

CRCG- WHAT'S THIS MEETING ALL ABOUT?

THE NUTS AND BOLTS OF IT ALL

CRCG: COMMUNITY RESOURCE COORDINATION GROUPS OBJECTIVES

- Understand the Purpose, process, and Practices and how it is not a cookie cutter format
- Understand management, recruitment and sustainability of Partners
- Understand how CRCG and SOC values go hand in hand

WHAT IS A CRCG: The History

- **1987** -The Texas Legislature enacted S.B. 298, 70th Legislature, Regular Session, 1987, requiring eight public agencies to work together to assist children and youth with complex needs whose needs could not be met by a single agency.
- **1988** - The CRCG model established interagency service planning at the local county level. This model was piloted in Henderson, Tarrant, Travis, and Val Verde counties in 1988 and 1989

The History of CRCG

- **1990** – The State CRCG Team was established to develop the CRCG process and oversee implementation of the MOU.
- **1991** – Local CRCG training materials were developed and disseminated by the State CRCG team. An outside consultant assisted the State CRCG Team and local Texas counties to establish CRCGs to assist youth and children with complex needs.
- **1993** – The State CRCG Office was established as a permanent office under HHSC to provide ongoing technical assistance and training for CRCGs.
- **1995** – Local and state agencies requested assistance from the State CRCG Office to adapt the CRCG model to include adults with complex needs.

The History of CRCG

- **1996** – Total statewide coverage for CRCGs serving children and youth was accomplished. A local CRCG to serve children and youth was available to all 254 counties in Texas.
- **1996** - The Texas Legislature enacted Senate Bill 118, 75th Legislature, Regular Session, 1996 requiring that a local CRCG be notified when children and youth with developmental disabilities were being placed in a nursing facility. The purpose of this requirement was to promote enhanced permanency planning, provide assistance transitioning back into family life, and create long-term housing options.
- **2000** – The MOU for adult serving CRCGs was executed in May. Following an evaluation study commissioned by the State CRCGA Team, a pilot program was concluded in November 2000 and a statewide CRCGA development initiative was implemented.

The History of CRCG

- **2001** - The Texas Legislature enacted S.B. 1468, 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, codified in Texas Government Code §531.055, requiring the development of an MOU for CRCGs that serve adults.
- **2001** - The Texas Legislature enacted S.B. 368, 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, requiring a local CRCG to be notified of children and youth with developmental disabilities being placed in an institution in order to promote enhanced permanency planning and create long-term housing options.
- **2002** - The State CRCG Team and State CRCGA Team developed the MOU for statewide, county-based, interagency CRCG groups. These CRCGs coordinate groups and services for persons of all ages with complex needs.
- **2003** - The Texas Legislature enacted H.B. 2292, 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, containing Section 2.166 that required child-serving CRCGs to evaluate systems of care for children with severe emotional disturbances who have multi-agency needs. The evaluation was conducted and then provided to the Texas Integrated Funding Initiative (TIFI) Consortium to create a summary of the evaluation, due no later than 2005.
- **2003** - The TIFI and CRCG State Offices were joined under the HHSC Office of Long-term Care Services and Supports.
- **2004** - The State CRCG Office created an internal data collection system to gather and analyze information submitted by CRCGs serving all age groups.
- **2004** - The State CRCG and TIFI Offices were merged with additional programs at HHSC under the Office of Program Coordination for Children and Youth.
- **2005** - TIFI submits recommendations in its Report to the Governor and 79th Legislature: Systems of Care for Children with Severe Emotional Disturbances and Their Families, based upon the evaluations submitted by local CRCGs, per H.B. 2292, Section 2.166, 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003. They offered 18 specific recommendations that provided direct impacts on mental health services for children and youth.

History of CRCG

2011 - Due to budget reductions from the 82nd Legislative Session, state-level CRCG support activities were reduced and transferred from the Office of Program Coordination for Children and Youth to the Office of Family and Community Services within HHSC.

2014 - Health and Human Services hired a CRCG Statewide Coordinator who guided the office in providing statewide support in the areas of communication, training and technical assistance, and data and research.

2015 - The 84th Texas Legislature updated the Texas Government Code §531.055, that formalized the CRCG program, requiring a joint MOU between health and human services agencies, related state agencies, and state-level partners to reflect recent changes in agency names.

2015, Senate Bill 219 updated government policies and evaluation requirements for permanency planning which involves CRCGs. Government Code §531.151 reaffirmed the mandate for state and local communities to work together to ensure the basic needs for safety, security, and stability for each child in Texas, as well as the benefits of being a part of a successful permanent family.

