

## **Provider Advisory Council (PAC) Minutes from 7/24/15 Meeting**

**Members Present** – Youth Advocate Programs, Lakes Regional MHMR, Turtle Creek Recovery Center, IPS, Green Oaks Hospital,

Representatives from VO and DSHS were also in attendance.

### *NorthSTAR Transition Planning*

- NTBHA provided an update on transition planning.
- NTBHA is currently in the process of drafting the final plan, due October 2015, for indigent behavioral health services as required by recommendation 9.1 in the HHSC and Systems Issues Sunset Report. Plan revisions are focused on four points identified by HHSC/DSHS as needing additional information for the final plan submission.
- NTBHA has developed a transition timeline to guide planning.
- NTBHA will be looking to the PAC group for input and feedback related to transition planning. The group was encouraged to start thinking about their potential role in the redesign process.
- NTBHA is currently in the process of scheduling days for on-site Needs Assessment Surveys for members/family members at provider clinics. Links for online provider and stakeholder surveys will be available as well. NTBHA is also scheduling Town Hall Meetings for Dallas, Ellis, Hunt, Kaufman, Navarro, and Rockwall Counties to engage the community in discussion related to NorthSTAR redesign. These Needs Assessment Surveys and Town Hall Meetings will serve to inform both redesign planning and the NorthSTAR Local Service Area Plan for SFY16-17.

### *Other Issues Discussed*

- NAMI, MHA, and VO are collaborating to develop a program to help families assist loved ones with qualifying for SSI. They are also hoping to include additional training for case managers. The PAC noted the importance of being proactive in assisting individuals qualify for appropriate benefits programs.
- It was reported that the State Behavioral Health Integration Advisory Committee has submitted a recommendation that MCO's be required to hold certain meetings with contracted providers. Sherry Cusumano will keep the group updated on any developments.
- It was announced that Rudy Villarreal, HHCS Director - Health Plan Management, will be the speaker at the August COMI Meeting.
- PAC Officer nominations and voting will be addressed during the August meeting.