilly Ettinger. She is an adult with lived experienced as a young person in residential treatment in Utah and an adjunct professor in Austin. Ms. Ettinger shared background information on how she moved around a lot as a child, opened up about her mental health situation, and how she had undiagnosed learning conditions growing up. Furthermore, she was diagnosed with Depression at age 14, which she attributed to her struggles in school. She talked about the effects that psychotropic medication had on her, and the struggles to feel heard and understood. She opened up about how her parents found out about her thoughts of self-harm, and how they had her committed to a long-term residential treatment facility. Ms. Ettinger recalled how the facility prescribed her with more psychotropic medication and the trauma she experienced while in the facility. Specifically, she shared about the extreme measures that were used against patients. She shared that she was there for 7.5 months, that her identification number at the facility was #312, and that patients were not treated well. Ms. Ettinger further detailed that an outside clinician would conduct assessments with her, and that it was the only time where she felt like she was being helped. She further described that, "cruelty ran rampant at that facility", most therapists were not licensed, and that she experienced a lot of violence there. Furthermore, she detailed that there was no transitional care after being released, and that the

schoolwork she completed did not count towards her education. As a result, she enrolled in an alternative school where she was able to complete her four years of high school in a short amount of time. Ms. Ettinger shared that her alcohol and substance use was hidden for many years because she did not know of any alternative treatment methods; as a result, she moved out of her home at age 16, lived on her own, and enrolled in college. She concluded by sharing that her junior year of college was difficult, and as a result, had to drop out; however, thereafter, she found the help she needed with Wraparound services and supports.

Agenda Item 3: Children and Youth Behavioral Health Subcommittee Business

Josette Saxton confirmed that a quorum of members was present. Minutes from the April 14, 2021 meeting were sent to members before the meeting for their review. Donna Fagan made a motion to approve the minutes; Molly Lopez seconded. The minutes were approved without changes.

Josette Saxton discussed the nomination process for co-chair and announced Donna Fagan as the new CYBHS co-chair.

Agenda Item 4: Introduction to Texas System of Care Strategic Planning

Agenda Item 5: Youth Panel and Discussion

David McClung (DM) introduced himself at 10:29 and introduced Andie Roskow (AR) as a youth panelist. The question and answer portion went as follows:

Question (DM): What does youth voice and engagement mean? **Answer (AR):** Giving youth a platform to speak, and having their voice heard and count as much as an adult's.

Question (DM): What are some of the misconceptions or misunderstandings about youth voice in practice?

Answer (AR): People think it can mean that it's just participation, but the mindset of adults knowing better comes to fruition; though some organizations are making progress to build foundational relationships with youth.

Question (DM): Can you talk about things being done for you as opposed to alongside you?

Answer (AR): If you are there only for your job, the youth will see that. There are those that just answer to the needs of youth, whereas others will acknowledge the youth and help them build the best versions of themselves. The goal is to not put out fires but to help the youth build themselves up to their best self.

Question (DM): What are some of the reasons for mistrust and how do you build relationships with youth who don't have that level of trust?

Answer (AR): We base our future interactions based off our past experiences. Ms. Roskow described that she personally puts aside what is in the youth's file, and asks key component questions, is empathetic, and listens in order to remember important details.

Question (DM): Can you talk about some examples/ideas about bringing in youth as leaders in organizations?

Answer (AR): Ms. Roskow talked about surveys, focus groups, advisory boards, and mentorship programs in order to be creative in bringing in more youth leaders. She talked about liking the circular pathway, wherein youth are provided a voice and opportunity to leave their mark on an organization.

Question (DM): If I'm an organization or I work for an organization, what would you say to organizations as the 'why'?

Answer (AR): The why can vary based off organization, where they want to impact the community and change the lives of youth. It would be ideal for the youth to come back and contribute to the community in which they live.

Question (DM): Can you give us some examples of how considerations would look like?

