



## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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COMMISSIONER

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TO: Executive Directors and Behavioral Health Directors,  
Local Mental Health Authorities, Specialty Provider Networks, and Substance  
Abuse Providers

FROM: Mary Sowder  
Interim Program Services I Director   
Mental Health and Substance Abuse  
DSHS

Re: Texas System of Care Community Expansion Site Announcement

The Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health, at the University of Texas at Austin, is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for communities interested in developing or enhancing a System of Care service delivery approach. This initiative is a partnership between the Texas System of Care, the Department of State Health Services, Department of Family and Protective Services, Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments, Texas Medicaid, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Texas Education Agency, and the Texas Juvenile Justice Department.

The intent of this announcement is to identify two communities to receive funding, along with national and in-state technical assistance, through the Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health and collaborators in an effort to strengthen the community's response to children and youth with serious emotional disturbances. The two selected communities will be able to collaborate with other system of care communities and participate in in-depth training with state and national experts. The selected communities will also be provided targeted support and technical assistance to address community-identified objectives.

For more information on system of care, application requirements, and application process please use the following link: <http://www.txsystemofcare.org/faq/>

Interested communities must submit a completed application no later than **February 23, 2015**. Questions and/or requests for clarification should be sent to [info@txsystemofcare.org](mailto:info@txsystemofcare.org) with the subject line "TX SOC Community Expansion" by 12 noon on January 21, 2015. Responses to questions and requests for clarification will be responded to during an informational webinar to be held on January 22, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. CST (click here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-expansion-rfp-texas-system-of-care-informational-webinar-tickets-14921754369> to register for the Webinar). Responses will also be posted on the TX SOC Community Expansion FAQ page following the Webinar.