

February 2022

FEATURED NEWS



CARF International Survey Virtual Visit, March 7 - 9

It's time to achieve re-accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). We invited CARF surveyors to evaluate how well we meet international standards for quality. The survey will tell us what we are doing well and ways we might improve. As a result of this survey, we may earn or continue accreditation.

[**Learn More**](#)



Dr. Mireya Hansen named Medical Director of Forensics



Dr. Mireya Hansen was recently named Medical Director of Forensics. Dr. Hansen has been serving as interim Medical Director since the summer of 2021. She provided outstanding leadership for not only the Harris Center's Forensics Department but the Harris County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) Jail.

Sean McElroy is Director of Adult Forensic Services. "Dr. Hansen brings with her years of knowledge, work ethic second to none and an energy that is contagious," Sean said.

"She is always willing to assist with any unit issues, has been instrumental in the EPIC transition, provides keen insight, and no matter how busy-she will take the time to listen. She will be instrumental in leading the Forensics Department and the Jail for years to come."

We appreciate the work Dr. Hansen is doing and congratulate her for her new role as Medical Director of Forensics.



Why is Black History Month Important to you?

Throughout the month of February, we celebrate Black History month and all the contributions and sacrifices of those who have helped shape our nation. Hear from a few Harris Center staff members as they discuss why Black History month is important to them.

Diversity and cultural competency is an important aspect of delivering effective and quality care to our clients. That is why we value diverse beliefs, attitudes and values amongst our staff — it's what makes us unique.

[Watch the Video](#)

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS



Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)

Services designed to assist parents in addressing the needs of children under the age of three with delayed development and/or certain medical diagnoses which will result in delayed development. Services offered include evaluation and assessment, occupational and physical therapy, speech-language therapy, service coordination, family counseling and education and developmental services. Services are provided in child's home or community settings (daycare, foster parent, grandparent, etc.).

[Watch the Video](#)



Mobile Crisis Outreach Team Rapid Response

The Mobile Crisis Outreach Rapid Response Team partnered with the Crisis Call Diversion (CCD) program and the Houston Police Department to automatically dispatch mental health clinicians as an alternative response to law enforcement for non-violent, non-criminal calls for service to 911 involving a mental health concern and could not be diverted by CCD over the phone. Program was initiated as a Pilot in March 2021 and is funded through the City of Houston.

[Watch the Video](#)

IN THE MEDIA

Houston Public Media



[Houston’s mental health police task force calls for an increase in crisis diversion funding](#)

Feb. 18, 2022

The Houston Police Department and the Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD collaborate to divert 911 calls involving mental health crises to counselors at the Harris Center. Wayne Young, CEO of the Harris Center, said counselors on the crisis call diversion team also connect callers with additional resources after deescalating the situation.

Houston Chronicle

[UTHealth Houston unveils new public psychiatric hospital, the first in Texas in 25 years](#)

Feb. 2, 2022

"Bringing this type of capacity and expertise to our community will be



transformational and will dramatically impact the mental health of our community.” - Wayne Young, CEO of The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD

MORE INFORMATION

Do you want to learn more about The Harris Center?

Visit our website to learn more about our programs and services or view our [FY2022-2024 Strategic Plan](#) to see how we're working to transform lives in Harris County and beyond.

[Visit The Harris Center's Website](#)

Questions? Contact Communications@TheHarrisCenter.org.