Answer (AR): Ms. Roskow would like to learn how to form an advisory council and has been brainstorming how to implement that particular kind of work with the organizations she works with (e.g., surveys, focus groups). She also detailed how transparency and open dialogue with youth is very important in order to build successful relationships.

Question (DM): What are some of the times that your youth engagement efforts have been most successful?

Answer (AR): Her past work experience has been in the school setting (e.g., therapeutic day school and residential treatment center). She saw success when students were part of the development process.

Question (DM): What is the value of youth voice?

Answer (AR): When a youth feels known and cared for then great things will happen. You need to get to know the youth before just assigning leadership positions.

Question (Elizabeth Pearson): What does it look like to engage youth voice when a child has multi-system involvement?

Answer (AR): You need to empower them to use their voice in order to advocate for themselves and others.

* Elizabeth Pearson recommended using the following assessment in order to increase collaboration with peers: https://youthmovenational.org/yval/

Agenda Item 6: Texas System of Care (TxSOC) Strategic Planning

Tracy Levins recapped previous strategic planning activities and efforts (e.g., Thought Exchange). The recap included sections pertaining to cultural and linguistic responsiveness, youth voice, and family voice. Next steps included recruiting state and local leaders that are knowledgeable and supportive of the system of care (SOC) framework. The following section includes questions and answers that took place during the planning session:

Question: What ideas do you have to ensure that Texas continues ensuring state and local leaders are knowledgeable and supportive of the SOC framework?

Answers: Barbara Granger believes it is important that the state understands what CYBHS is all about and how the voice of children and families are championed through SOC. Future ideas include clarifying the misconception across multiple systems that CYBHS is grant driven and helping people understand the importance of this subcommittee.

Alice Alvarez: Identify and build more champions for children in order to work alongside them in this group.

Rebecca Helterbrand: Ideas include creating quality type scorecards that include Hart's ladder of engagement and survey mechanisms to gauge the integration of youth/family voice and input, line item budget support for funding said measurement, line item budget support for compensation for voice/input and for the growing importance of adequate reimbursement for peer support.

Linda Litzinger: CYBHS archive videos of previous meetings in order to make available to the public and Capitol staff.

Greta James Maxfield: Consideration for acute care/urgent care/emergency departments and responders to bring into the initiative (safety measures in place for emergency care needs and ways to communicate them into the fold).

Josette Saxton: Focusing on the components of the SOC framework with state-level leaders. Pull apart the SOC framework, in order to get buy-in on the individual components. Continue leveraging the Community Resource Coordination Groups (CRCG) network (state office and local leaders) within the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) and promoting SOC values/principles through that network.

Question: What ideas do you have to ensure Texas communities continue to support community development of systems of care?

Answers: Barbara Granger asked how and who would implement this development. She suggested going back to the local mental health authority (LMHA) communities and their CRCG committee in order to understand what SOC really is and how to better build the community; suggesting a shift from informational component to implementation and building excitement for community changes.

Julie Wayman: Looping in schools into SOC design, development, and implementation; training them in SOC and sharing results and opportunities with Education Service Centers (ESCs). It will probably come down to relationship building in local schools and districts.

Rebecca Helterbrand: Working with funders to tie to future opportunities, and the potential removal of funding with agreement from various funders. Another potential way is to create a quality type index, rating organizations on their ability to incorporate youth and family engagement and publishing results.

Josette Saxton: Seek testimonials from districts within existing SOC communities on how SOC helps them address the needs of tier three students.

Linda Litzinger: We are encountering parents who are having difficulty gaining an Amber alert for their child, because the IQ is over 70, yet there are either behavioral or physical disabilities. This issue requires further legislation, particularly for children who qualify for an institutional level of care. I was planning to bring it up either for this list or for public comment, but need to leave for another meeting. If there is interest, please email me at linda.litzinger@txp2p.org. The last update to Amber Alert was in 2011; Rett syndrome (very rare disorder) is mentioned.

Question: What ideas do you have to help Texas maximize efficient and sustainable financing strategies?

Answers: Barbara Granger: Explore blending and braiding at the state level (perhaps devising a plan to reach to state child-serving agencies).

