

Convening of the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium (TCMHCC)

March 31, 2025

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

The University of Texas System Administration

210 West 7th Street, 2nd Floor Boardroom

Austin, TX 78701

Minutes

The Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium (TCMHCC) will convene a videoconference meeting pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.127 on January 27, 2025, according to the following agenda. The Chairperson will be present and preside over the meeting at the posted location.

Definitions:

ARPA– American Rescue Plan Act

CAP– Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Fellowship

COSH– Centralized Operations Support Hub

CPAN– Child Psychiatry Access Network

CPWE– Community Psychiatry Workforce Expansion

CTRN– Childhood Trauma Research Network

HRI– Health Related Institution

LMHA – Local Mental Health Authority

NECMHR – New and Emerging Children’s Mental Health Researchers

PeriPAN– Perinatal Psychiatry Access Network

TCHAT– Texas Child Health Access Through Telemedicine

TCMHCC – Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium

Trayt– Data Management System

YAM– Youth Aware of Mental Health

YDSRN– Youth Depression and Suicide Research Network

I. Call to order and roll call.

- Dr. Lakey, presiding officer of the TCMHCC, called the meeting to order.
- 32 executive committee members were in attendance. See attendance report for details.

II. Approval of Executive Committee Minutes for January 27, 2025.

- Dr. Ibrhim made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Babatope seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

III. Presentations on the Budget Process/Expectations and Legislative Updates. The full Executive Committee may review, and/or provide information and/or make recommendations on the items presented.

• Legislative Session Update

- Dr. Lakey gave an update on the 89th Texas Legislative Session, overviewing what the Consortium's budget ask was and what has currently been introduced.
- There will be more discussion over the next month about the final budget for FY26-27. UT System will continue to work closely with the Legislature and Dr. Lakely may request more information from Consortium Members as needed.
- Riders:
 - Addition to the TCHAT rider: TCMHCC shall explore opportunities for third-party reimbursement for any other necessary services delivered beyond four TCHAT sessions or to address any broader needs, including through Medicaid, CHIP, a private health plan, and school-based reimbursement.
 - Proposed rider from Rep. Zwiener: New funding to implement a pilot expanding the Child Psychiatry Access Network program to include substance abuse treatment consults for pediatricians. \$2,000,000 for Higher Education Coordinating Board in FY 24 and \$2,000,000 in FY 25
 - Other riders adjacent to the Consortium were shared
- House Bill 18
 - This will be a priority bill with a focus to improve the stability of rural hospitals in the state of Texas. Many of the plans in this bill are not applicable to the Consortium, however, the bill does call for CPAN and TCHAT-like support to rural hospitals, starting with a pilot next biennium, contingent on appropriation of funding.

• Budget change requests process

- Alex Vlahodimitropoulos gave an update on the budget change request process.

- The PIA agreement is the contract between HRI and UT System. Within the agreement, there are instructions if the HRI needs to request a budget or project change. Before making any changes, please submit a project change request to Alex Vlahodimitropoulos and Rachel Jew for review.
- **Direction regarding FY24-25 General Revenue spend**
 - Alex Vlahodimitropoulos gave direction on FY24-25 general revenue spending.
 - For this biennium, UT System is requesting that any unused GR funds fall back to the state. Any unused HRI funds should be utilized for direct services and not new activities at this time.

IV. Presentation on all TCMHCC Programs, to include the status of the programs, and informational items relating to Trayt. The full Executive Committee may review, receive, and/or provide information and/or make recommendations from the items discussed.

- **Updates on the role of Program Medical Director**
 - Dr. Lakey welcomed Dr. Adam Brenner as the Medical Director for the Workforce Initiatives and thanked all four Medical Directors for their commitment to the Consortium.
- **Workforce**
 - i. CPWE Program Update
 - Dr. Steve Pliszka gave an update on CPWE.
 - Dr. Pliszka has been meeting with all HRIs to understand programming and support the CPWE workgroup with to creating goals and objectives.
 - All HRIs and LMHAs who have been accepted into the LMHA pilot have been notified. This pilot will explore transitioning TCHAT patients into local mental health authority clinical programs.
 - Five HRI/LMHA pairs have been accepted into the program including UT Health San Antonio and Center for Healthcare Services, UNT Health Science Center and My Health My Resources of Tarrant County, Texas Tech Lubbock with both StarCare Specialty Health System and West Texas Centers MHMR, and UT Austin Dell with Central Counties Services.
 - Findings and lessons learned from this pilot will be shared with the other HRIs across the state.
 - ii. CAP Program Update

- Rachel Jew gave a CAP update.
 - UTS will be working closely with Dr. Brenner to support CAP and other workforce initiatives.
- **PeriPAN Program Update**
 - Dr. Sarah Wakefield gave an update on PeriPAN.
 - There has been continued growth in enrollment with the highest monthly consult volume in February.
 - Information about the 2025 PeriPAN Webinar and Maternal Health ECHO series was shared
 - Lifeline for Moms Pathways Project: this project will support clinic staff with screening and utilizing PeriPAN. Nine OB clinics across Texas are participating in this program.
 - Aimee Lozano is joining April 1 as a Program Manager and will be supporting both CPAN and PeriPAN.
- **TCHATT Program Update**
 - Dr. Laurel Williams and Rachel Jew gave an update on TCHATT.
 - There continues to be growth in the number of referrals to and enrollment in TCHATT as well as a healthy growth between the number of treatment sessions and clients served.
 - TCHATT is active in 75% of all campuses statewide representing 78% of the student population.
- **CPAN Program Update**
 - Dr. Willams gave an update on CPAN.
 - There has been continued growth in CPAN enrollment, completed consultations and direct patient consultations.
 - PCP Portal: this should be released this summer and will allow physicians to asynchronously submit consult questions and view recommendations and findings from direct patient consults.
- **Research Update**
 - Nagla Elerian gave an update on the NECMHR grant.
 - The pre-application deadline has been extended to April 4 to ensure a sufficient pool of applicants and HRIs. The full application is due May 16.
 - Over the next two weeks, the chairs of psychiatry will be reviewing and scoring the pre-applications.

