

COMMUNITY-BASED CARE (CBC)



Hill Country Ad Litem Conference

February 28, 2020

AGENDA



- What is Community-Based Care?
- Background & Legislative Decisions
- Implementation Process
- Implementation Updates
- SSCC Performance
- Evaluation Efforts

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BACKGROUND

WHAT IS COMMUNITY-BASED CARE (CBC)?

A new way to provide foster care & case management services to children in state care

It's a community-based approach to meet the unique & individual needs of children, youth, & families

These families are all within a geographical service area, and a single contractor (Single Source Continuum Contractor; **SSCC**) is responsible for:

- Finding paid placement such as foster homes or other living arrangements *as well as*;
- Providing a full continuum of services to children and families in state care.

COMMUNITY-BASED CARE CHANGES...

How DFPS Procures: DFPS contracts for services by moving away from an open enrollment model to a more competitive procurement

How DFPS Contracts for services, moving away from effort based contracts to performance based contracts

How DFPS Pays for services; moving from a multiple rate system to a single blended rate system; de-linking the current rates attached to service levels.

WHY THE NEED FOR CBC?

Belief that our current child welfare structure does *not* encourage getting **what** children/youth/families need, **where** they need it.

This refers to a deficiency of resources for both residential placements and services provided to children/youth/families.

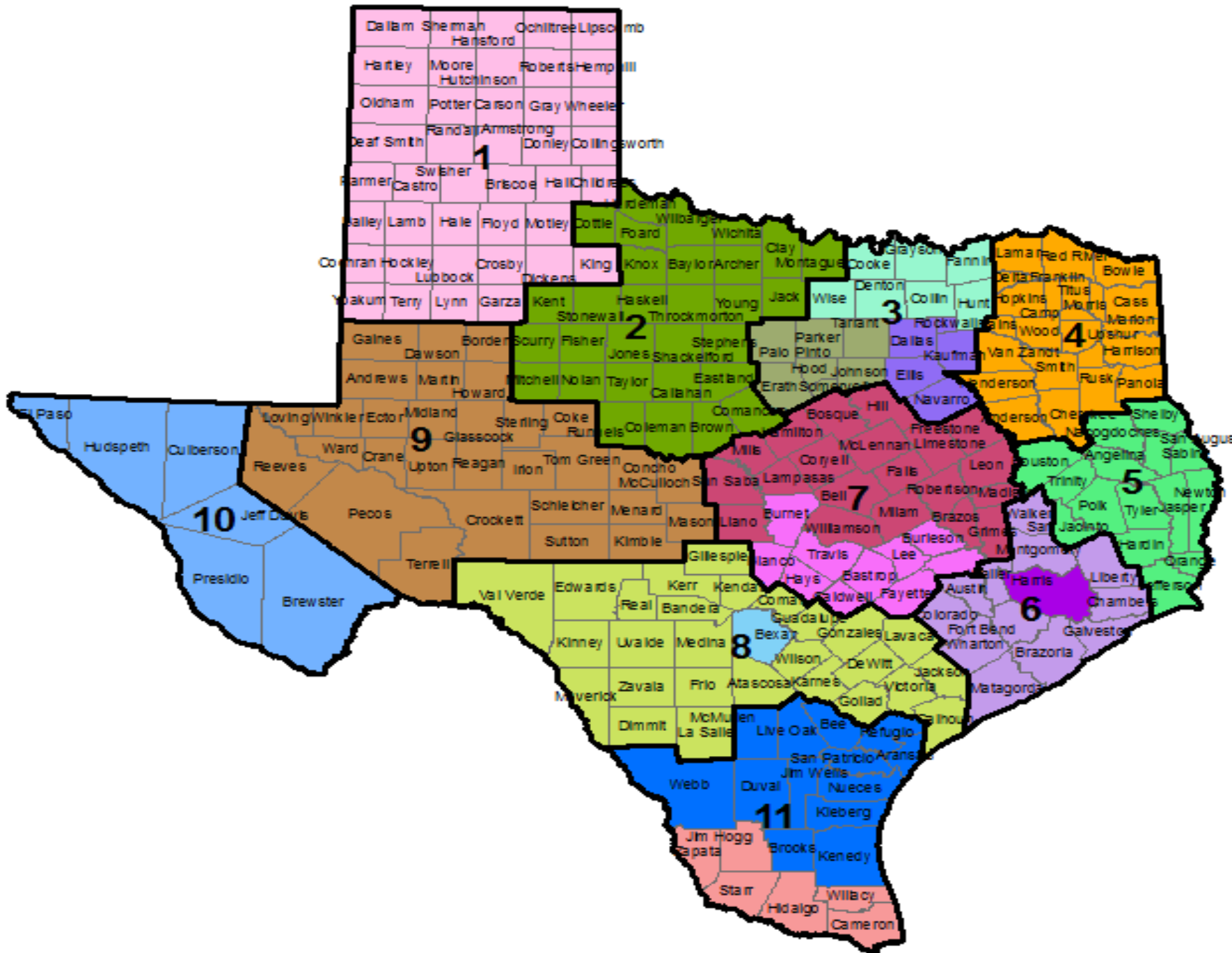
And as a result of these deficiencies, too often children/youth must move outside of *their* home communities, or change placements as a result in their need for services.

