

Report on the Mental Health for Veterans Grant Program

As Required by

**2020-2021 General Appropriations Act,
House Bill 1, 86th Legislature, Regular
Session, 2019 (Article II, Health and
Human Services Commission, Rider 61)**

**Health and Human Services
Commission**

December 2020



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	1
1. Background	2
2. Number of Grants	4
Pilot Phase.....	4
Phase II-A	4
Phase II-B	5
Phase III	5
Phase IV.....	5
3. Number of Veterans and Family Members Served.....	6
4. Effectiveness of Grants.....	7
Number of Clients Served	7
5. Conclusion	9
Appendix A. Grant Project Summaries	1
Pilot Phase.....	1
Phase II-A	2
Phase II-B	6
Phase III	13
Phase IV.....	20

Executive Summary

The *Report on the Mental Health for Veterans Grant Program* is submitted in compliance with the 2020-21 General Appropriations Act, House Bill (H.B.) 1, 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019 (Article II, Health and Human Services Commission [HHSC], Rider 61). Rider 61 requires HHSC to submit a report on the Mental Health for Veterans Grant Program to inform the effectiveness of the grants, the number of grants awarded, and the number of veterans served to the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor by December 1, 2020.

Senate Bill (S.B.) 55, 84th Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, created the Texas Veterans + Family Alliance (TV+FA) grant program to support communities and to identify and address the mental health needs of veterans and family members through grant-supported projects. S.B. 822, 86th Regular Session, 2019, amended the match requirement for TV+FA grantees.

There have been five phases of TV+FA grant periods which have awarded over \$46 million in state funds to support 74 projects across the state. Through these five phases, 51,575 veterans and family members have been served through grant-funded activities.

1. Background

Rider 61 requires HHSC to submit a report on the Mental Health for Veterans Grant Program to the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor by December 1, 2020. The report describes the effectiveness of the grants, the number of grants awarded, and the number of veterans served.

S.B. 55 created the TV+FA grant program to improve the quality of life of Texas veterans and their families by supporting local communities across the state to expand the availability of, increase access to, and enhance the delivery of mental health treatment and services.

TV+FA supports mental health projects by providing resources and opportunities for community programs to coordinate and collaborate services and treatment for veterans and their families. As amended by S.B. 822, TV+FA grantees must match state funds awarded through contribution of non-state/non-federal resources at 50 percent for grant projects which serve counties with populations of less than 250,000, while grant projects serving counties with populations of more than 250,000 must match 100 percent of the state award.

With these funds, TV+FA grantees implement projects to:

- Provide new, enhanced, or expanded military-informed mental health services to veterans and their families; and
- Provide and coordinate supportive services essential to the provision of mental health services as part of a continuum of care implemented by a developing or existing community collaborative to address mental health needs of the community's veterans and family members.

TV+FA-supported treatment and services include:

- Evidence-based therapies and treatment;
- Individual, group, family, and couples peer support services;
- Suicide prevention initiatives to help community members, veterans, and their family members develop awareness and skills in recognizing, assisting, and referring to mental health services;
- Treatment of substance use disorders (SUD);

- Individual and family counseling; and
- Navigation services such as case management and referral services.

TV+FA funding supports activities essential to the provision of mental health services including:

- Family-related services, including child care;
- Emergency financial support;
- Transportation;
- Housing;
- Infrastructure costs, such as telemedicine equipment; and
- Training for staff and health care providers, including training in military-cultural competence or evidence-based practices that directly impact the number of veterans and family members served during the grant period.

The TV+FA grant program seeks to empower local communities to identify and address the mental health needs of veterans and family members. Grant funds are intended to be a catalyst for communities to develop and support sustainable partnerships, collaborative relationships, and coordinated service delivery systems that continue to operate after the life of the TV+FA grant.

Five grant phases have been implemented over the life of the program, resulting in the award of over \$46 million in state funds to support 74 grant projects across the state.

2. Number of Grants

HHSC has provided more than \$46 million in state funding to 74 TV+FA grantees to operate mental-health supportive projects for veterans and their families since 2015. Table 1 provides an overview of program implementation, the number of grantees per phase of the program, and the total of state funding awarded during each phase.

Table 1. TV+FA Grant Award by Grant Phase

Grant Phase	Grant Period	Number of Grants	Funding Awarded
Pilot	June 2016 - August 2018	5	\$1 million
Phase II-A	November 2016 - June 2018	13	\$6 million
Phase II-B	June 2017 – May 2019	20	\$10 million
Phase III	July 2018 - December 2019	20	\$9.3 million
Phase IV	Sept 2019 - August 2021	16	\$20 million
Total		74	\$46.3 million

Pilot Phase

In fiscal year 2016, HHSC awarded \$1 million in state funds for five TV+FA projects, matched dollar-for-dollar as required by statute at the time. The pilot phase grants were active during June 2016 through August 2018 and served 36 counties across the state.

Phase II-A

The 2016-17 General Appropriations Act, H.B. 1, 84th Legislature, Regular Session, 2015 (Article II, HHSC, Rider 68), appropriated \$10 million per fiscal year to implement the TV+FA grant program, matched dollar-for-dollar as required by statute at the time. Due to fiscal year appropriation of funding, phase II was implemented in two parts: phase II-A and II-B. During phase II-A, 13 grantees

received \$6 million dollars for projects executed November 2016 through June 2018 and served 86 counties across the state.

