

**❖ Recommendation of Acceptance of Legislative
Action Committee Report for March 2017**



BOARD COMMUNICATION

AGENDA ITEM Legislative Action Committee Report	BOARD MEETING DATE April 25, 2017
PREPARED BY Charlene Stark, VP, Marketing & Development	DATE PREPARED April 12, 2017

The Legislative Action Committee serves as a resource to elected officials about legislative issues related to developmental and mental health disabilities, and seeks to educate the elected officials about unmet needs of Center consumers and their families.

Key Topics:

1. House budget includes rider language from Rep. Rose to restore funding to NTBHA that would have been lost in the initial version.
2. Unspent DSRIP funds may be preferentially accessible for behavioral health projects in the former NorthSTAR region under a rider championed by Region 9 Anchor Parkland and submitted by Rep. Giddings.
3. The Reconciliation Committee will be engaging in discussions regarding a state hospital to be built in Dallas County in partnership with UT Southwestern.

Additional highlights:

- Texas House approved FY 2018-2019 budget on April 6th. The Senate passed their version on March 28th. (Summary of MH allocations attached to this report).
- Texas House overwhelmingly approved HB 10 on April 5th. This gives the Texas Dept. of Insurance more power to enforce insurers' promises of parity for mental health and substance abuse benefits. Additionally, HHSC will name an ombudsman to help consumers. The Senate's companion bill appears to be on track for approval.
- HB 11 encourages early identification of trauma or behavioral health problems in school children and more attention to mental health in health class curriculums. Currently in committee.
- HB 12 would expand jail diversion programs and improve justice system dealings with those with mental illness.
- HB 13 would create matching grants for mental health community partnerships.
- Carrie Parks attended the public hearing on Thursday, April 6th regarding proposed cuts for HCS/TxHmL CFC PAS/HAB services. Powerful testimony was provided by individuals with IDD living independently with the support of service providers.
- Charlene Stark attended Rep. Burkett's town hall meeting on March 25th.

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- Texas legislative bill tracker:

- <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/Search/BillSearch.aspx>

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Stark

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State Budget Strategy	Service New Funds	House New Funds	Difference	Description	Action Needed
D.2.1 Community MH Adults	\$ 52,206,900	\$ 62,306,500	\$	Current care funding funding	Do not fund in the budget. All LHM capacity increase. Increase wait list, and expand funding.
D.2.1 Community MH Adults	\$ 24,227,133	\$ 24,227,133	\$	Current former North Star expansion	Maintain Capacity - None
D.2.2 Community MH Children	\$ 464,100	\$ 464,100	\$	Current former North Star funding	Do not fund in the budget. All LHM capacity increase. Increase wait list, and expand funding.
D.2.2 Community MH Children	\$ 8,766,326	\$ 8,066,326	\$	Current former North Star funding error	Maintain Capacity - None
D.2.2 Community MH Children	\$ 2,842,802	\$	\$ 2,842,802	RTC bids for youth activities program - equipment	Support Services Funding Level
D.2.2 Community MH Children	\$ 2,500,000	\$	\$ 2,500,000	Scraper Rider 249 Increase - Children Rehab services (poster care)	Support Services Funding Level
D.2.2 Community MH Child Services	\$ 3,216,806	\$ 3,216,806	\$	Current former North Star funding error	Maintain Capacity - None
D.2.2 Community MH Child Services	\$ 57,000,000	\$ 57,000,000	\$	House Rider 255 Contract Review Report - HS 27 bill Distribution	Support Hours Funding Level (Priority)
D.2.2 Community MH Child Services	\$ 31,029,300	\$ 31,029,300	\$	House Rider 250 Conference Rider 207 - HS 3 Local Call, Lobbies	Support Hours Funding Level (Priority)
D.2.2 Community MH Child Services	\$ 5,020,000	\$ 5,020,000	\$	Rider 274 Funding by Rds. for HS 3486 - Per Support	Support Hours Funding Level (Priority)
D.2.2 Substance Abuse Prevention/Treat	\$ 6,280,720	\$ 3,296,720	\$ 2,984,000	Current former North Star funding error	Maintain Capacity - None
D.2.2 Substance Abuse Prevention/Treat	\$ 203,953	\$	\$ 203,953	Increased substance screening	Support Services Funding Level
D.2.2 Substance Abuse Prevention/Treat	\$ 3,154,113	\$	\$ 3,154,113	Pay Patient Home to Best Locally Purchased (Cost - Increase)	Support Services - additional \$3.1 million needed to address actual cost increase
D.2.2.1 Community Frontiers	\$ 16,000,000	\$	\$ 16,000,000	Psychiatric Home to Beds Locally Purchased (Health Services)	Support Services - additional \$5.0 million needed to address current cost increase 100 beds in minimum
D.2.2.1 Community Frontiers	\$ 791,000,000	\$	\$ 791,000,000	State Hospital New Construction & Other - former MH facilities	Support Services - provides program plan to increase inpatient capacity
D.2.2.1 Community Frontiers	\$ 103,029,420	\$ 200,276,200	\$ 97,246,780	SH & SHC Critical Care & Surgical Needs (SST - Policy Tool)	Support Hours - see D.2.2 MH Community - Capital
D.2.2.1 Community Frontiers	\$ 30,000,000	\$ 30,000,000	\$	SH Community Hospital Financial Aid Capacity (SST - Policy Tool)	Support
D.2.2.1 Community Frontiers	\$ 906,205,823	\$ 460,806,256	\$ 445,399,567		