CBC Guiding Principles

- Above all, children and youth are safe from abuse and neglect.
- Children and youth are placed in their home communities.
- Children and youth are appropriately served in the least restrictive environment.
- Children and youth have stability in their placements.
- Children and youth are placed with their siblings.
- Services respect the child's culture.
- Children and youth are provided opportunities, experiences, and activities similar to those enjoyed by their peers who are not in foster care.
- Youth are fully prepared for successful adulthood.
- Youth have opportunities to participate in decisions that affect their lives.
- Children and youth are reunified with their biological parents when possible.
- Children and youth are placed with relative or kinship caregivers if reunification is not possible.



**WHAT ARE THE CBC
CATCHMENT AREAS ?**



Catchment Area Criteria:

- At least 500 new entries of children in paid foster care annually
- Strong stakeholder support
- A community that is positive and supportive of CBC
- Strong DFPS regional leadership who are enthusiastic and preparing to lead this change



LEGISLATION



The 85th LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Senate Bill 11

2017, Texas Family Code Chapter 264

Took the Foster Care Redesign model to another level with Community-Based Care, shifting DFPS' role from casework to quality oversight of conservatorship services.

Included foster *and kinship* care and gave the SSCC sole responsibility for **case management**. Under FCR, this responsibility was shared with DFPS.

Intended to allow the SSCC & community more flexibility to be innovative to meet the *unique needs* of the children, youth, and families in each designated service area.

THE 86th LEGISLATIVE SESSION

House Bill 1

2019

Appropriations to move into **Stage II** in three catchment areas: **Regions 3b, 2 and 8a**

Appropriations to move into **Stage I** in two catchment areas: **Regions 1 and 8b**

CBC Statutes

Texas Family Code Chapter 264

Readiness: Section 264.156

Statutory Duties Assumed by the SSCC: Section 264.161

Continuing Duties of the Department: Section 264.163

CBC Statutes

Texas Family Code Chapter 264

Attorney-Client Privilege: Section 264.167

Conflict of Interest Plan: Section 264.156

- Mitigation of Conflicts of Interest?
 - SSCC Conflict of Interest Plan (Section 264.156)
 - Review of Contractor Recommendations by DFPS (Section 264.168)
 - DFPS may review, approve or disapprove a SSCC's permanency goal recommendation for a child
 - Establish Dispute Resolution Process between SSCC & DFPS

SSCC Role vs. DFPS Role

SSCC's Role in Court

- SSCC is DFPS' authorized agent acting under the lawsuit
- SSCC is not an actual legal party to the lawsuit
- The State is a legal party to the lawsuit
- SSCC will present an update on the case (evidence) during the court hearing

DFPS Case Management Oversight

- Have a defined role for ensuring SSCC quality case management and adherence to statutory duties of the Department
- Will not be present in the court room (unless requested)
- Help with dispute resolution process

SSCC Role vs. DFPS Role

Records Management

- DFPS retains records management division and responsibilities
- SSCC must follow DFPS records management policy

