

Cultural Competency Contacts Due By April 6, 2015

Medicaid and the Center for Elimination of Disproportionality & Disparities, Texas Office of Minority Health have established a partnership to strengthen the cultural competency plans of all Texas Medicaid managed care organizations. Thank you for submitting your cultural competency plan as requested by Medicaid in June 2014. Attached is a blueprint to serve as guidelines as your organization further refines the cultural competency plan and policies. The blueprint is based on specific recommendations for implementing [Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services \(CLAS\)](#) offered by the National Office of Minority Health. An additional resource we highly recommend utilizing, *CLAS A-Z: A Practical Guide for Implementing the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in Health Care*, is found [here](#). The goal of this effort is to ensure equitable health care is available for all Texans.

We are now requesting that each managed care organization submit two names of staff members who can serve as direct contacts to collaborate with Medicaid and the Center for Elimination of Disproportionality & Disparities, Texas Office of Minority Health on matters of cultural competency in your organization. The staff identified should be familiar with the cultural competency plans and policies and have authority to make changes to meet the CLAS Standards.

Please email the names of your two cultural competency contacts by April 6, 2015, to Ethel Garcia, M.S., M.Ed. at Ethel.Garcia@hhsc.state.tx.us