




**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF
HOUSING & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**
Building Homes. Strengthening Communities.

Housing & Health Services Coordination Council

**Presentation to the Texas Mental Health
Transformation Work Group
September 10, 2010**





Presentation Overview

- ❖ Purpose & Background of Council
- ❖ Defining Service-Enriched Housing & Obstacles
- ❖ 2010-2011 Biennial Plan
 - ❖ Cross-Agency Coordination Recommendations
 - ❖ Housing Policy Recommendations
 - ❖ Service Policy Recommendations
- ❖ Best Practice Example
- ❖ Next Steps

The background of the slide features a collage of images: a red house on the left, a person in a white coat in the center, and a map of a state on the right.

Purpose (as written in SB1878)

- ❖ Increase state efforts to offer service-enriched housing for persons who are elderly and persons with disabilities through increased coordination of housing and health services.
- ❖ Improve interagency understanding of housing and services by increasing the number of staff in state housing and state health services agencies that are conversant in both housing and health care policies.
- ❖ Offer a continuum of home and community-based services that are affordable to both the state and the target population.



Basics

- ❖ The Council includes 16 members:
 - ❖ Executive Director of TX Dept. of Housing & Community Affairs serves as Council Chair
 - ❖ 8 members appointed by the Governor (staggered six-year terms)
 - ❖ 7 members appointed by State Agencies
- ❖ Quarterly meetings:
 - ❖ Upcoming meetings for FY2011: November 1st, February 7th, June 10th, August 1st
- ❖ TDHCA provides clerical and advisory support
- ❖ Biennial report due every even numbered year
 - ❖ Submitted to Governor and LBB on September 1, 2010



Council Members: Agency Representatives

- ❖ Michael Gerber, Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs (TDHCA)
- ❖ Mark Wyatt, Texas Department of Rural Affairs (TDRA)
- ❖ Paige McGilloway, Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation (TSAHC)
- ❖ Jonas Schwartz, Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)
- ❖ Jim Hanophy, Department of Assistive and Rehabilitation Services (DARS)
- ❖ Marc Gold, Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS)
- ❖ Nick Dauster, Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)
- ❖ Sherri Gothart-Barron, Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)



Council Members: Governor Appointees

- ❖ Doni Van Ryswyk, HHSC Promoting Independence Advisory Committee representative
- ❖ Jimmy Carmichael, Financial institutions representative
- ❖ Michael Goodwin, Multifamily housing developer
- ❖ Amy Granberry, Health services entities representative
- ❖ Paula Margeson, Nonprofit organization advocating for affordable housing & consumer-directed long-term services and support
- ❖ Felix Briones, Consumer of service-enriched housing
- ❖ Kenneth Darden, Advocate for minority issues
- ❖ Jean Langendorf, Rural communities representative



Council Committees & Public Outreach

Committees:

- ❖ Policy & Barriers Committee
- ❖ Cross-Agency Education & Training Committee
- ❖ Coordinating Committee

Public Forum Series:

- ❖ Houston - January 27th, 2010
- ❖ Austin – February 8th, 2010
- ❖ Dallas – February 10th, 2010
- ❖ El Paso – February 24th, 2010



Defining Service-Enriched Housing

Texas Administrative Code, Title 10, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, §1.11, Definition of Service Enriched Housing:

For the purpose of directing the work of the Housing and Health Services Coordination Council and its work products, including the biennial plan, Service-Enriched Housing is defined as integrated, affordable, and accessible housing that provides residents with the opportunity to receive on-site or off-site health-related and other services and supports that foster independence in living and decision-making for individuals with disabilities and persons who are elderly.



Defining Persons with Disabilities

Council's intent to promote an inclusive definition of "disability"

The definition of the term "disability" used by the Council was created by using the definition found in the Americans with Disabilities Act (amended 2008) as a foundation. According to the ADA, the term "disability" means, with respect to an individual: (A) a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more "major life activities" of such individual; (B) a record of such an impairment; or (C) being regarded as having such an impairment. Additionally, for the purpose of directing this Council, the definition of disability shall include persons with severe mental illness and persons with substance abuse disorders.