Issues/Concerns

- Case-specific issues handled through established dispute resolution process
- Stakeholders will have direct access to SSCC management/leadership, as well as the CPS RD
- As part of readiness, SSCCs must have a process in place to handle complaints
- DFPS maintains Ombudsman's Office

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN



STAGED IMPLEMENTATION

Stage I

The provision of paid foster care placement services

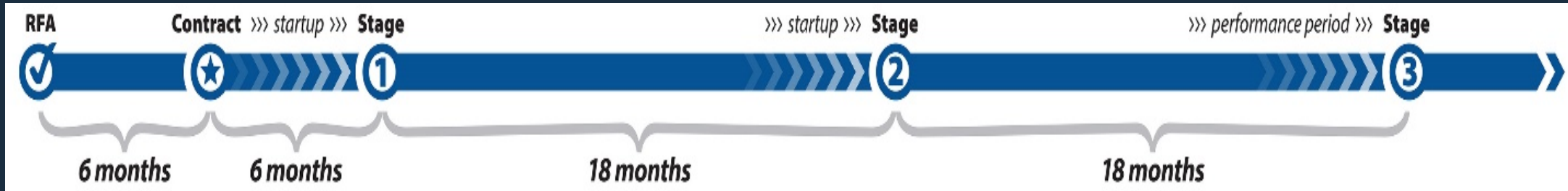
Stage II

The provision of substitute care placement, case management and reunification services

Stage III

The provision of services outlined in Stage I and II; and
Holding the SSCC financially accountable through the use of incentives and remedies for the timely achievement of permanency for served children beginning 18 months after case management services have transferred.

CBC TIMELINE



Implementation Activities

- Catchment Selection and Announcement
- Procurement (RFA)
- Contract Establishment
- Stage I & II Start Up and Implementation
- 18 month Performance Period
- Stage III Fiscal Incentives for Performance on Permanency

STAGE I – PLACEMENT AND FOSTER CARE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

SSCC receives a per child network development fee used to identify and develop residential and other services in the community to meet children's needs.

SSCC responsible for

- *Placement and care coordination*
- *Court presence when requested or required by the court*
- *PAL classes and services*
- *Adoption recruitment*
- *Licensing homes for ICPC*
- *Licensing kinship homes*

These responsibilities may be fulfilled by the SSCC directly or thru their network providers

STAGE II – WHAT IS CASE MANAGEMENT?

- Caseworker visits with the child, family & caregivers
- Convening & conducting Permanency Planning Meetings
- Development & revision of child & family plans of service, including a permanency plan and goals for a child or young adult in care
- Coordinating & monitoring services for the child and the child's family
- Assumption of court-related duties regarding the child
- Any other function/service that DFPS determines necessary to allow a SSCC to assume responsibility for case management.

COURT-RELATED DUTIES

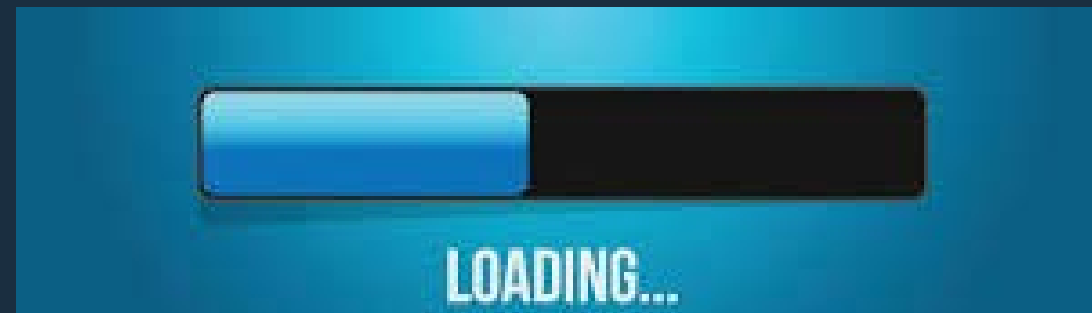
- Providing any required notifications or consultations
- Preparing court reports
- Attending hearings, trials, and mediations
- Complying with applicable court orders
- Working with attorneys to prepare for trials and staff cases as needed
- Working with all legal parties on the case
- Ensuring the child is progressing toward the goal of permanency within state and federally mandated guidelines.