Phase II-B

During phase II-B, 20 applicants received \$10 million in state funds, matched dollar-for-dollar as required by statute at the time. Phase II-B projects were executed during June 2017 through May 2019 and served 200 counties across the state.

Phase III

During the phase III grant period, 20 grantees received \$9.3 million in state funds, matched dollar-for-dollar as required by statute at the time. Phase III grant projects were executed during July 2018 through December 2019 and served 206 counties across the state.

Phase IV

HHSC awarded \$20 million dollars in state funds to sixteen community collaborative grant projects for the current TV+FA grant period which began September 2019. State funding is matched by each grantee as required by current statute and based on population size as previously described. Phase IV grantees are projected to serve over 17,500 veterans and family members across the state's 254 counties by the end of the grant period, August 2021.

3. Number of Veterans and Family Members Served

As seen in Table 2, 56,976 veterans and family members have received grant-supported services and treatments during the pilot through Phase IV to date. For TV+FA's current grant cycle, Phase IV grantees are projected to serve more than 17,500 veterans and family members. Reporting available at the writing of this report indicates Phase IV grantees served 5,401 veterans and their families through the end of fiscal year 2020. The total of prior and projected numbers of TV+FA clients served equals more than 69,000 veterans and family members who will have received TV+FA grant program services by the end of fiscal year 2021.

Table 2. TV+FA Veteran and Family Members Served by Grant Phase

Phase	Projected Clients	Actual Clients¹
Pilot	1,455	2,374
Phase II-A	7,575	8,301
Phase II-B	9,194	17,467
Phase III	19,757	23,433
Phase IV	17,672	5,401 ²
Total	55,653	56,976

¹ Actual Clients served are reported by grantees within quarterly reports.

² Phase IV grants are in progress. Total number of clients served data is not available.

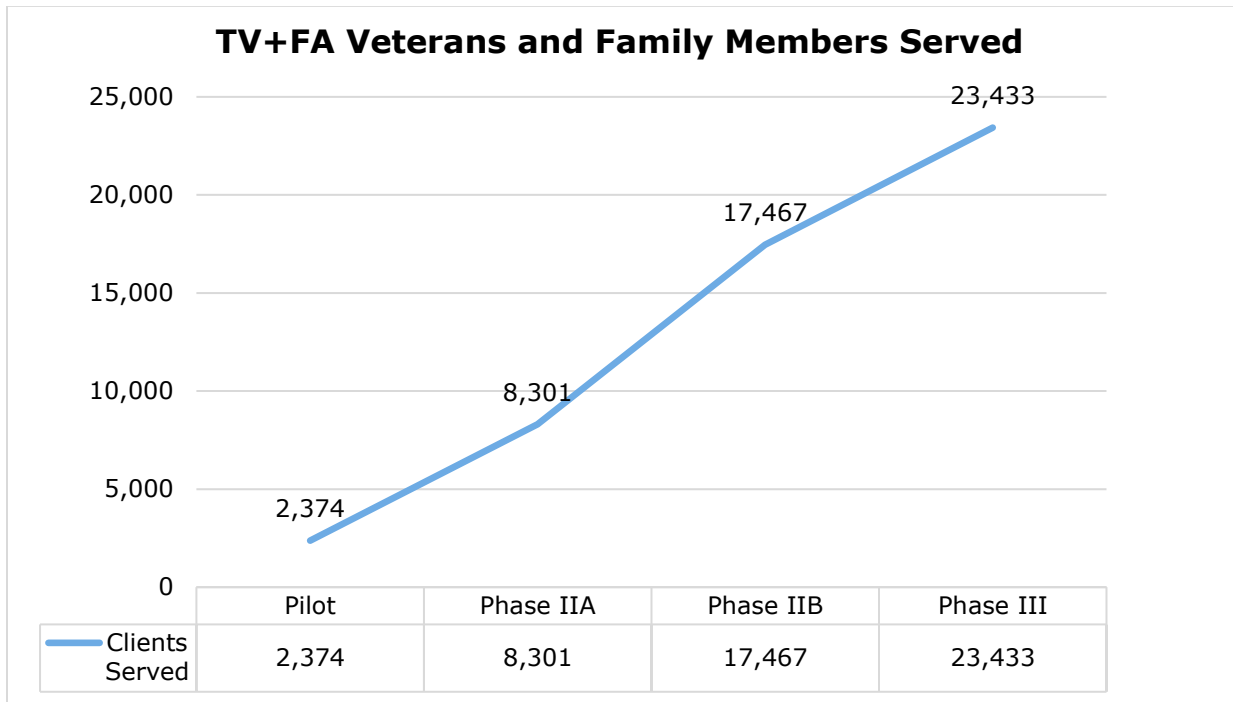
4. Effectiveness of Grants

HHSC measures the effectiveness of TV+FA grant projects by the number of veterans and their family members who receive mental health services and treatment from TV+FA grantees who form community collaboratives across the state. TV+FA community collaboratives collectively provide educational services, employment assistance, therapy, counseling, animal-assisted therapy, transportation assistance, outreach and engagement, jail diversion, housing assistance, financial assistance, benefits assistance, and referrals to additional services.

Number of Clients Served

The TV+FA grant program measures effectiveness by processes employed by grantees to track and record all clients who receive clinical and non-clinical mental health services and treatments within their community collaboratives. The TV+FA grant program has successfully increased the number of veterans and family members served per grant cycle every year since inception in 2015. Figure 1 shows a ten-fold increase in TV+FA grant program clients served from the pilot phase to phase III.