Josette Saxton: There are various community mental health grants that enable agencies to apply for funding. Is there a way to encourage communities to incorporate SOC work as part of that (if a community is applying for funding to meet children's mental health needs, is there a way to encourage/require SOC framework?)?

Agenda Item 7: Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (BHAC) Updates

Donna Fagan, BHAC Member, Co-Chair of the Peer and Family Partner Subcommittee, presented BHAC updates, particularly those that relate to CYBHS interests. Ms. Fagan reported that the BHAC has met twice since the last CYBHS meeting. The first was the regular BHAC meeting; the second was a joint meeting with the Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council (SBHCC). The meetings were recorded and are available at https://texashhsc.swagit.com/play/05072021-749/. This joint meeting with the SBHCC will occur regularly going forward and offer opportunities for input and information.

Ms. Fagan reported that HHSC Deputy Executive Commissioner Sonja Gaines provided an update on the mental health workforce, highlighting some of the BHAC recommendations and summarizing the Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council's December 2020 report titled <u>Strong Families</u>, <u>Supportive Communities</u>: <u>Moving Our Behavioral Health Workforce Forward</u>. Ms. Fagan noted that the report outlines 60 recommendations for the workforce shortage and contains no reference to family partners or family peer support. She suggests that a recommendation should be made is to ensure family voice is included in future conversations as those reports are being developed.

In the chat pod of the meeting, Leela Rice (Texas Council of Community Centers) indicated that "the report itself is a consolidation of recommendations from the many previously created reports on workforce. The goal was to highlight the recommendations used in multiple previous reports, as well as identifying the appropriate agencies and other groups to help put them into practice" and volunteered to take back to the workgroup the recommendation to include more family voice.

Ms. Fagan reported that DEC Gaines also provided information about the eight Youth Recovery Communities, originally a pilot project and now funded through 2025. Additionally, DEC Gaines announced that HHSC has hired a family peer partner coordinator, Felicia Mason-Edwards, who will be key to bringing family voice into the Peer Support Unit of HHSC. Other topics discussed included the BHAC's ongoing development of recommendations. Over the last few years, several BHAC members have worked on recommendations related to recovery housing, including voluntary certification of recovery housing, compiling an environmental scan of recovery housing, and research and description of various models of recovery housing. Ms. Fagan also announced that a Peer and Family Partner subcommittee of the BHAC has been established and includes the voice of several youth and young people, a positive next step for BHAC.

Ms. Fagan concluded her report with a description of the new annual reporting requirements for each subcommittee (including CYBHS) of the BHAC. Each subcommittee will now provide an annual report of the subcommittee's yearly activities and recommendations. The deadline for that report is July 31, 2021. All subcommittee reports and recommendations will be included in the compendium of

the BHAC, with a tentative end date in August for the year 2020-2021. The compendium will be published and available to the public. CYBHS has submitted a report for 2019-2020. The reporting period is from September through August, with reporting due the following July.

Agenda Item 8: 2021 Legislative Updates

Josette Saxton, Director of Mental Health Policy, Texans Care for Children, provided an overview and update on the 2021 Legislative Session. Her slide deck is available at

 $\frac{https://drive.google.com/file/d/1I1s2l2ksKyim7lFsyBCuQ6pq5uQ37qkb/view?us}{p=sharing}.$

School Based Services

- In the 2021 Legislative Session, the Texas Legislature increased funding for Communities in Schools and their programming to holistically address child needs that interfered with learning and increased funding for the Texas Child Health Access Through Telemedicine (TCHATT) project.
- The Legislature also passed SB 179 to require that 80% of school counselors' time is to be spent on counseling duties, with exemptions provided to meet the staffing needs of smaller districts.

School Culture and Climate

- SB 2050 was passed and would require district bullying prevention policies include a focus on school climate, building healthy relationships between students and staff, and provide for periodic instruction to students on building healthy relationships.
- SB 1598 authorized districts to use school safety allotment funds to support evidence-based prevention and restorative justice responses to disciplinary issues.