Most Court-Related Duties occur in Stage II.

READINESS & TRANSITION

- **Start-Up:** key activities include hiring staff, joint protocol development and staff training, IT systems testing
- **Readiness Assessment and Certification:** Process for determining sufficiency of an SSCC's network capacity, community engagement plan, administrative plan, management plan and plan for network oversight. Review process is a multi-disciplinary, shared effort of subject matter experts across multiple DFPS divisions, including Legal, Finance, Contracts, IT, and CPS Program
- **Transfer:** The SSCC develops, and CPS approves, the plan for transitioning children and/or families that are already receiving services from CPS to begin receiving services from the SSCC.

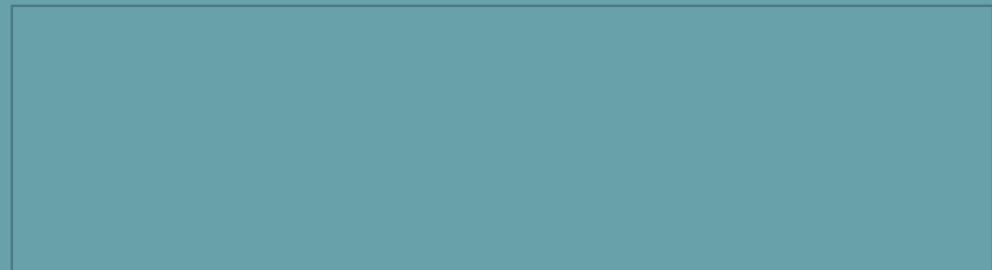
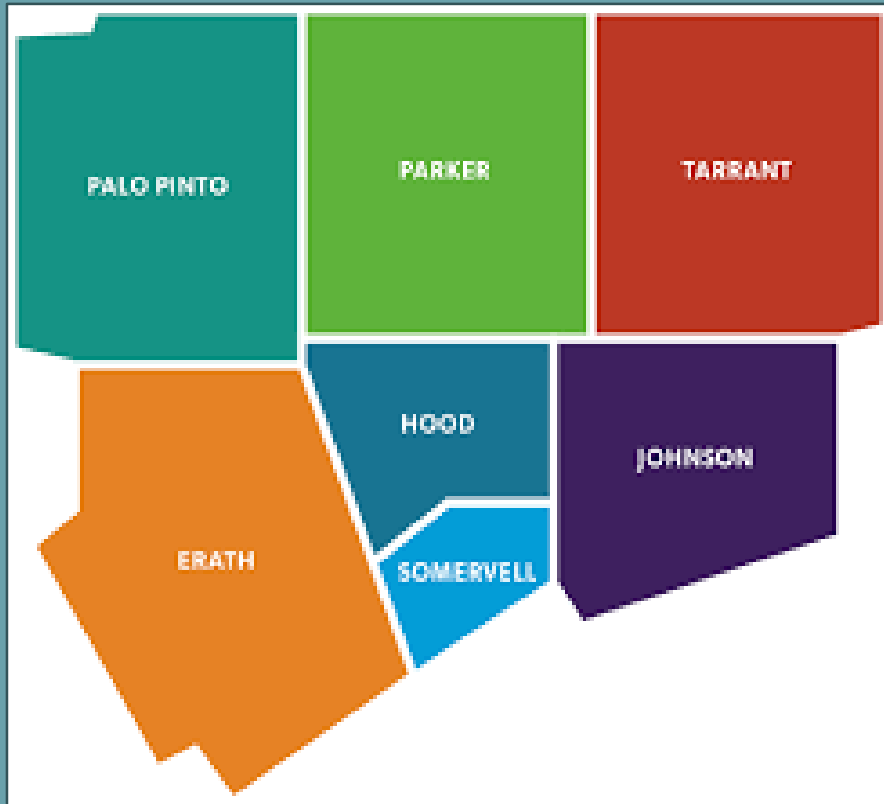
IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES



REGION 3B:

OUR COMMUNITY. OUR KIDS

A DIVISION OF ACH CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES



REGION 3B: OUR COMMUNITY. OUR KIDS. (ACH)