Figure 1. TV+FA Veterans and Family Members Served



5. Conclusion

The TV+FA grant program continues to be effective in supporting community collaboratives to identify and address the mental health needs of veterans and family members through state funded grant projects. The numbers of clients served each year over the TV+FA grant phases suggest that veterans and family members are seeking mental health services and treatment and the TV+FA grant program is successfully meeting this need. TV+FA community collaborative grant projects serve the veteran population within the communities they live. As the TV+FA grant program progresses, HHSC will continue to identify opportunities to improve grant management processes to ensure clients receive the mental health services and treatment they need.

During the current and future phases of the TV+FA grant program, HHSC will focus on:

- Developing outcome measures;
- Incorporating feedback from veterans and family members receiving services;
- Reducing barriers for veterans and family members to receive services and treatment;
- Providing training and technical assistance to TV+FA grantees; and
- Identifying and avoiding redundant efforts.

List of Acronyms

Acronym	Full Name
H.B.	House Bill
HHSC	Health and Human Services Commission
LGBTQ	Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, and Queer
PTSD	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
S.B.	Senate Bill
SUD	Substance Use Disorder
TBI	Traumatic Brain Injury
TV+FA	Texas Veterans + Family Alliance Grant Program
V-SRG	Veteran Spouse Resiliency Group
VSN	Veteran Spouse Network

Appendix A. Grant Project Summaries

The following tables summarize grant projects by phase.

Pilot Phase

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Emergence Health Network	\$122,187	El Paso	Grant funding supported the establishment of a physical one-stop center to link veterans and family members to services; provided clinical behavioral health services; created a network of certified peer specialists; and developed a virtual one-stop center and mobile device application.
Texas Panhandle Centers	\$97,759	Armstrong, Bailey, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Collingsworth, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Donley, Floyd, Gray, Hale, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lamb, Lipscomb, Moore, Motley, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher, Wheeler	This project ensured priority needs and gaps in behavioral health services for veterans and their families were addressed and that constructive community partnerships were established. Services were provided through evidence-based therapy models such as Cognitive Processing Therapy, Trauma Informed Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and equine therapy.
Tropical Texas Behavioral Health	\$216,037	Cameron	This project expanded the delivery of evidence-based and promising practice mental health services to military veterans and their dependents from the Veterans Drop-In Center in Cameron County.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
United Way of Denton County	\$175,199	Denton	This project supported a new case management system structure, the creation of a veterans' resource directory and webpage, and increased access to peer support. The project connected veterans and their families in mental health crisis to emergency and ongoing mental health and supportive services, provided case management until stabilization, and encouraged maintenance of stabilization through peer services.
The University of Texas at Dallas Center for Brain Health	\$388,818	Dallas, Tarrant	This project addressed mental health services gaps by using high-performance brain training, known as Strategic Memory Advanced Reasoning Training, to improve mental health, higher-order cognition, and resilience in Texas veterans and their families in collaboration with wraparound services provided through partner service organizations.

Phase II-A

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Catholic Charities of Fort Worth	\$497,811	Archer, Baylor, Dallas, Denton, Foard, Hood, Johnson, Knox, Montague, Parker, Tarrant, Wichita	This project supported the provision of specialty mental health care services for veterans and families, in-school therapy for children, and other mental health services tailored to veterans' needs.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Dallas Metrocare Services	\$210,404	Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, Wise	This project adapted Strong Families, trained clinicians in applying the intervention, provided the intervention to 75 military families, and tracked the effectiveness via assessments and outcome measures. Veterans and family members reporting Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and depression also received adjunctive evidence-based treatment concurrently.
Easter Seals Greater Houston	\$775,000	Bell, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, Wharton	This project provided mental health services including individual and group counseling, peer-to-peer supports, and interventions. Veterans Access Cafes served as accessible community-based hubs for outreach to veterans, peer-to-peer support, and computer and internet access.
Ecumenical Center	\$1,059,721	Bexar	This project supported increased capacity for providing clinical mental health services including treating PTSD, depression, substance use, and anxiety disorders. The project also supported the design of a dedicated access and referral network that provided an integrated system through which veterans and their families can more readily locate and access clinical and non-clinical services. A program evaluation and community needs assessment was conducted to identify, characterize, and quantify barriers and gaps in service that reduce or prevent veterans and their families from accessing and/or participating in mental health programs services, and treatment.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Equest	\$205,714	Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Fannin, Grayson, Hunt, Kaufman, Rockwall, Tarrant, Van Zandt	Funding supported expansion of existing services of equine-facilitated counseling with a licensed mental health professional, equine-facilitated learning, hippotherapy, peer-to-peer support, and volunteer opportunities.
Family Endeavors	\$1,250,000	Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Presidio	Services included care for PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), and other mental health conditions. Services also included family, marriage, individual, and adolescent counseling. The goal was to reduce time between intake and treatment. Services also included medication management, case management for additional community resources, and life skills workshops for financial readiness, marriage enrichment, effective communication, and employment readiness
Headstrong Project	\$125,000	Harris	Delivery of integrated mental health services for post-9/11 combat veterans including pharmacology, drug and alcohol treatment, family support, couples therapy, and group support.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Heart of Texas Region MHMR	\$387,654	Bosque, Falls, Freestone, Hill, Limestone, McLennan	Funding supported the One Stop program which offered offering clinical mental health services addressing PTSD, depression, moral injury, military sexual trauma, family counseling, and substance use. Additionally, the funding allowed the provision of case management services and expansion of services to military families in situations related to deployment and reintegration.
Heroes Night Out	\$39,796	Bastrop, Bell, Caldwell, Coryell, Hays, Lampasas, Travis, Williamson	Grant supported a one-stop resource center where military families and veterans can engage in mental health counseling, peer and caregiver assistance networks, basic needs assistance, activity-based therapies, socialization, and other support services with a focus on mental health, total well-being, and family inclusiveness.
StarCare Specialty Health System	\$368,895	Bailey, Borden, Castro, Cochran, Crosby, Dawson, Dickens, Dimmit, Floyd, Garza, Hale, Hockley, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Parmer, Swisher, Terry, Yoakum	Services included primary care, counseling, substance use counseling, psychiatric services, prescription assistance, lab tests, patient education, and transportation services. Additionally, equine therapy supports were provided as an option for rural veterans who are reluctant to utilize traditional therapy models.
Tropical Texas Behavioral Health	\$292,915	Hidalgo	Supported a new Drop-In Center in Hidalgo County to provide evidence-based mental health services and supports to Hidalgo County veterans and their families.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Veterans Coalition of North Central Texas	\$651,689	Bell, Collin, Coryell, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, Wise	Services included free counseling with a network of pre-screened professionals within close proximity of the veteran to mitigate long travel and excessive wait time. Veterans also received equine therapy, acupuncture, substance use treatment, suicide prevention, and sleep apnea services.
West Texas Counseling & Guidance	\$142,148	Coke, Concho, Crockett, Irion, Kimble, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Reagan, Runnels, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton, Tom Green	Project provided an array of mental health services and supports to veterans and their families to include timely access to quality evidence-based therapy, psychiatric services, substance use treatment, outreach, service coordination, suicide prevention, and peer support.

