



Presentation to the Select Committee on Child Protection

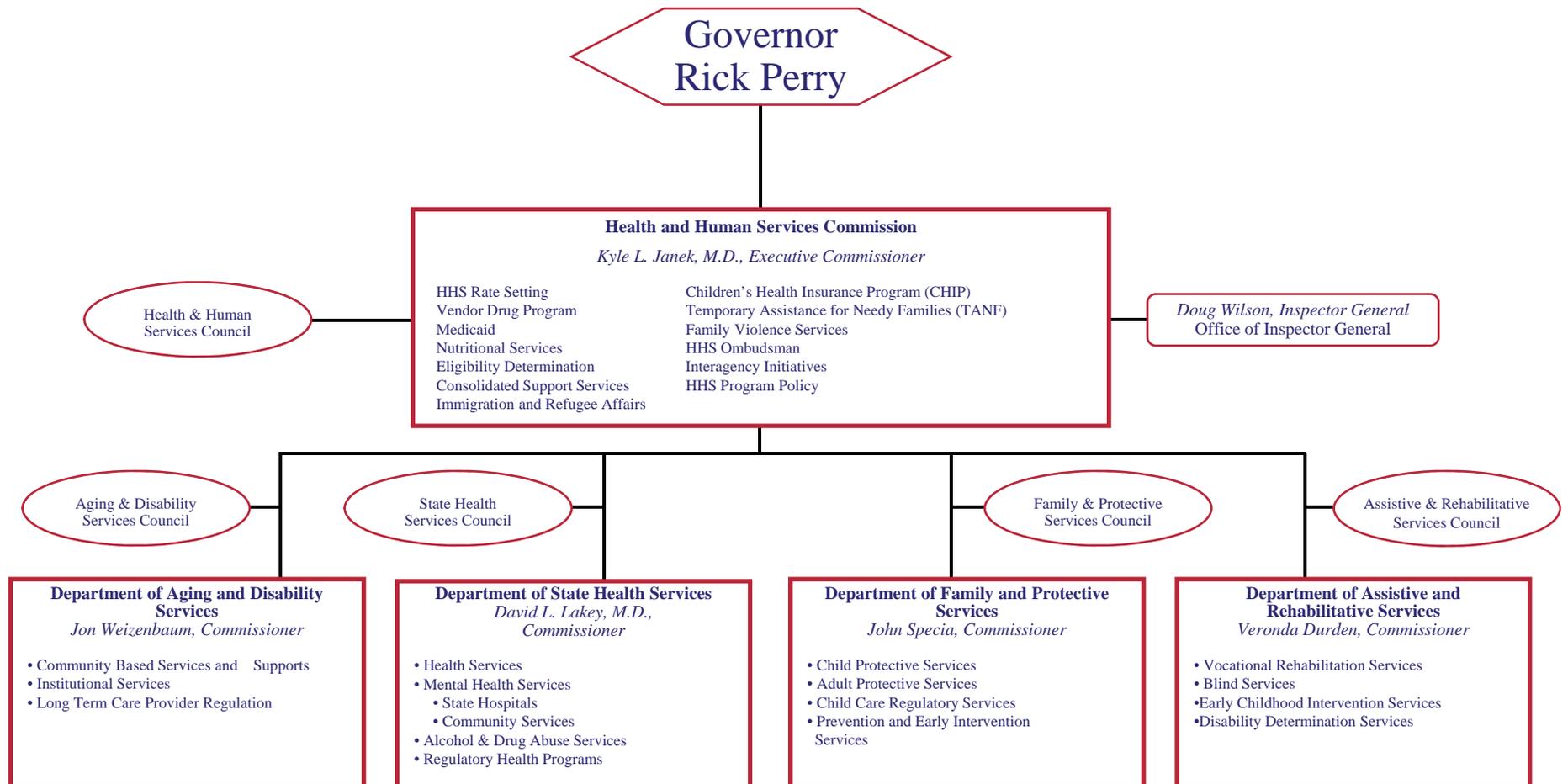
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Overview

- HHS System Organization
- HHSC Support Functions
 - Forecasting
 - Rate Analysis
 - Policy Coordination
- Medicaid for Foster Care Programs
 - STAR Health program
 - Traditional Medicaid

Health and Human Services Organization





HHSC System Forecasting support to the CPS System

- HHSC System Forecasting's main function is providing historical and forecasted caseload and cost data to DFPS Finance for various CPS System components:
 - Paid Foster Care (including Paid Foster Care FTEs, Relative Paid Foster Care, Foster Care Redesign, Supervised Independent Living (SIL), Home and Community Based Services (HCS))
 - Adoption Subsidy and Permanency Care Assistance (PCA)
 - Relative or Other Designated Caregiver (RODC)
 - Day Care
 - Projected Caseload Per Caseworker
- Monthly historical updates are provided along with quarterly forecasting updates to DFPS Finance and the LBB.
- HHSC System Forecasting is responsible for the forecasting of most of the DFPS related Performance Measures.