V. Presentation on Evaluation Activities. The full Executive Committee may review, receive, and/or provide information and/or make recommendations from the items discussed.

- **Internal Evaluation Updates**
 - Dr. Molly Lopez gave an update on Internal Evaluation (IE) efforts.
 - IE has been developing dashboards that will provide HRIs with key visualizations across TCHATT, CPAN and PeriPAN

to utilize when giving presentations. These dashboards will be updated monthly and will include HRI specific visuals as well as state aggregate visuals. These will be released in the next few months and will include a prepared slide deck template with notes on the data points.

- IE has been preparing a survey to gather feedback from the Executive Committee, program leadership and program providers at each HRI to understand experiences with the Consortium's administrative functions.
- Additionally, IE has been working with TCHATT and the LMHA pilot to understand best practices that can be shared across the state.

- **Update regarding Salesforce Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system**

- Cynthia Smith gave an update on Salesforce.
 - The database will be live as of April 1, 2025 and available for all HRIs to utilize. In preparation for the roll out, IE hosted a series of end user training sessions throughout March. The training slide decks and recordings can be found on SharePoint.
 - The first phase of implementation is focused on TCHATT enrollment and outreach and training for all programs. Salesforce will replace spreadsheet reporting.
 - If HRIs need additional support around Salesforce, please reach out to Cynthia.

- **External Evaluation Updates**

- Dr. Lara Savas gave an update on External Evaluation efforts.
 - External Evaluation is completing an economic evaluation and cost survey. This will emphasize tracking personal efforts across key activities such as clinical services, recruitment and training at the HRI level.
 - Additionally, External Evaluation has developed a TCHATT campus survey to assess program implementation and factors influencing school engagement with the program. This survey will be distributed in April.
 - External Evaluation is developing a similar survey for CPAN to assess factors influencing engagement with the program and will be distributed in May.
 - At the beginning of the program, External Evaluation did process mapping to understand implementation strategies being used across the different HRIs. External Evaluation will now do more in-depth interviews to gain more understanding of updates to these implementation strategies. This data will be analyzed and used to inform quality improvement.

- External Evaluation is also working with Internal Evaluation on updating logic models to ensure the evaluation plan is aligned with the goals and priorities for performance monitoring. These updates will be shared back with the Consortium.

VI. Presentation on Communications Updates and Reminders on Communication Policies. The full Executive Committee may review, receive, and/or provide information and/or make recommendations from the items discussed.

- Melanie Susswein gave an update on communication initiatives.
 - Conversations with priority audiences: CHC met with priority audiences to gather information and field test information and materials to ensure it is appealing and motivating for these audiences. These conversations have led to new creative materials and improved stakeholder outreach.
 - Collaboration with key stakeholders groups: CHC has been engaging with key partners and professional groups across the state to help spread awareness for Consortium programs through newsletters, targeted social media posts, conferences and CMEs.
 - Social media analysis: CHC continues to utilize social media including LinkedIn and Facebook to share about Consortium programs.
- Anissa Adams gave a reminder about the communications policy.
 - All external facing communications must be submitted to UT System for review at least 10 business days before the intended distribution date. The Consortium's Communications team will provide edits or approval within this time frame and HRIs are expected to review the suggested edits and resubmit materials for final approval.

VII. Special Presentations by HRIs on Partnerships between HRIs and ARPA Initiatives.

- **University of Texas Rio Grande Valley**
 - Dr. Chapa presented on how the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) has benefited from partnerships with other HRIs.
 - UTRGV has continued to struggle with recruiting faculty but remain committed to providing the best care to the region. Several HRIs have been able to support in this time including providing didactics for residents on various topics and coverage support.
 - UTRGV has partnered with UT Southwestern to provide faculty to supervise residents and provide care and services to the community.
 - Leveraging the expertise and support of the various HRI partners has allowed UTRGV to better train residents and meet the mental health needs of the Valley.
- **Texas Tech University Health Science Center**
 - Dr. Wakefield gave a presentation on the ARPA workforce initiatives at Texas Tech University Health Science Center.

- Tech has taken advantage of the ARPA funds to develop pipelines to recruit and retain talent for training programs in West Texas.
- Tech expanded on the existing child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship with ARPA funds and created both a post-doctoral psychology child fellowship and a predoctoral internship for child and adolescent psychology training. Tech has seen great success with recruitment and retention because of these programs.
- Tech modeled a similar program for licensed mental health clinicians including providing multiple different training opportunities. This has also been highly successful for retaining clinicians.
- These programs have been a critical part of a longer term strategy of addressing workforce needs in West Texas.

VIII. If necessary, closed session for consultation with attorney regarding legal matters, related to posted items, pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code.

IX. Adjournment