

**Texas Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC)  
Minutes of Meeting Held Thursday, October 13, 2022, 10:00 a.m.**

**Teleconference from Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), 1100  
West 49th Street, Moreton Building, Room M-100, Austin, Texas 78756.**

**MS Teams link: [https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_NDc4ZjlmYjctNjFmYi00NzMzLWJjODYtNTg5YjQxYjcyNGZm%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%229bf97732-82b9-499b-b16a-a93e8ebd536b%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2230a8645b-8b77-4bb6-80fb-3f4299415740%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NDc4ZjlmYjctNjFmYi00NzMzLWJjODYtNTg5YjQxYjcyNGZm%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%229bf97732-82b9-499b-b16a-a93e8ebd536b%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2230a8645b-8b77-4bb6-80fb-3f4299415740%22%7d)**

**Call-in Number: +1 (512) 580-4366**

**Access Code: 722 910 366#**

**Members Attending**

Aelia Akhtar, MS  
Jimmy Blanton, M.P.Aff.  
Carol Boswell, Ed.D., RN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN  
Chelsea Elliott  
Courtney Harvey, Ph.D., MA  
Ken Holland  
Emily Hunt, D.N.P, APRN, CPNP-PC/AC  
Doris J. Jackson, DHA  
Elizabeth Protas (Chair), P.T., Ph.D.  
Tamara Rhodes, MSN, RN  
Cheryl T. Sparks, Ed.D.  
D. Bailey Wynne, R.Ph., M.H.A.  
Yasser Zeid, M.D.

**Members Absent**

Kimberly N. Haynes, D.M.D. (Excused)  
Elizabeth Mayer, M.P.Aff. (Excused)  
Melinda Rodriguez, D.P.T, PT (Excused)

**Staff Present**

Ann Barnett, MS, MS, Manager, Health Provider Resources Branch  
Ky Burke, Research Specialist, Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies and Health Professions Resource Center  
Kayla Davis, MS, Research Specialist, Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies  
Kristina Juarez, MPH, Research Specialist, Health Professions Resource Center  
Pamela Lauer, MPH, Manager, Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies

SHCC Meeting Minutes October 13, 2022

<p><b>1. Chairman's Welcome and Introductions</b></p>	<p>Dr. Protas called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Dr. Protas announced that members should state their name for the record when making comments and to mute themselves when not speaking. Pam Lauer reminded the Council to keep their cameras on to maintain quorum if attending virtually.</p>
<p><b>2. Establish a Quorum – Roll Call and Possible Action to Approve Excused Absences</b></p>	<p>A quorum was established. Dr. Kimberley Haynes, Elizabeth Mayer, and Dr. Melinda Rodriguez requested excused absences.</p> <p>A motion to approve all requested excused absences was made by Dr. Carol Boswell and seconded by Dr. Courtney Harvey. The motion carried.</p>
<p><b>3. SHCC Discussion and Possible Action to Approve June 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes</b></p>	<p>A review of the June 9, 2022 minutes elicited no revisions.</p> <p>A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dr. Bailey Wynne and seconded by Ken Holland. The motion carried.</p>
<p><b>4. Review and Possible Action to Approve the 2023-2028 State Health Plan</b></p>	<p>Kayla Davis reviewed the proposed edits to the 2023-2028 State Health Plan (SHP).</p> <p>The SHCC discussed potential edits to the 2023-2028 Statewide Health Plan.</p> <p>Defining Access to Care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Yasser Zeid mentioned that it is difficult to deny any of the definitions, as this is a complex topic.</li> <li>• Kayla Davis confirmed with the Council that this is a multi-definition term as it exists in the SHP. The staff will add a sentence stating this.</li> <li>• Dr. Sparks noted that it would encompass all Texans in need.</li> <li>• Jimmy Blanton commented that it will be important to outline particular populations with challenges accessing care.</li> <li>• Dr. Zeid expressed concern over the growing group of uninsured people in the state as the COVID-19 pandemic coverage decreases.</li> <li>• Pamela Lauer reminded the Council that adding changes would delay the delivery of the Statewide Health Plan, and it would require another meeting of the Council.</li> <li>• Dr. Harvey expressed that she would like to forgo making additions to the SHP and keep those thoughts as topics for future meetings.</li> </ul>

- Dr. Protas agreed with changing the title from “Women” to “Men and Women” in the section highlighting populations with challenges accessing care on page 10.
- The council had no further comment on defining access to care.

