

## Outline of TJJD's Commitment to Community Resource Coordination Groups

- Texas Government Code
- Texas Administrative Code
- Texas Family Code
- CRCG Memorandum of Understanding

## Texas Government Code

- [Texas Government Code 531.005](#)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON SERVICES FOR PERSONS NEEDING MULTIAGENCY SERVICES. (a) The Health and Human Services Commission, the Department of Family and Protective Services, the Department of State Health Services, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, the Texas Workforce Commission, and the Texas Juvenile Justice Department shall enter into a joint memorandum of understanding to promote a system of local-level interagency staffing groups to identify and coordinate services for persons needing multiagency services to be provided in the least restrictive setting appropriate, using residential, institutional, or congregate care settings only as a last resort. The division within the Health and Human Services Commission that coordinates the policy and delivery of mental health services shall oversee the development and implementation of the joint memorandum of understanding.

## Texas Administrative Code (TAC)

- [Texas Administrative Code, Title 37, Part 11, 341.302](#)

- o The chief administrative officer or his/her designee must serve as the liaison to the local community resource coordination group pursuant to Texas Government Code §531.055.

- [Texas Administrative Code, Title 37, Part 11, 341.200](#)

- o (c) Participation in Community Resource Coordination Groups.
  - (1) A person designated by the juvenile board must participate in the system of community resource coordination groups pursuant to Texas Government Code §531.055.
  - (2) The chair of the juvenile board or his/her designee must serve as representative to the interagency dispute resolution process required by Texas Government Code §531.055.

## Texas Family Code

- Texas Family Code 53.01(b-1)
  - The person who is conducting the preliminary investigation shall, as appropriate, refer the child's case to a community resource coordination group, a local-level interagency staffing group, or other community juvenile service provider for services under Section 53.011, if the person determines that:
    - (1) the child is younger than 12 years of age;
    - (2) there is probable cause to believe the child engaged in delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision;
    - (3) the child's case does not require referral to the prosecuting attorney under Subsection (d) or (f);
    - (4) the child is eligible for deferred prosecution under Section 53.03; and
    - (5) the child and the child's family are not currently receiving services under Section 53.011 and would benefit from receiving the services.
- Texas Family Code 53.011
  - SERVICES PROVIDED TO CERTAIN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.
    - (a) In this section:
      - (1) "Community resource coordination group" has the meaning assigned by Section 531.421, Government Code.
      - (2) "Local-level interagency staffing group" means a group established under the memorandum of understanding described by Section 531.055, Government Code.
      - (b) On receipt of a referral under Section 53.01(b-1), a community resource coordination

group, a local-level interagency staffing group, or another community juvenile services provider shall evaluate the child's case and make recommendations to the juvenile probation department for appropriate services for the child and the child's family.

- (c) The probation officer shall create and coordinate a service plan or system of care for the child or the child's family that incorporates the service recommendations for the child or the child's family provided to the juvenile probation department under Subsection (b). The child and the child's parent, guardian, or custodian must consent to the services with knowledge that consent is voluntary.
- (d) For a child who receives a service plan or system of care under this section, the probation officer may hold the child's case open for not more than three months to monitor adherence to the service plan or system of care. The probation officer may adjust the service plan or system of care as necessary during the monitoring period. The probation officer may refer the child to the prosecuting attorney if the child fails to successfully participate in required services during that period.

## CRCG Memorandum of Understanding

### Section A: Overview

Pursuant to the Texas Government Code, Subchapter B, Chapter 531.055, this Memorandum of Understanding ("the Memorandum") has been developed by the following member Agencies, hereinafter referred to as "the Agencies," in consultation with the Texas Health and Human Services

Commission (HHSC), and advocacy and consumer groups. The Agencies include:

**Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC),  
Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS),  
Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS),  
Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) – Texas Correctional  
Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments (TCOOMMI),  
Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA),  
Texas Education Agency (TEA),  
Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD), and  
Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).**

