



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

JOHN HELLERSTEDT, M.D.
COMMISSIONER

P.O. Box 149347
Austin, Texas 78714-93471-888-963-7111
TTY: 1-800-735-2989
www.dshs.state.tx.us
Behavioral Health Broadcast Message #228

March 2, 2016

To: Local Mental Health Authorities (LMHAs)
Executive Directors
Children's Mental Health Directors
Behavioral Health Directors
North Texas Behavioral Health Authority (NTBHA)
YES Comprehensive Waiver Providers
Value Options

From: Trina Ita MA, Director 
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division, Program Services Section II

Re: Youth Empowerment Services (YES) Waiver Statewide Medicaid Approval

Purpose:

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) formally approved Amendment 8 to the YES Waiver. Amendment 8 makes the YES Waiver a statewide Medicaid program.

The comprehensive waiver provider contracts for local service areas being fully funded with State general revenue (i.e., Program ID: MH/YESPROVGR) will transition to a YES Medicaid-funded contract (i.e., MH/YESPROV). The programmatic impact of this transition is as follows:

- Children who are not currently enrolled in Medicaid and have therefore not been able to participate in the YES GR program will be able to enroll in YES waiver, pending Medicaid.
- Children who are clinically eligible for YES waiver may have their parent's income excluded from the financial criteria for their Medicaid eligibility determination.
- Children who enrolled in the YES GR program will need to be transferred to a YES Medicaid program utilizing new functionality in CMNHS beginning April 4, 2016.
- Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Contractor Services Section Mental Health Contracts Management Unit will send out a separate Broadcast Message regarding associated changes to YES related contracts.

Timeline:

- The YES GR program will be discontinued, effective March 31, 2016.
- Effective April 1, 2016 all counties will be covered by YES Medicaid waiver.
- Effective April 4, 2016 Clinical Management for Behavioral Health Services (CMBHS) system changes will be in production. New functionality (transfer process) will be

utilized for children in a YES GR program to be enrolled in the YES Medicaid program. See Behavioral Health Broadcast Message #227 for information on CMBHS system changes, including training.

Contact:

For questions regarding the YES Waiver program, please contact Jennifer Martinez at JenniferM.Martinez@dshs.state.tx.us or (512) 838-4358.

Please refer all contract specific questions to your assigned Contract Manager.