History of CRCG

- Additionally, in Government Code §531.422 the Texas Legislature outlined evaluation requirements for systems of care services in the community in which the CRCG serves. As part of this evaluation, each CRCG must create a report that suggests policy and statutory changes, as well as recommendations for overcoming barriers to the provision of system of care services and improving integration of those services.
- Specifically, the CRCG evaluations must:
 - Describe and prioritize services needed by children with severe emotional disturbances in the community;
 - Review and assess the systems of care services that are available in the community to meet those needs;
 - Assess the integration of the provision of those services; and
 - Identify any barriers to the effective provision of those services.
- CRCGs must:
 - Create a report that includes the evaluation in and makes related recommendations, including:
 - Suggested policy and statutory changes at agencies that provide systems of care services; and
 - Recommendations for overcoming barriers to the provision of systems of care services and improving the integration of those services.
- Submit the report to the consortium. The consortium shall provide a deadline to each group for submitting the reports. The time frame for completing the reports must be coordinated with any regional reviews by the commission of the delivery of related services.

History of CRCG

2016 - There are approximately 140 distinct CRCG groups covering 236 Texas counties.

2017 - The 85th Texas Legislature updated Texas Government Code §531.055 to include the Texas Education Agency as a member agency in the joint memorandum of understanding. Further, it expanded the responsibilities of the State CRCG Workgroup.

2017 - The Texas Legislature enacted House Bill 1204, 85th Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, establishing a mechanism to allow the Texas Juvenile Justice Department to refer children under 12 years old to CRCGs for service coordination as an alternative to adjudication.

2017 - The Texas Legislature enacted House Bill 928, 85th Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, requiring Department of Family and Protective Services staff to inform local CRCGs about tuition and fee waiver programs that are available to children and youth who have experience in the foster care system or with adoption.

2017 - The State CRCG Office is transferred to the Office of Mental Health Coordination (OMHC) within HHSC because the mission of CRCGs align with OMHC's.

OMHC mission: The Office of Mental Health Coordination (OMHC) collaborates with stakeholders to improve policies, programs, and systems to achieve positive behavioral health outcomes for all people in Texas.

CRCG mission: CRCGs provide a mechanism that enables local public and private Agencies, organizations, and families to work together in collaboration to meet the needs of persons which no one Agency can meet.

History of CRCG

- **2018** – Office of Mental Health Coordination received funding to hire two additional staff to join the State CRCG Office team, creating a team of three full-time staff members.
- **2019** - The State CRCG Office launched a new data collection system.
- **2019** - The 86th Texas Legislature updated Government Codes § 531.421 and § 431.422 by repealing the word "consortium" and replacing it with "commission" meaning HHSC.
- **2020** - As of May 2020, there are 145 distinct CRCGs covering 240 counties in Texas.
- **2023**-There are 146 CRCGs (144 active CRCGs and 2 emerging CRCGs).There are 244 counties covered (242 counties are active and 2 counties are emerging).There are 10 inactive counties

CRCG State MOU Member Agencies

Texas Health & Human Services
Commission (HHSC)

Texas Dept of State Health
Services (DSHS)

Texas Dept of Family &
Protective Services (DFPS)

Texas Dept of Criminal Justice
(TDCJ) - Texas Correctional
Office on Offenders w/ Medical
or Mental Impairments
(TCOOMMI)

Texas Dept of Housing &
Community Affairs (TDHCA)

Texas Educational Agency (TEA)

Texas Juvenile Justice Dept
(TJJJD)

Texas Workforce Commission
(TWC)

Now What's it really all about



What is family
VOICE?

COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIPS



What type of CRCC

- Child Serving
- Adult Serving
- Family Serving
- Combination of all or some

Who Needs to be at the Table

- MOU Partners
- Non-profits
- For profits
- Local Agencies
- Community Partners
- Persons with Lived Experience
- Parents/caregivers

How Big Should My CRCG Be

- Is there a specific number of members that need to be present?
- How do I determine who should or should not be present?
- Is there a process to determine who should be at the meeting as a Member?
- Purpose of Non-MOU members being present
- Can I screen out someone who wants to join my CRCG?

How Do I Get Members to The Table

- MOU
- Mutual Mission/Vision
- Collaborative Opportunities
- Non- Duplication of Services/Supports
- Pooling of Resources
- Mutual Investment in the Lives of those we serve

How do I keep people at the table

- Buy in
- Investment from the top down
- Data
- Meetings with a purpose
- Bylaws
- Membership agreements

Meeting Processes

- Chair and or co chairs (Facilitators)
- Note takers, time- keepers, Robert's Rules
- Referral process
- When will you meet-Virtual, In Person, Hybrid
- Documents
- Data or tracking system- State CRCG and your Own
- Follow up
- Surveys

The Meeting

- Staffing of Families : Who's present
- Release of Information
- Recommendations
- Visitors
- What is the ultimate goal
- Voluntary
- Trainings

System of Care and CRCG

- System of Care Values
 - Community Based
 - Culturally and Linguistically Competent
 - Family Voice/Choice

- Value system must be embedded in the work that you do at the CRCG level, it's not just about knowing the values but it how you incorporate and truly believe in the values as you seek to serve, collaborate and partner with children, youth, families and adults. Not just those at the table but also those that we partner and collaborate with. You are the billboard and advocate for the values that we want others to instill within the work that they do.