HHSC Rate Analysis support to DFPS

- Develops payment rate recommendations for HHSC Executive Commissioner consideration for:
 - 24 Hour Residential Child Care
 - Intensive Psychiatric Transition Program
 - Supervised Independent Living
 - Foster Care Redesign blended rates for Single Source Continuum Contractors
 - TJJD Halfway Houses
- Determines method of finance for various rates (i.e., what portion of each rate is eligible for IV-E federal matching funds) for services provided to children who are IV-E eligible.
- Develops rate methodologies and manages rate methodology rules.
- Designs, collects and analyzes provider cost reports.
- Provides support for SAO audits required under Texas Government Code, Section 2155.1442(b).
- Develops Consolidated Budget rate increase requests.
- Conducts budget neutrality analyses for foster care redesign.

Child Protection Policy Coordination at HHSC

- HHSC administers multiple task forces and councils tasked with improving coordination, efficiency, and effectiveness of state programs for children and families, including Child Protective Services.
- These include:
 - The Council on Children and Families
 - Interagency Task Force for Children with Special Needs (ITFCSN)
 - Task Force on Domestic Violence
 - The Children's Policy Council (CPC)
 - Texas System of Care Consortium

Disproportionality

- In 2005, SB 6 directed systemic CPS reform at DFPS.
- SB 501 (2011) created The Center for the Elimination of Disproportionality and Disparities to address disproportionality and disparities in Texas health and human services.
- SB 501 also created the Interagency Council for Addressing Disproportionality tasked with reviewing the delivery of services to children who are members of a racial and ethnic minority group in the child welfare, juvenile justice, health, and mental health systems, while also examining best practices, training, and availability of funding.
 - The Interagency Council expired in December, 2013, but its members have continued to meet on an ad hoc basis and will submit a report in December, 2014.
 - The Center for Elimination of Disproportionality and Disparities and the Interagency Council meet within CPS regularly to collaborate on data, training, technical assistance, and coordination of resources and supports to address disproportionality and disparities.

Medicaid for Foster Care Programs

- HHSC provides Medicaid benefits for children and young adults in DFPS conservatorship and certain former foster care children who have been adopted or age out of the system.
- These benefits are provided through one of two Medicaid programs:
 - The STAR Health Program, or
 - Traditional Medicaid via fee-for-service or the STAR program (capitated MCO model).

STAR Health Program

- The majority of children and young adults in DFPS conservatorship are eligible for the STAR Health program.
- STAR Health provides traditional Medicaid benefits with the addition of some benefits tailored to the needs of this population:
 - Health Passport
 - The Health Passport is a computer-based system that was created to make sure medical information follows each child in DFPS conservatorship wherever they go.
 - Immediate eligibility
 - A statewide network of providers
 - An increased focus on behavioral health services
 - Psychotropic Medication Utilization Reviews
 - Service Management and Service Coordination
 - Telemedicine

Traditional Medicaid

- Children or young adults in DFPS conservatorship excluded from STAR Health receive services through fee-for-service Medicaid. Examples include:
 - Youth who are dually eligible for Medicaid and Medicare, and those living in institutions such as nursing facilities, state supported living centers, Texas Youth Commission (TYC), or Texas Juvenile Probation Commission (TJPC) Facilities.
- Many children adopted through DFPS are eligible for Adoption Subsidies and accompanying Medicaid benefits.
 - This population is currently served in fee-for-service and will transition into the STAR program on 9/1/15.

Traditional Medicaid

- Certain former foster care children are eligible for Medicaid benefits.
- The Former Foster Care Children Program (FFCC) covers children and young adults up to age 26 who:
 - aged out of Texas conservatorship at the age of 18 or older, and
 - received Medicaid at the time of aging out of foster care.
- FFCC recipients are covered under STAR Health until the end of the month of their 21st birthday, and STAR beginning the month after their 21st birthday.