Rural Health:

- There were no comments from the Council on the edits in this section.

Mental Health and Behavioral Healthcare Workforce:

- Dr. Harvey commented that the narrative of the section and policy recommendations reflect and are consistent with the Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Board (SBHCC).
- Dr. Protas agreed and stated this particular section was communicative and meaningful and that the legislature will hopefully understand the need for care in this area.

Telehealth and Technology:

- There were no comments from the Council on the edits in this section.

Kayla Davis presented the agency comments made and clarified that the SHP will be acknowledged as a SHCC report. None of the content was changed, but the staff made minor edits for consistency.

Kayla Davis ended the presentation and asked the Council for any comments:

- Dr. Protas thanked the staff for the work on the report. She stated there are many opportunities for the legislators and governor to choose some of these recommendations to execute.
- Pamela Lauer and Dr. Protas reminded the Council that the report is due to the Governor on November 1, 2022.
- Ken Holland asked a clarifying question over the role of the Council in speaking with the legislators who may be interested in these recommendations.
- Dr. Protas confirmed that the Council may interact with legislators so long as they stay within the parameters of the SHP.

Dr. Protas asked for a motion to approve the 2023-2028 State Health Plan.

	<p>Dr. Harvey made the motion to approve the 2023-2028 State Health Plan, and the motion was seconded by Dr. Emily Hunt. The motion carried.</p>
<p><b>5. Presentation by Margaret Robles, Unit Manager of Rural and Community Engagement Division for The Caring Foundation, on the Impacts of the Care Van program on Rural Health</b></p>	<p>Margaret Robles presented on the Care Van program and its impacts on rural health.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Caring Foundation serves 17 different counties in the Permian Basin.</li> <li>• Margaret Robles provided a framework of Medicine on the Move’s purpose and spoke about determinants of health seen in the rural communities served by Medicine on the Move.</li> <li>• Their goals include providing culturally competent connections to primary care and mental health services.</li> <li>• They recently received a grant through HRSA to teach Hispanic students about the process of applying to and completing medical school. The program also includes curriculum on culture and medical Spanish.</li> </ul> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Protas mentioned the issues in Texas of large open spaces and limited resources. She mentioned this is a reasonable program to have in those areas.</li> <li>• Dr. Cheryl Sparks asked about how programs like this could be expanded to all rural areas in Texas. She brought up how many specialists are located in large metropolitan areas, and that there are issues facing rural communities in accessing specialists, especially elderly populations. Dr. Sparks mentioned her interest in getting specialists to reach rural hospitals quarterly to eliminate the amount of travel for patients.</li> <li>• Margaret Robles mentioned that Medicine on the Move has begun with primary care because that is what the program leader specializes in, but the concept of expanding to specialists is of interest.</li> <li>• Tamara Rhodes asked Margaret Robles to expand upon the interprofessional program for students, which are required for some health care students.</li> <li>• Margaret Robles explained that Medicine on the Move can provide learning credits for these students. Their first event will be on November 3, 2022.</li> <li>• Dr. Protas posited that it is important to understand how different groups are impacted by challenges</li> </ul>