Values of the Council

- ❖ Expand opportunities to live in an accessible, affordable, & integrated housing environment.
- ❖ Expand services and supports in a residential setting that fosters independence and allows individuals to age in place.
- ❖ Expand community based housing options:
 - ❖ Non-institutional facilities, to exclude licensed care facilities such as assisted-living
- ❖ Enhance access to service and supports and affordable housing options by removing administrative, regulatory, financial, and coordination barriers.
- ❖ Emphasize position of consumers as their own decision-makers, championing the right of consumers to voluntarily choose which services they want to receive and in what setting those services are provided.



Obstacles to Service-Enriched Housing

- ❖ Regulatory Requirements & Limitations
- ❖ Administrative Limitations & Limited Coordination
- ❖ Funding Limitations
- ❖ Consumer Barriers



2010-2011 Biennial Plan: Recommendations for Cross- Educating State Agencies

- ❖ Education & Training Resources
- ❖ Utilization of Information Technology
- ❖ Intra-agency Communication
- ❖ Outreach & Leadership



2010-2011 Biennial Plan: Recommendations for Assisting & Training Local Entities

- ❖ Education & Training Resources
- ❖ Local to Local Networks
- ❖ Outreach to Consumers



2010-2011 Biennial Plan: Housing Policy Recommendations

- ❖ Modify existing state and federally funded programs within TDHCA & TSAHC to prioritize or incentivize service-enriched housing for the targeted population
- ❖ Encourage and formalize relationships between housing providers and service providers
 - ❖ Acknowledging within housing program materials that linkages should exist
- ❖ Expand outreach and education to private sector housing developers and property owners
- ❖ Seek out existing funding sources that could be repurposed for service-enriched housing



2010-2011 Biennial Plan: Service Policy Recommendations

Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS)

- ❖ HCS waivers for persons at risk of institutionalization
- ❖ Relocation services for persons transitioning back into the community
- ❖ Medicaid 1915(c) funding
- ❖ Expanding Best Practices
 - ❖ Behavioral health services and supports within Medicaid 1915(c) waiver programs – Bexar County Pilot (coordinated with DSHS)
 - ❖ Nursing facility diversion programs – Central TX & Tarrant County Pilots
 - ❖ Aging and Disability Resource Centers
- ❖ Increase wages for direct service and supports workers



2010-2011 Biennial Plan: Service Policy Recommendations

Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

- ❖ Increase funding to the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) service packages as part of the Resiliency and Disease Management (RDM) program
- ❖ Provide community based services and supports for individuals who have high functioning needs or who are leaving the state mental health facility system
- ❖ Expand the Peer Specialist Program to Local Mental Health Authorities statewide
 - ❖ Certified Peer Specialist Learning Community

Best Practice Example: North Carolina

- ❖ Program Name: Supportive Housing Development Program (SHDP)
- ❖ Partnership - NC Housing Finance Agency & Dept. of Health & Human Services
- ❖ Program overview: SHDP helps non-profits, local governments, and regional organizations develop permanent housing for persons who are homeless and/or have mental, physical, or developmental disabilities, including mental illness and substance abuse disorders. Must serve individuals and families earning below 50% AMI.
- ❖ Funding Mechanisms: NC Housing Trust Fund & Housing Tax Credit Program
- ❖ Example Development – Club Nova Apartments
 - ❖ 24 efficiency apartments for persons with serious mental illness
 - ❖ Optional services provided on-site include: employment assistance, supported education, social/recreation programs, meals
 - ❖ Optional services provided off-site include: medical, psychiatric, pharmacological, and substance abuse services



Next Steps

- ❖ Plan dissemination & outreach
- ❖ Outstanding statutory directives
- ❖ Council & Council staff pursue items requiring no Legislative action
- ❖ 82nd Legislative Session
- ❖ Future collaborations
 - ❖ DSHS Continuity of Care Task Force

Contact Information

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