Suicide Prevention

- SB 279 was passed and mandates that student identification cards in grades 6-12 and higher education must include contact information for crisis services and suicide prevention lifeline numbers and texts.
- SB 1896 was passed and requires that residential childcare facilities and child-placing agencies serving children and youth in foster care have in place evidence-based suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention polices.
- For ongoing suicide prevention work, the Legislature passed HB 4074 mandating that the SBHCC prioritize data-informed suicide prevention efforts in strategic planning and interagency efforts.

Residential Treatment Services and Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTPs)

- SB 642 passed and would no longer require that the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) first conduct a child abuse and neglect investigation for parents to access residential beds funded through HHSC's Relinquishment Avoidance Project.
- HB 700 passed and requires DFPS to establish protocol to prevent foster care youth from aging out of a residential treatment center.
- Through the passage of SB 1575, the Texas Supreme Court's Children's Commission and DFPS have been charged to examine the oversight of, and best practices related to, residential treatment center placements and make recommendations via a legislative report.
- SB 1 budget rider requires DFPS to conduct a pilot project to develop more QRTPs meeting federal guidelines.
- HB 3121 passed and requires that HHSC establish a voluntary certification process for psychiatric residential care facilities serving youth to encourage heightened quality of care standards.

Miscellaneous Child-Related Passed Bills

- SB 1896 ensures treatment foster care can be provided to children over the age of 10.
- HB 290 extends Medicaid eligibility for children.
- SB 1059 authorizes continuous health care coverage for young adults aging out of the foster care system.
- HB 133 extends Medicaid coverage for new mothers.

Important Child/Youth Related Bills that Did Not Pass

- HB 240 related to private health coverage for serious emotional disturbance.
- HB 1432 related to youth peer support services for youth over the age of 13 years.
- HB 4265/SB 2104 related to Family Partner Peer Support Services.

Ms. Saxton concluded her presentation by letting CYBHS attendees know that Texans Care for Children published their report of the 2021 Legislative Session and offer a special section on children's mental health. That report is available at https://txchildren.org/posts/2021/7/1/report-texas-children-and-the-2021-legislative-session.

Julie Wayman (Texas Education Agency) also provided in the chat pod the link for the TEA State Plan for federal ESSER Funds as it prioritizes mental health supports (https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/Texas-ARP-ESSER-State-Plan.pdf).

Agenda Item 9: Project Updates

Kisha Ledlow introduced herself for project updates at 1:23. The first update included the announcement of 2021 TxSOC x CRCG Conference, being held virtually July 27th – 29th. She noted that the majority of sessions included voices of lived experiences (e.g., family and youth). Highlighting that there would be a networking session in order to connect and share resources, along with a screening of the documentary titled, "Angst". At the time, there were a little under 700 registrants through the conference website. Additionally, Ms. Ledlow announced the submission process for a no-cost extension to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), which would allow TxSOC an extension of its project period, in order to wrap up activities at the local and state levels. Texas Building Bridges Initiative (TxBBI) is also transitioning efforts in order to best support residential programs support families and youth.

Tracy Levins introduced the Youth Crisis Respite Policy Academy and the reasoning behind having one. This will be in the form of a webinar, held on September 22nd, bringing in experts from across Texas in order discuss the subject matter. Then on September 29th, an action lab will be held in order to discuss next steps.

Brianna Rodriguez discussed TxSOC efforts. Children's Mental Health Awareness Day (CMHAD) was very successful, launching virtually on May 3rd. After the TxSOC X CRCG conference, resources will be updated on the conference website. Children's Mental Health Awareness Day planning will start taking place in the fall, with the potential of it happening in person. The Texas Mental Health Creative Arts Contest will also be discussed soon in order to better expand efforts and resources.

Molly Lopez: CYBHS members and alternate members will receive a request to participate in a survey, exploring the state of children's mental health services and how the TxSOC is implementing its efforts. It is a way of identifying where Texas has moved forward and where the state has potentially have gone backwards. It is also an opportunity to prioritize efforts.