- **September 2018** – DFPS renewed contract with ACH (Our Community Our Kids) through 2023
- Currently serving 1200+ children from 3b counties.
- **March 1, 2020** - Stage II implementation
- DFPS and OCOK are working in partnership on Stage II transition activities:
 - Implementation workgroups
 - Communications
 - Performance
 - Human Resources
 - Training
 - Technology
 - Purchased Client Services
 - Protocol sessions

REGION 2: 2INGAGE

A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN TEXAS FAMILY INITIATIVE AND NEW HORIZON RANCH AND CENTER



REGION 2: 2INGAGE

- **June 2018** – contract awarded to Texas Family Initiative (TFI) and New Horizons (2INgage)
- **December 1, 2018** – 2INgage began serving children in Region 2
- Currently serving 765+ children
- **December 2019** – DFPS and 2INgage formally announced start up for stage 2
- **January 2020** – DFPS and 2INgage initiating stage II implementation workgroups and protocol sessions as in Region 3b.
- **June 2020** - Stage II implementation anticipated

REGION 8A: FAMILY TAPESTRY

A DIVISION OF THE CHILDREN'S SHELTER



REGION 8A: FAMILY TAPESTRY

- **August 2018** – contract awarded to The Children’s Shelter (Family Tapestry)
- **February 1, 2019** – Family Tapestry began serving children
- Currently serving 1,675+ children
- DFPS and Family Tapestry will formally announce stage II start-up start up which has not yet begin

REGION 1: SAINT FRANCIS COMMUNITY SERVICES

Dallam	Sherman	Hanford	Ochiltree	Lipscomb	
Hartley	Moore	Hutchinson	Roberts	Hempfl.	
Oldham	Potter	Carson	Gray	Wheeler	
Deat. Smith	Randall	Armstrong	Donley	Collingsworth	
Farmer	Castro	Swisher	Briscoe	Hall	Childress
Bailey	Lamb	Hale	Floyd	Motley	
Cochran	Hockley	Lubbock	Crosby	Dickens	King
Yoskum	Terry	Lynn	Garza		