	<p>accessing care. She thanked Margaret Robles for her presentation.</p>
<p><b>6. SHCC Agency Representatives' Reports</b></p>	<p>a. Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC): Dr. Harvey with HHSC gave an update on the Behavioral Health Services Department:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The FY 2022-2026 State Behavioral Health Strategic Plan will potentially be published at the end of October 2022. The plan includes funding substance use services for the first time in the report. They have included a sub-plan for keeping individuals out of the juvenile justice system and for them to receive long-term, appropriate care.</li> <li>• The SBHCC is required to vet the behavioral health-focused exceptional items. The agency is requesting \$288 million to stabilize the behavioral health workforce at local and state levels. HHSC is having difficulty recruiting and retaining employees. Part of the request will engage with university students to go into behavioral health.</li> </ul> <p>Jimmy Blanton with HHSC's Medicaid Program gave an update including the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medicaid provides prenatal, birth, and postpartum care, and healthcare for over 40% of children in the state.</li> <li>• HHSC is also preparing reports for the 88<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session and exceptional items.</li> <li>• HHSC has published their legislative appropriation request, which includes 1700 pages of financial information and description of programs that comprise the priorities of Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025.</li> <li>• In preparing for the next legislative session, they've created approximately 90 reports. Some would be of interest to the Council.</li> <li>• Dr. Protas asked about the postpartum care for women from 6 months to 12 months. She asked whether the expansion has occurred to 6 months and about the challenges in expanding that to 12 months.</li> <li>• Jimmy Blanton noted that the issue lies with Medicaid at the state level. He said the legislators will look at it more in the next section.</li> <li>• Dr. Protas asked whether women are getting covered for 6 months.</li> <li>• Jimmy Blanton replied that they are allowed to maintain their coverage under the public health emergency.</li> </ul>

	<p>b. Department of State Health Services (DSHS): Aelia Akhtar with DSHS gave an update on the agency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On October 1<sup>st</sup>, Dr. Jennifer Shuford began serving as interim commissioner for DSHS.</li> <li>• DSHS is preparing for the legislative session. They've published their LAR and the 2023-2027 strategic plan and sent to the Governor's Office and is published on the agency website.</li> <li>• Her office is the Office of Public Health Policy. The center works strengthen the public health system and to improve the health of all Texans. They focus on state's vulnerable populations.</li> <li>• The grant will work with communities across Texas. They received the grant in 2021 and received an expansion to 2024. It focuses on 40 local health departments conducting outreach.</li> <li>• Dr. Bailey Wynne asked a clarifying question about the grants received by DSHS. She trying to build a Mental Health Consortium in East Texas and this information could be helpful.</li> </ul> <p>c. Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was no update from the THECB at this time.</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Report on SHCC Representation on the HHSC E-Health Advisory Committee</b></p>	<p>Dr. Kimberley Haynes submitted a report on the HHSC E-Health Advisory Committee (E-HAC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The E-HAC is still preparing the writing groups for their due date of December 1, 2022.</li> <li>• The E-HAC is still looking for members to serve on the committee from the SHCC. Dr. Haynes has resigned as the SHCC representative to the E-HAC.</li> <li>• Dr. Protas described the responsibilities of the committee and subcommittees and asked for any volunteers to serve on the E-HAC.</li> <li>• Ken Holland volunteered to serve as the SHCC representative for the E-HAC with Jimmy Blanton's assistance as needed.</li> </ul>
<p><b>8. Health Professions Resource Center and SHCC Coordinator's Report</b></p>	<p>Pam Lauer provided an update on the Health Professions Resource Center (HPRC) and SHCC activities. She discussed the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HPRC doesn't have many updates. Two positions are vacant, and one position is newly filled.</li> <li>• HPRC has updated the SHARP professions licensure data on health care professionals.</li> </ul>

SHCC Meeting Minutes October 13, 2022

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• HPRC is working on processing health provider licensure data for 2022.</li><li>• They will begin preparing for the next SHCC meeting on March 2, 2023.</li></ul>
<b>9. Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies Report</b>	<p>Pamela Lauer provided an update on the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies (TCNWS) and discussed the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TCNWS has vacancies as well.</li><li>• The Advisory Committee has approved the 2022 Nurse Staffing Studies.</li><li>• They are currently collecting nursing education data.</li><li>• TCNWS will be getting updates on supply and demand for professions projections.</li><li>• The Center has chosen 4 grantees for their Workplace Violence Against Nurses Grant Program.</li></ul>
<b>10. Administrative Items and Next Steps</b>	<p>SHCC tentative meeting dates: March 2, June 8, and October 5th 2023.</p>
<b>11. Public Comment and Adjourn</b>	<p>There were no public comments.</p> <p>A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Cheryl Sparks and seconded by Dr. Bailey Wynne. The motion carried.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.</p>