Phase II-B

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Andrews Center	\$147,655	Henderson, Rains, Smith, Van Zandt, Wood	The project created Command Teams in each of the five counties to provide veterans and their families access to services closer to home.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Bluebonnet Trails Community Services	\$151,312	Bastrop, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Lee, Williamson	This project included expanding Veteran Peer Groups and coordinating behavioral health services in Williamson and Burnet counties, establishing a transportation voucher initiative to assist with transportation issues to and from medical/therapeutic appointments, creating a Veterans Support Fund to assist veterans in financial need, and directing an initiative to expand the availability of community-based health supports.
City of Houston	\$1,164,417	Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Jefferson, Hardin, Montgomery, Orange, Walker, Waller	This project supported personnel in new or existing roles that provide or support direct services to veterans and their families, such as clinical mental health services, peer support, individual and family counseling, crisis intervention, navigation of community resources, and/or employment services.
Dallas Metrocare Services - Equine Project	\$129,630	Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Fannin, Grayson, Hunt, Kaufman, Rockwall, Tarrant	Metrocare's equine project evaluated the potential for equestrian interventions to address psychosocial issues of veterans integrating back into their communities.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Dallas Metrocare Services - Expansion Project	\$2,903,145	Archer, Baylor, Callahan, Camp, Clay, Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Delta, Denton, Eastland, Ellis, Fannin, Franklin, Grayson, Henderson, Hood, Hopkins, Hunt, Jack, Johnson, Kaufman, Lamar, Montague, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rains, Red River, Rockwall, Smith, Stephens, Tarrant, Throckmorton, Titus, Van Zandt, Wise, Young	This project provided mental health assessments, outpatient and residential treatments, increased clinical provider presence at the Austin Street Center, and utilization of Navigators in the community to connect veterans to mental health services, substance abuse treatments, financial assistance, and housing services.
Dallas Metrocare Services - TBI Project	\$169,681	Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Fannin, Grayson, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, Wise	Metrocare's TBI project developed and funded a program for the assessment and treatment of TBI. TBI assessment and treatment occurs simultaneously within usual clinical services with the goal of providing a clearer picture of cognitive strengths and weaknesses for better informed treatment planning.
Easter Seals Central Texas	\$801,341	Bastrop, Hays, Travis, Williamson	Project included establishing a community collaborative and increasing access to mental health service delivery for veterans and their families. Available services included counseling services (individual, group, family, couples, and play therapy), integrative medicine services, educational assistance, financial support, and childcare.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Ecumenical Center	\$308,712	Bee, Nueces, San Patricio	Project increased capacity to deliver therapeutic counseling by expanding the current counseling office at Amistad Community Health Clinic and adding a counseling office at Texas A&M Coastal Bend Health Education Center.
Family Endeavors	\$1,329,116	Bell, Burnet, Coryell, Falls, Lampasas, McLennan, Milam, Williamson	Project supported a Military Family Counseling Clinic in Killeen, Texas. Counseling services (individual, couples, children, and family), medication management, case management, and Life Skills Enrichment programs are the primary services provided. Childcare and transportation for veterans and family members with appointments is provided at no cost.
Mental Health America of Greater Tarrant County	\$524,396	Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Tarrant, Wise	This project expanded and increased existing services through additional staff and coordination of services. This project also provided mental health assessments, diagnosis and treatments, counseling services (individual, couples, child, family, peer), and care coordinators to assist in supportive plan building and navigating available services.
MHMR Services of Concho Valley	\$207,265	Coke, Concho, Crockett, Irion, McCulloch, Reagan, Schleicher, Sterling, Tom Green	This project increased access to mental health services for veterans and family members through additional counselors and peers, increasing the amount of specialized clinical services available and expanding the delivery area of counseling services

