



## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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COMMISSIONER

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April 5, 2016

**To:** Local Mental Health Authorities (LMHAs)  
Executive Directors  
Children's Mental Health Directors  
Behavioral Health Directors  
North Texas Behavioral Health Authority (NTBHA)

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

**Re:** Youth Empowerment Services (YES) Waiver and STAR Kids

**Purpose:**

On November 1, 2016, all Youth Empowerment Services (YES) Waiver clients will begin receiving their state plan benefits through managed care as a part of the [STAR Kids Program](#).

Providers of Medicaid State Plan behavioral health services such as Targeted Case Management (TCM) will provide services through a contract with a designated STAR Kids Managed Care Organization (MCO).

The YES Waiver utilizes TCM to coordinate Waiver services. Local Mental Health Authorities (LMHA) are encouraged to contract with STAR Kids MCOs in the LMHA service area to prevent a disruption of TCM services and subsequent disruption of YES Waiver services for YES participants.

For more information on STAR Kids, including the MCOs for each region, see the [STAR Kids Program webpage: http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/managed-care/mmc/star-kids.shtml](http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/managed-care/mmc/star-kids.shtml).

**Contact**

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