

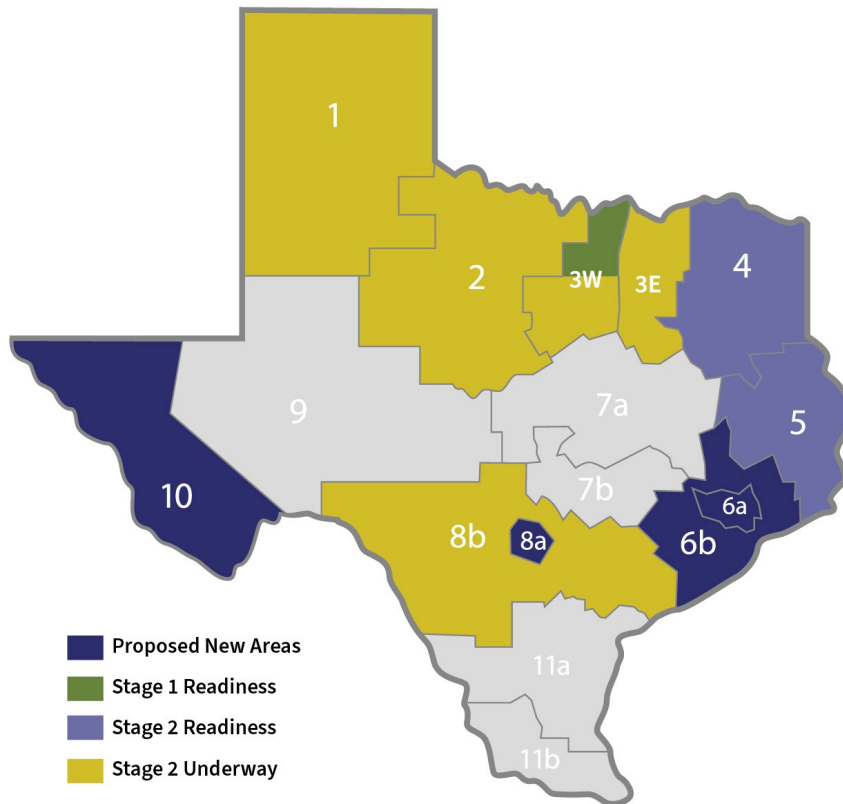
COMMUNITY BASED CARE for health care professionals

What is CBC?

In 2017, the Legislature passed SB 11 which affirmed the state's direction to transition to Community Based Care (CBC).

Texas has long relied on community organizations to provide the direct services and care for children and families in foster care. CBC transfers functions related to foster care services to a lead non-profit agency and its network of providers.

CBC requires stakeholders and caregivers to engage and collaborate to meet the unique needs of their community. CBC is designed to provide additional flexibility, authority, and adaptability to improve foster care services, while children and families receive coordinated care and services tailored to meet their needs and build on their strengths.



As of February 2024



How does CBC work?

The Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) has divided the state into 17 “catchment areas,” or geographic service areas. In Stage 1, a Single Source Continuum Contractor (SSCC) serves as the “hub” for each catchment area and is responsible for a full continuum of care including placement and support services for children in foster care. In Phase 2, the SSCC assumes responsibility for case management for children in the State's care and their family. DFPS remains the conservator and the Judge retains legal oversight of the case.

In CBC areas, SSCCs are responsible for knowing and building the right capacity and sustaining a network of providers that will support each community. SSCCs oversee contracts, accountability, and payment with the community organizations that provide services. The State holds SSCCs accountable for outcomes and performance measures.

System Goals



Increased community engagement and collaboration

Adaptability, flexibility, and innovation

Respect for local culture and values

Data driven systems and solutions

Timeliness and accountability

Ability for rapid system improvement

Texas statute provides authority for the SSCCs in the State of Texas, either directly or through subcontractors, to assume **the statutory duties** of DFPS.¹ SSCCs act as an agent of DFPS as it relates to specified child welfare services. In CBC Stage 2, the SSCC assumes all of the regular case management duties of DFPS, including duties related to medical care.

Stage 1: Fall 2023

Stage 2: Anticipated Spring 2024

Statutory duties include the ability to visit privately with a child or youth in DFPS conservatorship at schools, foster or kinship homes or any other meeting site and the ability to request and receive confidential information regarding a child being served by the SSCC.²

The SSCC must ensure that children receive medical care. Each child's care must include emergency treatment, whenever necessary; timely examination and treatment of nonemergency injuries and illnesses; and regular preventive care appropriate to the child's age and condition, including immunizations and tuberculin (TB) tests.³



A medical consenter and back up will be designated for the child. Medical consenters and backups must be individuals, not a facility or a facility's shift staff. Usually, the medical consenter is the caregiver of the child. But when a child is placed in a residential operation, the SSCC or DFPS caseworker will likely be named as medical consenter. A child aged 16 or older may be authorized by the court to consent to their own medical treatment.

STAR Health/Superior continues to provide healthcare for most children served by an SSCC and in DFPS conservatorship.

[DFPS Medical Services Regional Specialists](#) continue to serve as the liaison to STAR Health/Superior and are a resource to the medical community and to the SSCCs.

Through a contract with the State of Texas, EMPOWER is the Community-Based Care SSCC contractor in Metroplex East, a nine-county area that includes Dallas, Grayson, Fannin, Collin, Hunt, Rockwall, Kaufman, Ellis and Navarro counties

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1 <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/FA/htm/FA.264.htm#264.161>
2 <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/FA/htm/FA.264.htm#264.152>
3 Texas Administrative Code 700.1329, <http://bit.ly/475Aqk3>