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Plainview Elks	\$85,000	Bailey, Briscoe, Castro, Floyd, Hale, Lamb, Motley, Parmer, Swisher	A Veterans Task Force was established to implement processes that provide support for veterans and family members seeking evidence-based therapies/treatments, individual peer-support services, community peer-support services, and financial support.
Recovery Resource Council	\$71,518	Cooke, Denton, Parker, Tarrant, Wise	Through this project, counselors provided clients with comprehensive clinical interventions that include psychotherapy and evidence-based practices. Veterans and families will also be able to receive non-clinical/supportive services by a Veteran Peer Navigator to connect with other community services.
Scott & White Memorial Hospital	\$427,204	Bell, Coryell, Hill, McLennan, Travis, Williamson	The Warrior Research Institute established a telemental health clinic offering evidence-based treatments via telemedicine to veterans and family members with PTSD and/or associated disorders.
Texas Tech University Health Science Center	\$193,234	Bailey, Borden, Castro, Cochran, Crosby, Dawson, Dickens, Floyd, Gaines, Garza, Hale, Hockley, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Parmer, Swisher, Terry, Yoakum	This project increased access and availability to mental health services by adding more counselors and support staff. Services are provided to veterans and their families using the South Plains Veterans Telemedicine Services program and consist of outreach, assessment, evaluation, creation of short- and long-term treatment plans, treatment, and additional referrals if needed.
United Way of Denton County	\$55,326	Denton	Project Camo provided veterans and family members with stabilization, sustainability education, and training to deter mental health and life domain crises.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
The University of Texas at Austin	\$99,964	Bastrop, Bell, Blanco, Bosque, Brazos, Burleson, Burnet, Caldwell, Coryell, Falls, Fayette, Freestone, Grimes, Hamilton, Hayes, Hill, Lampasas, Lee, Leon, Limestone, Llano, Madison, McLennan, Milam, Mills, Robertson, San Saba, Travis, Washington, Williamson	The Reconnect and Rebuild Program adapted and combined the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs' (VA's) evidence-based, couples' mental health program with a veterans' couples retreat. This program provides clinical mental health treatments for needs experienced by one or more spouse as well as the marital relationship.
The University of Texas at Dallas Center for BrainHealth	\$733,750	Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Fannin, Grayson, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, Wise	This project uses neuroimaging to evaluate the therapeutic efficiency data of cognitive training after traditional clinical counseling.
The University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio - PTSD Project	\$125,918	Anderson, Andrews, Angelina, Aransas, Atascosa, Bandera, Bastrop, Bee, Bell, Bexar, Blanco, Borden, Bowie, Brazos, Brewster, Brooks, Brown, Burnet, Caldwell, Cameron, Camp, Cass, Cherokee, Cochran, Coke, Comal, Concho, Cooke, Crane, Crosby, Dawson, Delta, DeWitt, Dickens, Dimmitt, Duval, Ector, Edwards, Ellis, El Paso, Fannin, Fayette, Franklin, Frio, Gaines, Galveston, Garza, Grayson, Gillespie, Glasscock, Goliad, Gonzales, Gregg, Guadalupe, Hale, Harris, Harrison, Hays, Henderson, Hidalgo, Hockley, Hopkins, Howard, Irion, Kimble, Jeff Davis, Jefferson, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Jones, Karnes, Kendall, Kenedy, Kent, Kerr, Kinney,	This grant expanded work on an already funded mental health parent study, Project Remission: Maximizing Outcomes with Intensive Treatments for Combat Related PTSD. The study evaluated the efficacy of two intensive outpatient protocols that utilize prolonged exposure to treat deployment-related PTSD.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
The University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio - PTSD Project (continued)		Kleberg, Lamar, Lamb, La Salle, Lee, Leon, Live Oak, Llano, Loving, Lubbock, Lynn, Mario, Martin, Maverick, McLennan, McMullen, Medina, Midland, Mitchell, Montgomery, Morris, Nueces, Panola, Pecos, Potter, Rains, Randall, Reagan, Real, Red River, Reeves, Refugio, Rusk, San Patricio, Scurry, Smith, Starr, Sterling, Taylor, Terry, Titus, Tom Green, Travis, Upshur, Upton, Uvalde, Val Verde, Van Zandt, Victoria, Ward, Webb, Willacy, Williamson, Wilson, Winkler, Wood, Yoakum, Zapata, Zavala	
The University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio - Strong Star Project	\$366,977	Atascosa, Austin, Bandera, Bastrop, Bexar, Blanco, Brazoria, Burleson, Burnet, Caldwell, Cameron, Chambers, Collin, Colorado, Comal, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Fort Bend, Frio, Galveston, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Harris, Hays, Hidalgo, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Kendall, Kerr, Kimble, Lampasas, LaSalle, Lee, Liberty, Llano, Mason, Matagorda, McCulloch, Medina, Montgomery, Parker, Rockwall, San Saba, Somervell, Starr, Tarrant, Travis, Uvalde, Walker, Waller, Washington, Willacy, Williamson, Wilson, Wise, Wharton	The STRONG STAR Texas Training Initiative partnered with community organizations and academic institutions around Texas military facilities to develop Regional Learning Collaboratives. These collaboratives provide no-cost training and development of clinical skills to mental health providers of direct clinical services to veterans and families.

