

**Psychiatrists Leadership and Advocacy Group (PLAG)
Minutes from 2/4/15 Meeting**

Members Present – Dallas Metrocare, Lakes Regional MHMR, Adapt of Texas, Green Oaks Hospital

Dallas County BHLT Workgroup – Local Plan in response to Sunset Advisory Committee Report

- The Sunset Advisory Commission Staff Report on HHSC has recommended the development of an updated indigent behavioral health model to replace NorthSTAR by January 1, 2017.
- In response to recommendations included in the Sunset Report, the Dallas County BHLT has appointed a 5 person group to work directly with the State on expectations, instructions, etc. related to the initial local plan submission deadline of March 3, 2015.
- Three members of the workgroup, Ron Stretcher, Carol Lucky, and Matt Roberts attended the PLAG in order to provide an update on local planning efforts, answer questions, and solicit feedback from the group.
- The Dallas County BHLT is spearheading the development of the local plan for Dallas County and partnering counties which currently includes Ellis and Navarro. Collin County has opted to develop a separate plan. Rockwall, Hunt, and Kaufman Counties are still in the process of determining which, if any, other counties they will partner with.
- Plan Highlights include:
 - NTBHA retained as the contracting agency/Local Authority
 - NTBHA will contract with an Administrative Services Organization (ASO), selected through an appropriate procurement process, to administer specific aspects of the system. The ASO will manage the provider network.
 - Maintain current system qualities such as open access and choice of provider
 - Retain current provider network and build on existing strengths within the network.
 - Providers will also contract with applicable Medicaid MCO plans.
 - Push for better oversight and coordination with Medicaid MCO plans in order to ensure members do not see a reduction in services as a result of this transition.
 - Focus on opportunities for integration of primary and behavioral healthcare despite a lack of funding to support this priority.
 - Importance of community input and collaboration
- PLAG members discussed potential challenges with working with the Medicaid MCO plans.
- PLAG members are encouraged to send any additional questions, suggestions, or feedback to the workgroup members.