David McClung: April McWilliams will begin overseeing ACCEPT activities. Mr. McClung announced the offering of Families THRIVE Training, a 40 hour training that looks at protective factors, regulation and emotions. Training materials will be sent out soon. Youth peer support transitions and conversations have been taking place with BHAC.

Barbara Granger: There will be a family meet and mingle, at the 2021 TxSOC X CRCG Conference, so that family members attending can get to know one another. The Texas Family Voice Network (TxFVN) is in the final stages of becoming a 501(c)(3), having been developed through TxSOC efforts. She wants to see it continue and be sustained and is excited for what lies in the future. The next TxFVN virtual meeting will occur on July 22nd from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Ms.

Granger also shared an update with family members on the impact that their voice has had and will continue to have.

Agenda Item 10: Public Comment

Greta James Maxfield: How is flexibility between RTC type, size, shame, community, and local supports build initiatives so that changes and growth needs are responded to and kids aren't stuck on a track that they need to modify. A discussion with CYBHS members ensued.

Agenda Item 11: Next Steps

If have anyone has agenda items for the next CYBHS meeting, please email them to Barbara Granger. Kisha Ledlow provided an update with regards to potentially meeting in person in January, more information to come in October.

Agenda Item 12: Next meeting

The next CYBHS meeting is scheduled for October 13th, 2021.

Community Resource Coordination Groups of Texas Report – November 2020

RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY:

(https://hhs.texas.gov/reports/2020/11/community-resource-coordination-groups-texas-report)

Recommendations Related to Financing:

Explore funding mechanisms to ensure the long-term sustainability of the TxSOC. CYBHS recommends identifying funding mechanisms for the long-term sustainability of the TxSOC, including the planning, training, policy, and technical assistance infrastructure necessary to ensure fidelity to the system of care model.

Recommendations Related to Services and Supports

<u>Prioritize Recruiting, Training, and Retaining the Behavioral Health Workforce</u> CYBHS recommends that HHSC partner with stakeholders to prioritize recruiting, training, and retaining workforce specific to behavioral health services for children, adolescents, and transition-age young people.

<u>Support the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) Framework</u>
CYBHS supports the multi-tiered systems of support15 and encourages further advancement of those efforts, including:

- Whole-school programming that supports nurturing relationships, a sense of safety and belonging, and building student skills that help them to understand and manage emotions, establish positive relationships, and make responsible decisions;
- Targeted interventions to students in need of additional social-emotional services/support;
- Identification and provision of additional supports to the families of students experiencing those challenges; and
- Referral pathways to school- or community-based mental/behavioral health professionals for students in need of clinical services.

<u>Increasing Trauma-Informed Training</u>

CYBHS recommends that all agencies participating in CRCGs and systems of care should consider participating in training on the impact of trauma, implementing trauma-informed practices and being trauma-informed organizations.

Recommendations Related to Leadership

Attachment 1 – CRCG Report Recommendations Summary

Launch a Training Module to Members of Court System Groups

To expand SOC leadership across systems, CYBHS recommends that HHSC, in partnership with the Texas Judicial Commission on Mental Health, the Supreme Court Commission on Children, Youth, and Families, the Texas Children's Mental Health Care Consortium, the Juvenile Law Section of the Texas State Bar, and the TxSOC identify potential opportunities to develop and launch a training module. A training module could provide judges and attorneys with information related to children's behavioral health and the system of care approach.

<u>Update Documents to Align with SOC Values and Principles</u>

CYBHS recommends that HHSC and each agency participating in the system of care consider reviewing and updating language in all official contracts, strategic plans, requests for proposals, block grants, and program manuals, etc., to ensure alignment with SOC values and principles.

Recommendations Related to Accountable Systems

Empower Youth Serving Agencies to Collect Information on Shared Outcomes CYBHS recommends that state agencies serving youth identify, define, collect, and report on a set of shared outcomes across systems that will inform cross-agency data analyses.