Phase III

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Andrews Center	\$139,862	Henderson, Rains, Smith, Van Zandt, Wood	This project maintains, supports, and enhances already established "command teams" in five rural counties that provide veterans and their families access to services closer to home.
Bexar County	\$150,000	Bexar	This project focuses on the behavioral health and ancillary support needs of veterans who are transitioning from active duty to civilian life by offering veterans and their dependents vouchers for clinical services.
Easter Seals Central Texas	\$1,347,236	Bastrop, Hays, Travis, Williamson	This project expands the range of services for veterans and families by increasing outreach, needs assessments, and the creation of individualized support plans to connect veterans with mental health services and overall wellness services within an established Community Collaborative.
Easter Seals Greater Houston	\$1,525,000	Brazos, Burleson, Fort Bend, Grimes, Harris, Leon, Liberty, Montgomery, Robertson, Waller, Washington	This project improves collaboration and increase mental health services available to veterans and their families through system-level changes, outreach, and provision of direct services.
Ecumenical Center	\$932,735	Atascosa, Bandera, Bee, Bexar, Cameron, Comal, Duval, Frio, Gillespie, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Kleberg, Medina, Nueces, San Patricio, Wilson	This project provides care through direct face-to-face counseling services and through tele-counseling.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Emergence Health Network	\$250,000	El Paso	This project expands services offered at the Veteran’s One Stop Center, which currently houses multiple organizations to provide services such as peer support, mental health counseling, stigma reduction sessions, and linkage to other service agencies for veterans and their families.
Equest	\$206,918	Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Fannin, Grayson, Hunt, Kaufman, Rockwall, Tarrant	This project maintains and expands equine facilitated counseling, equine facilitated learning, physical/occupational therapies, therapeutic horsemanship, and individual and group volunteer opportunities for veterans and their families as they transition back into civilian life.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Family Endeavors	\$1,341,463	<p>Andrews, Angelina, Armstrong, Bailey, Borden, Brewster, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Cochran, Coke, Collingsworth, Crane, Crockett, Crosby, Culberson, Dallam, Dawson, Deaf Smith, Dickens, Donley, Ector, El Paso, Fisher, Floyd, Foard, Garza, Glasscock, Gray, Hale, Hall, Hansford, Hardeman, Hardin, Hartley, Haskell, Hemphill, Hockley, Houston, Howard, Hudspeth, Hutchinson, Jasper, Jeff Davis, Jefferson, Kent, King, Knox, Lamb, Lipscomb, Loving, Lubbock, Lynn, Martin, Midland, Mitchell, Moore, Motley, Nacogdoches, Newton, Nolan, Ochiltree, Oldham, Orange, Parmer, Pecos, Polk, Potter, Presidio, Randall, Reagan, Roberts, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Scurry, Shelby, Sherman, Sterling, Stonewall, Swisher, Taylor, Terrell, Terry, Trinity, Tyler, Upton, Ward, Wheeler, Winkler, Yoakum</p>	<p>This project increases availability by extending operating hours and providing more mental health professionals in the area by implementing telemental health service capabilities to provide mental health services to 78 Texas counties, including El Paso.</p>

