



April 26, 2019

To: Youth Empowerment Services Waiver Providers
Local Mental Health Authorities
Local Behavioral Health Authorities

Subject: Broadcast Message No. 19.018
Youth Empowerment Services Waiver Capacity

The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) has worked to establish Youth Empowerment Services (YES) waiver capacity numbers for each Local Mental Health Authority/Local Behavioral Health Authority (LMHA/LBHA) based on current enrollment and statewide capacity.

HHSC is responsible for managing the number of individuals enrolled and served within the YES waiver annually (i.e., maximum capacity numbers or waiver capacity slots) as approved by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). HHSC allocates waiver capacity slots to each LMHA/LBHA, and publishes maximum enrollment numbers on the YES waiver data webpage <https://hhs.texas.gov/about-hhs/records-statistics/data-statistics/yes-waiver-data>. The maximum capacity for the YES waiver for this waiver year (4/1/2019 -3/31/2020) is 3,144, about a nine percent increase from the previous waiver year period. The statewide capacity was increased in the waiver year renewal submitted to CMS based upon utilization review and forecasting projections.

HHSC distributed slots to each LMHA/LBHA by holding the distribution rate constant and allocating slots proportionally based on the unduplicated client count at the end of the prior waiver year period. HHSC reserved a pool of 100 waiver slots to redistribute as needed. HHSC also reserved five percent of the total statewide capacity for children at risk for relinquishment, per requirements in the CMS waiver application.

HHSC approves enrollment up to the maximum capacity allotments posted on the HHS YES waiver data webpage provided above. The need for additional slots will be monitored on a monthly basis and through regular technical assistances calls with each LMHA/LBHA. For questions, concerns, or to request additional slots, a request may be submitted either directly

Broadcast Message No. 19.018
April 26, 2019
Page 2

through the HHSC YES Program Liaison, or by emailing the YES inbox at YESWaiver@hhsc.state.tx.us.

Providers can view this broadcast under “IDD-BH Broadcast Messages” at:

- <https://hhs.texas.gov/doing-business-hhs/provider-portals/behavioral-health-services-providers/local-mental-health-authorities>; or
- <https://hhs.texas.gov/doing-business-hhs/provider-portals/behavioral-health-services-providers/youth-empowerment-services-waiver-providers>

If you have questions about this broadcast please submit via email to: YESWaiver@hhsc.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

Trina K. Ita, MA, Associate Commissioner
Behavioral Health Services
Medical and Social Services Division
Health and Human Services Commission