Recommendations Related to Community Capacity

Incorporate Youth Peer Support Training and Services in Residential Programs CYBHS recommends that each CYBHS agency explore comprehensive approaches to incorporate youth peer support training and services into residential programs, education systems, juvenile justice alternative education programs, disciplinary alternative education programs, LMHAs, etc.

Attachment 2 - 2021 Legislation Update

Pre-Filed Legislation (as of Dec 17, 2020)

Insurance Coverage for Kids

HB 240, SB 51 -relating to the requirement and study of insurance coverage for serious emotional disturbance of a child

HB 290, SB 39 -relating to the period of continuous eligibility for the medical assistance program

Insurance Coverage for Young Adults and Families

SB 91 -relating to coverage for serious mental illness under certain group health benefit plans (post-traumatic stress disorder)

HB 98, HB 133, HB 107, HB 414, SB 141 -relating to the Medicaid eligibility of certain women after pregnancy or miscarriage

HB 218 -relating to coverage for certain services relating to postpartum depression under the medical assistance and CHIP perinatal programs

Provider Reimbursements

HB 515, HB 522, SB 228 -relating to the reimbursement and payment of claims by certain health benefit plan issuers for telemedicine medical services and telehealth services

HB 706 -relating to the provision of counseling services by certain providers under Medicaid and reimbursement for those services

SB 96 -relating to school districts' enrollment as a Medicaid provider to provide and receive reimbursements for mental health services provided to eligible students

Treatment

HB 407, HB 560, SB 97 -relating to unprofessional conduct by mental health providers who attempt to change the sexual orientation of a child

HB 726 -relating to prohibited non-consensual medical procedures and treatment on certain minors with intersex traits

Public Schools

SB 96 -relating on-campus mental health services provided by a LMHA; sharing info. with primary care docs; and school districts to enrolling as Medicaid provider for mental health services

HB 28, HB 226, HB 239, SB 209 -relating to social work services in public schools

SB 78 -relating to a notification requirement if a public school does not have a nurse, school counselor, or librarian assigned to the school during all instructional hours

HB 332 -relating to expanding the compensatory education allotment to allow funds to be used to implement social-emotional learning programs

SB 123 -relating to the inclusion of social and emotional skills in character trait instruction provided by public schools

Attachment 2 – 2021 Legislation Update

HB 771 -relating to the inclusion of instruction about bullying and cyberbullying in the required curriculum for public school students

HB 188, SB 233 -relating to the prohibition of certain discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression (*public & higher ed*)

HB 823 -relating to the inclusion of chronically absent students as students at risk of dropping out of school and the collection and reporting of data regarding those students

HB 62 -relating to the use of disciplinary alternatives to suspension by a school district and the creation of a restorative justice coordinating council

HB 822 -relating to requiring the expulsion of a public school student who engages in certain conduct that constitutes the felony offense of terroristic threat

Higher Education

HB 581 -relating to the inclusion of suicide prevention information on student identification cards issued by a public institution of higher education

Child Protection

HB 564 -relating to trauma-informed care for children in DFPS conservatorship and trauma-informed care training for certain department employees

HB 565 -relating to required training regarding trauma-informed care for certain judges and attorneys

HB 566 -relating to requiring trauma training for certain attorneys

Juvenile Justice

HB 486,-relating to the age of criminal responsibility and to certain substantive and procedural matters related to that age (*raise maximum age to 18*)

HB 487, SB 85 -relating to the age of a child at which a juvenile court may exercise jurisdiction over the child and to the minimum age of criminal responsibility (raise the minimum age to 12)

HB 561 -relating to the repeal of the authority of political subdivisions to adopt or enforce juvenile curfews

Parents and Caregivers

SB 147 -relating to the maternal mental health peer support pilot program for perinatal mood and anxiety disorder

HB 232 -relating to the placement on community supervision, including deferred adjudication, of a defendant who is the primary caretaker of a child

Reports

HB 551, SB 184 -relating to reports on the prevalence of eating disorders and eating disorder-related deaths in the state.