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Family Support Services of Amarillo	\$332,960	Armstrong, Bailey, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Collingsworth, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Donley, Floyd, Gray, Hale, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lamb, Lipscomb, Moore, Motley, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher, Wheeler	This project offers wraparound services to both veterans and their family members through a combination of evidence-based therapies, peer-driven group support, and supportive services.
Heart of Texas Region MHMR	\$206,115	McLennan	This project supports the Veterans One Stop to enhance and expand services through use of individual, group, and family therapy, peer supports, and incorporation of suicide awareness, prevention, screening, and treatment. This project will focus on suicide prevention, engagement activities, substance use treatment, and moral injury treatment.
Heroes Night Out	\$67,500	Bastrop, Bell, Blanco, Bosque, Brazos, Burleson, Burnet, Caldwell, Coryell, Falls, Fayette, Freestone, Grimes, Hamilton, Hays, Hill, Lampasas, Lee, Leon, Limestone, Llano, Madison, McLennan, Milam, Mills, Robertson, San Saba, Travis, Washington, Williamson	This project continues current service delivery while also expanding therapy options, mental health services, and the frequency of existing sessions offered for peer and family support groups through seeking additional providers to join the collaborative.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Montrose Center	\$118,615	Fort Bend, Harris, Montgomery	The Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Veterans Project increases access to mental health services for LGBTQ veterans and their family members through recruitment and engagement activities, coordination of services, and provision of individual and family counseling.
Recovery Resource Council	\$654,795	Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Fannin, Grayson, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, Wise	The Enduring Families: Veterans Mental Health Collaborative project builds on previously developed partnerships and will be focused on adding to the collaborative to increase coordination and delivery of services.
Seton Family of Hospitals	\$632,616	Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Hays, Lee, Llano, Travis, Williamson	This project increases awareness of veteran service and coverage options at Seton, improve coordination and access to Seton network services and programs by expanding navigation and referral support, and improve behavioral and mental health service delivery.
StarCare Specialty Health System	\$465,718	Bailey, Borden, Castro, Cochran, Crosby, Dawson, Dickens, Dimmit, Floyd, Garza, Hale, Hockley, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Parmer, Randall, Swisher, Terry, Yoakum	This project increases access to care through coordination with county detention centers and emergency departments to connect veterans with mental health services, rural transportation services, and wraparound support services.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
The University of Texas at Austin - Couples PTSD Project	\$90,367	Bastrop, Bell, Bexar, Blanco, Bosque, Brazos, Brown, Burleson, Burnet, Caldwell, Callahan, Coleman, Comal, Comanche, Coryell, Cottle, Eastland, Erath, Falls, Fayette, Fisher, Foard, Freestone, Grimes, Guadalupe, Hamilton, Hays, Hill, Hood, Johnson, Jones, Lampasas, Lee, Leon, Limestone, Llano, Madison, McLennan, Milam, Mills, Robertson, Runnels, San Saba, Taylor, Travis, Washington, Williamson, Young	Veteran Couples Connect focuses primarily on couples where one or more partners has a diagnosis of PTSD. This project aims at understanding the effects of PTSD on marriages and provides a targeted intervention to address these relationships as well as treatment for PTSD.
The University of Texas at Austin - Spouse Resiliency Project	\$77,584	Bastrop, Bell, Blanco, Bosque, Brazos, Burleson, Burnet, Caldwell, Coryell, Falls, Fayette, Freestone, Grimes, Hamilton, Hays, Hill, Hood, Lampasas, Lee, Leon, Limestone, Llano, Madison, McLennan, Milam, Mills, Robertson, San Saba, Travis, Washington, Williamson	The Veteran Spouse Resiliency Group (V-SRG) Training and Program project is aimed at addressing the specific mental health care needs of veteran family members, including veteran spouses and their children. The V-SRG project is an outgrowth of the Veteran Spouse Network (VSN), which as an online and in-person forum for veteran spouses. The V-SRG project will provide outreach and recruitment of members of VSN to be trained to form and lead peer support groups for other veteran spouses in their communities.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
The University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio	\$365,421	Andrews, Atascosa, Austin, Bandera, Bastrop, Bell, Bexar, Blanco, Brazoria, Burleson, Burnet, Caldwell, Chambers, Collin, Colorado, Comal, Concho, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Fort Bend, Frio, Galveston, Guadalupe, Harris, Hays, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Kendall, Kerr, Lampasas, La Salle, Lee, Liberty, Llano, Matagorda, Medina, Midland, Montgomery, Parker, Pecos, Rockwall, San Saba, Somervell, Tarrant, Terrell, Tom Green, Travis, Uvalde, Walker, Washington, Williamson, Wharton, Wilson, Wise	This project enhances clinical services by providing training to mental health providers in the Crisis Response Plan, which is a one-session, evidence-based, intervention for suicide risk. Providers are trained in Military Cultural Competence via expert case consultation and advanced training webinars.
West Texas Centers	\$124,590	Andrews, Borden, Brewster, Coke, Crane, Dawson, Ector, Fisher, Gaines, Garza, Glasscock, Haskell, Howard, Irion, Jones, Kent, Knox, Loving, Martin, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Reagan, Reeves, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Sterling, Stonewall, Taylor, Terrell, Tom Green, Terry, Upton, Ward, Winkler, Yoakum	The Veterans Outpost project increases access to services through enhanced outreach activities and the operation of a veteran's drop-in resource center. The project aims to provide an access point for veterans to spend time with program staff and peers in a non-clinical, casual setting and serve as an access point for referral to existing services.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
West Texas Counseling & Guidance	\$174,857	Coke, Concho, Crockett, Edwards, Irion, Kimble, Kinney, Mason, Maverick, McCulloch, Menard, Reagan, Runnels, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton, Terrell, Tom Green, Val Verde	This project increases timely access to services through provision of an array of mental health services and supports to veterans and their families that include evidence-based psychotherapy, suicide prevention services, outreach, case management, peer support, and substance use treatment.

Phase IV

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
American GI Forum National Veterans Outreach Program Inc.	\$600,000	Atascosa, Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Medina, Wilson	The project expands availability of services and remove barriers for Texas veterans and their families, focusing on clients living in homeless, in extremely low-income, recently separated from service. Additional focus is on women veterans, disabled and aging veterans, and working veterans.
Baylor Scott & White Research Institute	\$441,915	Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Rockwall, Tarrant Bastrop, Bell, Blanco, Bosque, brazen, Burnet, Coryell, Falls, Freestone, Hamilton, Hays, Hill, Lampasas, Lee, Limestone, Llano, McLennan, Milam, Mills, San Saba, Travis, Williamson	The project hosts Peer Support Trainings (PST) for Baylor staff who are veterans and veteran family members, and oversees graduate trainees who will provide telehealth therapy under this project. Referrals will be made to services outside of project

