



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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To: Transformation Workgroup Members
From: Vijay Ganju, Project Director
Date: 11/17/2006
Subject: Transformation Workgroup Meeting – December 6, 2006

Thank you once again for your contributions and input for the development of the report from the Transformation Workgroup to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. The report was forwarded to the committee earlier this month and a copy is attached.

Both this document and the comprehensive plan which we submitted as part of our grant requirements set our course for action. The recommendations in these reports are the basis for the charges to the various workgroups which are scheduled to convene later this month.

The next TWG meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 6, 2006, 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm in the DSHS Board Room (Room M-739) in the Robert D. Moreton Building, 1100 W. 49th Street. The agenda will cover multiple new developments and activities including the recent Federal Grantee Meeting, report updates on exceptional items, Dr. Wanser's meeting with Dr. Neeley (TEA), and grant application progress between TYC, TJPC and DSHS.

Additional TWG agenda items include upcoming transformation events such as the THI Focused Forum on Making the Business Case for Behavioral Health Services on December 8, and issues surrounding Juvenile Justice and Medicaid.

Each of the five Workgroups – Adult, Child and Adolescent, Data Coordination and New Technology, Workforce Training and Housing Partnerships - will have met to define their purpose, charges and priorities. In addition, the Consumer and Family Initiative has met to plan and develop a formal process for creating networks among nonprofit and other support organizations.

The December TWG meeting precedes a Focused Forum on a report on behavioral health by the National Business Group on Health hosted by Texas Health Institute (THI), scheduled for December 8 from 8:30 am until noon. We are exploring the implementation of the report's recommendations here in Texas as a component of the transformation effort and we would appreciate your attendance of this very important meeting. All TWG members have received an invitation to this event, but additional information is available by accessing the Texas Health Institute's home page <http://www.texashealthinstitute.org/>. Follow the Invitation and Registration links under "Upcoming Texas Health Institute Forums".

As you can see, the momentum of our work has become both more intense and diverse over the past month. As a TWG member, your guidance and leadership are needed during this critical time. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend these meetings in December.

Minutes from the November 3, 2006 TWG meeting will be sent at a later date.

As always, let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you.