#### Section G: Agency Responsibilities

- Each member Agency is required to promote a community-based approach to facilitate coordination of services for people with complex needs through the development of local coordination groups.
- Consistent with Texas Government Code 531.055(b)(6), each Agency will provide local Agency representation and participation in local CRCG activities by local or regional Agency offices, regional education service centers, local authorities, providers, or local contractees, hereinafter called "Local Entities," to the extent authorized by law or contract. See Section I(3) regarding circumstances when an Agency representative may be excused from attending a local CRCG meeting.
- The local representative(s) of each Agency will have the authority to contribute to decisions and recommendations made by the local CRCG and to contribute resources toward resolving problems of people needing Agency services identified by the local CRCG in accordance with law and resources that are available to the Local Entity to contribute for this purpose.
- To the extent that operating under this Memorandum helps the Local Entities to identify strengths, issues, gaps, barriers and opportunities in the state's systems for delivering health and human services to persons with complex needs, the Agencies will request the Local Entities to provide to the local CRCG, the state CRCG workgroup and HHSC information about the strengths, issues, gaps, barriers and opportunities so identified. HHSC will appropriately incorporate information provided by the state Agencies, Local Entities and the local CRCGs into HHSC's strategic plan and into the biennial CRCG report.

- The Texas System of Care will support the State CRCG Office and local CRCGs to implement the system of care philosophy and approach in their local communities.
- Interagency cost sharing
  - The Agencies agree to assist the efforts of the local CRCGs in developing local funding mechanisms, and in seeking additional resources within the Agencies to address service gaps as funding is available.
  - To support the Memorandum, the Agencies agree to identify and provide state-level funding, or staff assistance to support the coordination responsibilities of the state-level Agency coordinating group, as resources are available for this purpose and permissible by law, for state level coordination as determined by HHSC with consultation from member Agencies.
  - If a person's needs exceed the resources of an Agency, the Agency may, with the consent of the person's legal guardian, if applicable, submit a referral on behalf of the person to the local-level CRCG for consideration by the Agencies to coordinate interagency funding, cost sharing, to implement individual service plans to the extent permissible by law, and subject to the availability of funds, when needed services cannot be provided by any single entity.
  - Cost sharing includes but is not limited to:
    - One or more Agencies, and
    - One or more third parties under purchase-of-service contracts with one or more Agencies.
- Data
  - HHSC, in consultation with member Agencies, will provide a biennial report to the chief executive officer of each Agency, the Legislature, and the Governor that includes:
    - i. The number of persons served through the local CRCGs and the outcomes of the services provided;

- ii. A description of any barriers identified to the state's ability to provide effective services to persons with complex needs; and
  - iii. Any other information relevant to improving the delivery of services to persons with complex needs.
    - The Agencies will assist to ensure the collection of data needed for the biennial report.
- Each member Agency will implement the activities of this Memorandum in a manner that defines, supports, and maintains local autonomy and facilitates provision of recommendations to the member Agencies, legislature, Governor, and HHSC. Recommendations will address the development, implementation, and evaluation of local CRCGs as well as coordination and identification of gaps in services for persons with complex needs in Texas.

#### Section I: Membership and Organizations of Local CRCGs

- The composition of the local CRCGs will include, but not be limited to:
  - Representative(s) from each participating state Agency or local affiliate/contractor/provider.
  - Representatives from private sector provider organizations.
  - People served and family representatives.
- Members of the local CRCG, including representatives of people served by the CRCG, family representatives, and caregiver representatives share equal status with regard to making recommendations.
- Each agency representative is strongly encouraged to attend all meetings to contribute to the collective knowledge and ability of the staffing group to resolve a person's need for multiagency services. A member may be excused from attending a local CRCG meeting if the staffing group, which includes the family, determines that the age or needs of the person to be considered are clearly not within the agency's service responsibilities.

#### Section J: Eliminating Duplication of Services

Within the limits of existing legal authority, each local CRCG will make reasonable efforts to eliminate duplication of services relating to the assessment and diagnosis, treatment, residential placement and care, and

case management of persons needing multiagency services. Each Local Entity agrees to notify the State CRCG Office about federal or state laws and regulations that result in duplication of services. Each state-level member Agency also agrees to notify its governing entity about rules that result in duplication of services, and to pursue amendments to state laws, rules, and policies when necessary to eliminate such duplication.