CRCG and SOC interwoven values

- Community Based
- Families at the table with a Voice
- Partnerships and Collaborations
- Youth Voice
- Least Restrictive Environment
- CRCG's were created to serve those that were falling between the cracks no matter how many entities were touching their lives. It is purpose that Community is the first C in CRCG so that we realize and believe that first we must serve and connect in the community and bring resources to the table that are applicable to the community in which those who seek support reside.

CRCG and SOC

- The R in CRCG stand for Resource
- It is our Job as the CRCG to identify Resources
- Connect families to Resources within their community
- Identify resources that are new or unidentified/unknown in the community
- Connect with and educate resources about CRCG and SOC
- Resources are the people around the table including the family

CRCG and SOC

- C stands for Coordination
- Coordinate the meetings to ensure the appropriate people are at the table
- Coordination requires more than just the Chair
- Coordination needs to be effective not just at face value
- Coordination requires communication, cooperation and a shared purpose and Goal
- Coordination is what makes CRCG's successful

CRCG and SOC

- G stands for Group
- Groups of people with a likeminded goals- SOC belief system
- Groups that come together to serve the community
- Groups that are open to partner with parents/caregivers
- Groups that are willing to listen, share and offer
- Groups that are non judgmental
- Groups that provide a safe environment

In Summary

- CRCG's were created to service those that have been involved in various systems and still seem to fall between the cracks.
- To brainstorm ideas, resources, supports, programs or ideas that might benefit those that are seeking assistance
- To gather multiple agencies together so that persons can come to one place to get multiple perspectives
- To identify supports in the community in which the person resides
- To identify supports that culturally and linguistically appropriate
- To provide a place where family/youth voice is respected and heard as they are the experts
- To do their best to meet the needs of those who come before them

CRCG In Action: Travis County

- Have been in existence since 1988/1989 when it piloted
- Originally a stand-alone meeting
- Became Community Partners for Children in 2005- Supported by TCHHS
- The referral and Eligibility entity for Travis County SOC Community-The Children's Partnership and Short Term out of home placement dollars
- Chair
- 2 full time CRCG Coordinators/Liaisons
- 1 full time Caseworker (new position)-

CRCG In Action: Travis County

- Child Serving CRCG
- 0-22yoa
- Referral Form
- Family Guide
- ROI specific to CRCG/CPC
- Membership Forms
- Visitor Policy

CRCG In Action: Travis County

- Committed Members
- Family Voice
- Interpretation Services
- Meetings 2x a month: 2nd Wednesday and 4th Thursday
- Virtual Meetings–Zoom Platform
- Written Recommendations
- Designated Follow up Person

CRCG In Action: Travis County

- Yearly Retreat
- Bylaws
- Executive Committee
- Advocacy Committee

**Social Service
Systems that
CRCGs
Facilitate
Collaboration
Among**

School and Educational
Service Providers

Juvenile Justice

Child Protection/Child
Welfare

Local Non-Profits

County and City Social
Service Departments

Mental and Behavioral
Health Providers

- (Local IDD and MH authorities)

Current CRCG Partners

- Any Baby Can
- The Arc of the Capital Area
- Austin ISD
- Austin Recovery Network
- Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, UT Dell Medical School
- Del Valle ISD
- Integral Care - Child & Family Services
- Integral Care - IDD Services
- Maximus - Medicaid Managed Care
- Partners Resource Network
- Pflugerville ISD
- Texas Child Study Center
- Tx Dept of Family & Protective Services
- Tx Dept of State Health Services
- Tx Health & Human Services Commission
- Tx Juvenile Justice Dept
- The Children's Partnership
- Travis Co. Health & Human Services
- Travis Co. Juvenile Probation Dept

CRCG In Action: Travis County

Challenges and Areas of Growth

Youth Voice

Family Voice

Sustainability of Partners

Capacity to Serve

Bridging the gaps with community needs and changes

Expansion of Community Collaborations

Food For Thought

"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success"

Henry Ford



Travis County CRCG Contacts

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Visit the CRCG-CPC website for more information and
referral forms - [Community Partners for Children](http://traviscountytexas.gov)
traviscountytexas.gov
Start the referral process: [CRCG-CPC Meeting Inquiry Form](http://jotform.com)
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