

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

December 1, 2025

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

The University of Texas System Administration

210 West 7th Street, 2nd Floor Boardroom

Austin, TX 78701

### **Minutes**

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**The Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium (TCMHCC) will convene a videoconference meeting pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.127 at 10:00 a.m. on September 29, 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

Tray – Data Management System

YAM – Youth Aware of Mental Health

YDSRN – Youth Depression and Suicide Research Network

**I. Call to order, introduce new members and roll call.**

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

**II. Approval of Executive Committee Minutes for September 29, 2025.**

- **Dr. Ibrahim made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Rajji seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.**

**III. Presentations on the Current Texas and National Mental Health Legislation. The full Executive Committee may review, and/or provide information, make recommendations, and/or take appropriate action on the items presented.**

- Jarrin Nelson and John Snook, Meadow Mental Health Policy Institute, provided joint presentation on state and federal legislation as it relates to mental health programs in Texas.
- Jarrin Nelson discussed state legislation specifically appropriations, grant programs, youth crisis outreach funding, mental health workforce, state hospital redesign and facility operations funding and DPRIT.
- John Snook discussed federal funds for health care coverage, Medicaid eligibility, the Provider Tax Thresholds and State-directed payments and conversations surrounding a continuing resolution for healthcare extensions such as telehealth.

**IV. Presentations on the TCMHCC Budget and Legislative Updates. The full Executive Committee may review, provide information, make recommendations, and/or take appropriate action on the items presented.**

- Rachel Jew, TCMHCC, provided update on legislative bills passed during the 89<sup>th</sup> Texas legislative session. The presentation included updates on House Bill 18, House Bill 6, and TCHAT third-party reimbursement.
- Alex Vlahodimitropoulos, TCMHCC, provided an update on the FY 26-27 budget. She stated that budget and reporting guidance had been sent to the institutions and that the FY 24-25 unexpended balance has been revised to \$78.7 million. The TCHAT budget will be impacted by shortfall.
- Dr. Lakey commented that he appreciated funds being returned and asked that all groups continue to manage their budgets, especially as other schools may come on board.

**V. Presentation on Communications Updates. The full Executive Committee may review, receive, provide information, make recommendations, and/or take appropriate action on items presented.**

- Melanie Susswein, Center for Health Communications, presented an update on the TCMHCC website redesign.
- She discussed the following: organizational flow of the website, stakeholder interviews/audits on other websites, updating the site map, and multiple entry points on the website. The next steps include content strategy then writing pages, enhancing text, using tighter language to ensure it all consistent, and reviewing the visual design.

**VI. Presentations on Proposed Policies. The full Executive Committee may review, receive, and/or provide information, make recommendations from the items discussed and take appropriate action on items indicating a vote.**

- Rachel Jew, TCMHCC, presented the Program Promotional Items Policy which was followed by a vote.
- She reviewed policy and identified key changes since last meeting. These included: flexibility for HRIs to purchase promotional items, mousepads as an approved promotional item requirements for approval resubmission of all items if mockups, and/or price quotes change, flexibility to use prohibited items in stock through case-by-case exceptions, provider and school recognition items to the scope, increased the total cost limits, added definitions for CHC and COSH. For provider and school recognition items, the permitted items include framed certificates or awards, a pilot is required to determine effectiveness, and items must be \$20 or less.
- There were no questions or comments.
- **Dr. Williams made a motion to approve the promotional policy. Dr. Plizka seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.**

**VII. 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, provide information, make recommendations, and/or take appropriate action on the items discussed.**

**A. Workforce**

- i. CPWE Program Update
  - Dr. Plizka provided an update and stated that all CPWE programs are progressing.
  - He discussed the main challenge is working with families in making the transition. He added he was reviewing monthly reports to ensure all information is reported consistently.

ii. CAP Program Update

- Dr. Brenner provided an overview of the disciplines as it relates to workforce expansion. The range of disciplines includes social work, doctoral psychology, masters in counseling, advanced practice providers, and other medical subspecialties. He added that most of the programs are built on existing programs and noted the need to bring together groups for collaboration, consider setting goals targets for the state by discipline.
- Claire Niday, TCMHCC, provided an overview of the child & adolescent psychiatrist pipeline, identified gaps and suggested questions for consideration.
- Dr. Lakey noted that Texas legislature added significant funding for general medical education, including psychiatry residency education. The deadline for applications is January 12, 2026. More information is available on the website of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

B. PeriPAN Program Update

- Dr. Wakefield provided an update. She discussed enrollment trends and call volume from clinicians, (residents, obstetricians, psychiatry, family care physicians)
- She provided an overview of PeriPAN presentations and related items including tool kits and pocket cards.
- She provided an updated on Pathways, welnity improvements, HB 18/Trayt changes, PeriPAN State CME, Texas Residency Program Leadership Roundtable, and Trayt improvements.
- Clinician portal launched October 17. Feedback included: good way reach out; most helpful to OB clinicians and request a time to call back due to schedule availability.