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Camp Cowboy; 4 Youth Sport of Copperas Coves	\$23,000	Bell	The project aids veterans and their family member through equine-assisted therapy.
Dallas County MHMR Metrocare Services	\$3,016,686	Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Fannin, Grayson, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, Wise	The project provides individual, couples and family mental health services, to include anger management and justice-involved veteran groups.
Easter Seals Greater Houston	\$3,436,855	Brazos, Burleson, Fort Bend, Grimes, Harris, Leon, Liberty, Montgomery, Robertson, Waller, Washington	The project provides community training on suicide and abuse identification and prevention, issues related to services dogs, and general disability related legal rights for veterans/family members.
Ecumenical Center for Religion and Health	\$1,388,590	Atascosa, Bandera, Bee, Bexar, Cameron, Comal, Duval, Frio, Gillespie, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Kleberg, Medina, Nueces, San Patricio, Wilson	This project provides care through direct face-to-face counseling services, peer support services and through telecounseling. The project also provides referrals for incarcerated veterans and their families, evaluation services, and Equine Therapy.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Emergence Health Network dba El Paso MHMR	\$250,000	El Paso	<p>This project sustains and expands services through all-inclusive “one-stop” access to multiple services offered at one location. EHN provides mental health services 24/7 including peer supports, mental health counseling, psychiatric telemedicine services, occupational/vocational training, stigma reduction trainings, non-traditional forms of therapy, and linkage to other service agencies. The project will incorporate substance abuse prevention services, transportation, rental and utility assistance and the incorporation of seeking safety groups for PTSD.</p>

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Endeavors - San Antonio	\$1,560,155	Andrews, Angelina, Armstrong, Bailey, Borden, Brewster, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Cochran, Coke, Collingsworth, Cottle, Crane, Crockett, Crosby, Culberson, Dallam, Dawson, Deaf Smith, Dickens, Donley, Ector, El Paso, Fisher, Floyd, Foard, Garza, Glasscock, Gray, Hale, Hall, Hansford, Hardeman, Hardin, Hartley, Haskell, Hemphill, Hockley, Houston, Howard, Hudspeth, Hutchinson, Jasper, Jeff Davis, Jefferson, Kent, King, Knox, Lamb, Lipscomb, Loving, Lubbock, Lynn, Martin, Midland, Mitchell, Moore, Motley, Nacogdoches, Newton, Nolan, Ochiltrie, Oldham, Orange, Parmer, Pecos, Polk, Potter, Presidio, Randall, Reagan, Roberts, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Scurry, Shelby, Sherman, Sterling, Stonewall, Swisher, Taylor, Terrell, Terry, Trinity, Upton, Tyler, Ward, Wheeler, Winkler, Yoakum	The project provides increased access and timely care to reduce the suicide rate, provides quality mental health care, and fills gaps in services for Veterans and family members.
Family Endeavors, Inc. dba Endeavors - El Paso	\$2,441,282	All 254 Counties	The project provides patient-centered individual counseling for adults, children, and adolescents; family and couples counseling sessions; medication management; case management; psychoeducation, life skills, and support group services such as financial readiness, marriage enrichment, anger management, and employment readiness.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Family Endeavors, Inc. dba Endeavors - Killeen	\$2,134,965	All 254 Counties	The project provides supportive and community wrap-around services; patient-centered individual counseling for adults, children, and adolescents; family and couples counseling sessions; medication management; case management; psychoeducation, life skills, and support group services such as financial readiness, anger management, and employment readiness.
Heart of Texas Regional MHMR Center	\$606,000	Falls, Hill, Limestone, McLennan	The project provides licensed mental health counselors to address the needs of the veteran and provide support to the family members with a focus on suicide prevention. Activities include educational sessions, meals, outreach, and recreational outlets to facilitate connection to peers and professionals to support veterans and family members struggling with mental health and substance use issues. Referrals are provided for mental health, substance use, case management, housing needs, and legal assistance.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Recovery Resource Council	\$1,494,300	Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Fannin, Grayson, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, Wise	This project improves the quality of life for veterans and their family members in North Texas by addressing unmet service needs of veterans and their family members; enhancing program and service coordination; expanding availability of Alternative Treatment modalities; implementing strategies designed to improve access to mental health services in remote areas of Region 3; identifying service needs and gaps in services; engaging veteran service providers in the formation of a sustainable collaborative.
StarCare Specialty Health System	\$657,044.00	Bailey, Borden, Castro, Cochran, Crosby, Dawson, Dickens, Dimmit, Floyd, Garza, Hale, Hockley, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Swisher, Terry, Yoakum	The project expands efforts to find veterans who are not justice involved, assures veterans maintain stability and evaluates new veteran's needs. The project expands initiation of mediation services for veterans, fills the information gap in veteran treatment and diversions options to the newly forming Veteran's Court in Lubbock, fast-tracks stalled veteran and family transitions into treatment, provides rural transportation services, and provides support through wrap around services.

Grantee Organization	Funds Awarded	Service Area	Project
Tropical Texas Behavioral Health	\$746,152	Cameron, Hidalgo, Willacy	The project improves access to the unique mental health services and support veterans and families residing in cities in a greater region of the Rio Grande Valley by reducing the key barrier to accessing these services that is a lack of reliable transportation while also improving healthcare outcomes and the experience of care for those served through the program. Services provided address the behavioral health needs of veterans and their families.
University of Texas at Austin	\$444,021	All 254 Counties	The project provides peer support groups for veteran spouses and active military throughout Texas and develops transition support programming for spouses and couples (as determined by each program participant) transitioning from military to civilian life.
West Texas Counseling and Guidance, Inc.	\$657,794	Coke, Concho, Crockett, Edwards, Irion, Kimble, Kinney, Mason, Maverick, McCulloch, Menard, Reagan, Runnels, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton, Terrell, Tom Green, Val Verde	The project provides evidence-based psychotherapy, suicide prevention, outreach, case management, peer support, and SUD treatment.