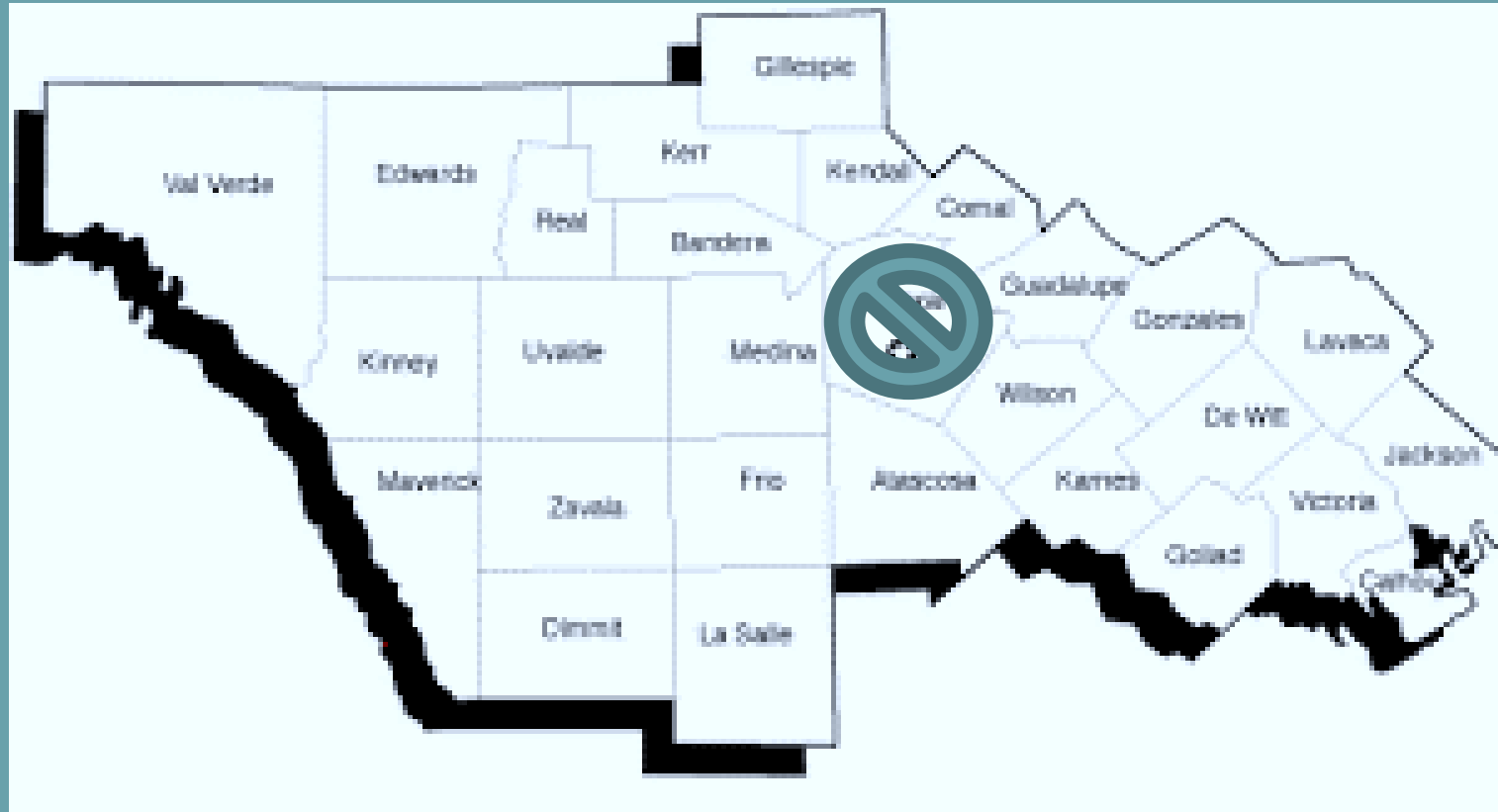


Saint Francis
MINISTRIES

REGION 1: SAINT FRANCIS COMMUNITY SERVICES

- **June 2019** - Contract awarded to Saint Francis Community Services
- **January 6, 2020** - St. Francis began serving children in Region 1 after a 6 month start-up period, and confirmation of readiness by DFPS
- Currently serving 500+ children
- Stage II roll-out will be based on the 87th Legislative Session, as well as SSCC and DFPS readiness

REGION 8B



REGION 8B

- **May 2019** – RFA Released
- **August 2019** – RFA Closed
- Evaluation of bids continues
- Contract negotiations will follow evaluation
- Anticipated go-live in Q1 FY 2021 (after 6 month start-up)

SSCC'S CURRENT PERFORMANCE



SSCC Systems Change Efforts

Performance improvement takes time. (Time to transition, identify needs and build capacity, assess change over time)

In the short term, we expect to see innovations and systems change efforts. In Stage I innovations center around placement and foster care.

3b, 2, and 8a efforts:

- Short-term Emergency Placement for Children Historically Without Placement
- Foster Home Recruitment Supports
- Targeted capacity for therapeutic populations
- Placement Matching Data Systems
- Gateway Provider Information Exchange
- Provider Safety Audits
- Provider Training
- Performance-based contracting and provider oversight

FY20 Q1 Key Stage I Performance Outcomes

Measure	OCOK	2INgage	Family Tapestry
Safe in care	100%	100%	100%
Close to home*	74% <i>74%</i>	47% <i>47%</i>	82% <i>75%</i>
Family home setting	79% <i>75%</i>	76% <i>78%</i>	72% <i>70%</i>
Siblings placed together	66% <i>63%</i>	57% <i>67%</i>	66% <i>64%</i>

Performance is compared to the historical catchment baseline (shown in italics) which differs by area.

*FY19, Q1 pending

EVALUATION EFFORTS



CURRENT EVALUATIONS



Texas Tech Process Evaluation



Rider Reports



Chapin Hall

QUESTIONS



INFORMATION ABOUT CBC CAN BE FOUND
AT:

WWW.DFPS.STATE.TX.US/CHILD_PROTECTION/COMMUNITY_BASED_CARE

Additional questions about CBC can be sent to:

CBCare@dfps.state.tx.us