C. CPAN Program Update

- Dr. Williams provided an update. She discussed the call back time (3.5 minutes), and the highest call volume was in October with more than 1800 calls.
- Trayt/Beta Provider portal launched October 17. The next steps include inviting additional providers, reviewing feedback, making updates to portal as needed and beginning discussion on portal launch for Spring 2026.
- She provided an update on Trayt improvements, educational workgroup, welnity improvements, HB 18/Trayt changes and CPAN State CME.

#### D. TCHATT Program Update

- Dr. Williams provided an update. Referral volume, participation by rural schools, enrollment from referral, seasonal dip in participation due to summer months and type of provider providing service.
- Projects in progress include presentation workgroups, rural hospital support, EHR implementation, increase referrals and education of services, streamline and improve processes, Trayt training and procedure materials
- Rachel Jew, TCMHCC, provided a summary on TCHATT services from the governor's report.

### **VIII. Presentation on updates to Evaluation Activities. The full Executive Committee may review, provide information, make recommendations, and/or take appropriate action on the items presented.**

#### A. Internal Evaluation's Customer Relations Management (CRM) System

- Cynthia Smith, UT-Austin, provided an update which covered enhancements implemented, and the new staffing app.
- Her reminders included the need to create employee records and enter job openings in salesforce, and that employee allocations are due by Dec. 15.
- The next phase of development includes CPWE data and custom app for CPAN and PeriPAN. Expectations are to have app ready for the summit in February.

#### B. External Evaluation CPAN and TCHATT Survey Findings

- Dr. Savas provided a summary of CPAN survey findings from FY 2024.
- Dr. Peskin provided a summary of TCHATT school staff survey findings from FY 2024.

### **IX. 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.**

### **X. Adjournment**

- The meeting adjourned at 12:16 pm. There was no executive session.

**Meeting Accessibility:** Meetings of the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium Executive Committee are open to the public except for any posted executive session held in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. Persons interested in attending Board meetings and desiring communication, or other special accommodations should contact the University of Texas Board of Regents Office at least two working days prior to the meeting. The Board Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., excluding holidays, and contact information follows: phone (512) 499-4402; fax (512) 499-4425; email bor@utsystem.edu; 210 West Seventh Street, Austin, Texas 78701, or RELAY Texas (TTY: 7-1-1).

## Attendance List

Executive Committee Member	Institution / Organization	Attended?
Alcides Amador, MD	The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Y
Andy Keller, PhD	Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute	N
Brittney Nichols, MBA, LPC-S	The University of Texas at Tyler Health Science Center	Y
Charles Nemeroff, MD, PhD	The University of Texas at Austin, Dell Medical School	Y
Cole Johnson, JD	Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center	Y
David Farmer, PhD, LPC, LMFT	The University of North Texas Health Science Center	Y
David Lakey, MD	The University of Texas System	Y
Diana Chapa, MD	The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Y
Elizabeth Mayer, MPAff	Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board	Y
Hicham Ibrahim, MD	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	Y
Jair Soares, MD, PhD	The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston	N
John Pogue, MD	The University of Texas at Tyler Health Science Center	Y
John Scott	Texas Education Agency	N
Karen Wagner, MD, PhD	The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston	Y
Laurel Williams, DO	Baylor College of Medicine	Y
Lee Johnson, MPA	Texas Council of Community Centers	N
Luanne Southern, MSW	Texas Department of Family and Protective Services	Y
Melissa Defilippis, MD	The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston	Y
Nathan Maxwell, Ed.D.	Region 16 Education Service Center	N
Nekesha Oliphant, MD	The University of North Texas Health Science Center	Y

Octavio Martinez, Jr., MD, MPH	Hogg Foundation for Mental Health	N
Olga Rodriguez	Texas A&M University Health Science Center	Y
Peter Thompson, MD	Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center	N
Rene Olvera, MD, MPH	The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio	Y
Sanjay Mathew, MD	Texas A&M University Health Science Center	Y
Sarah Martin, MD	Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso	Y
Sarah Wakefield, MD	Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center	Y
Scott Schalchlin, JD, M.Ed.	Texas Health and Human Services Commission	N
Steven Pliszka, MD	The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio	Y
Sue Schell, MA	Children's Health	Y
Taiwo Babatope, MD, MPH, MBA	The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston	Y
Tarek Rajji, MD	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	Y
Trina Ita, MA	Texas Health and Human Services Commission	Y
Wayne Goodman, MD	Baylor College of Medicine	Y
Young Shin Kim, MD, MS, MPH, PhD	The University of Texas at Austin, Dell Medical School	Y