

Program Committee Meeting

February 21, 2023

11:30 am

I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Approve Minutes of the Board of Trustees Program Committee Held on Tuesday, January 17, 2023
(EXHIBIT P-1)

IV. REVIEW AND COMMENT

- A. Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program (CPEP) Quarterly Report
(EXHIBIT P-2 Kim Kornmayer)
- B. Jail Based Competency Restoration Expansion (JBCR)
(EXHIBIT P-3 Mona Jiles/Krystin Holmes)
- C. Application for Beverly Lively to serve on Pasadena Cottages Board
(EXHIBIT P-4 Evanthe Collins)

- V. EXECUTIVE SESSION – As authorized by §551.071 of the Texas Government Code, the Board of Trustees reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to seek legal advice from its attorney about any matters listed on the agenda.**

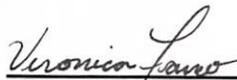
VI. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

VII. CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION AS A RESULT OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

VIII. INFORMATION ONLY

- A. Approved IDD-PAC Minutes from October 4, 2022
(EXHIBIT P-5)

IX. ADJOURN



**Veronica Franco, Board Liaison
Bonnie Hellums, MED, LMFT, LCDC, AAC, JD Chairperson
Program Committee
The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD
Board of Trustees**



EXHIBIT P-1

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
The HARRIS CENTER for
Mental Health and IDD
PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023
MINUTES

Mrs. Bonnie Hellums, Board of Trustees Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. in Room 109 of the 9401 Southwest Freeway location, noting a quorum of the Committee was present.

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Committee Members in Attendance: Mrs. Bonnie Hellums, Dr. Lois Moore, Dr. M. Miller (videoconference)

Committee Member in Absence: J. Lykes, Dr. Robin Gearing, Mrs. N. Hurtado

Other Board Members in Attendance: Mr. S. Zakaria, Mr. G. Womack, Dr. G. Santos

1. DESIGNATION OF BOARD MEMBERS AS VOTING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mrs. Bonnie Hellums designated Dr. G. Santos and Mr. G. Womack as voting members of the committee. Mr. Zakaria announced Dr. Gearing has been removed as a member of the Program Committee.

2. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. Mrs. Hellums declared a quorum of the Committee was present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no Public Comments.

4. Approve the Minutes of the Board of Trustees Program Committee Meeting Held on Tuesday, October 18, 2022.

MOTION BY: MOORE

SECOND BY: ZAKARIA

With unanimous affirmative votes

BE IT RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Board of Trustees Program Committee meeting held on Tuesday, October 18, 2022 under Exhibit P-1, are approved and recommended to the Full Board for acceptance.

5. REVIEW AND COMMENT

- A. **Youth Diversion Center-** Monalisa Jiles presented the Youth Diversion Center presentation under Exhibit P-2.
- B. **Integrated Care Initiatives-January 2023-** Dr. Stanley Williams presented the Integrated Care Initiatives-January 2023 presentation under Exhibit P-3.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session during the Program Committee Meeting.

7. ADJOURN

MOTION: MOORE

SECOND: SANTOS

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:29 pm.

Veronica Franco, Board Liaison
Bonnie Hellums, Chairman
Program Committee
THE HARRIS CENTER *for* Mental Health *and* IDD
Board of Trustees

EXHIBIT P-2

Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Programs (CPEP)

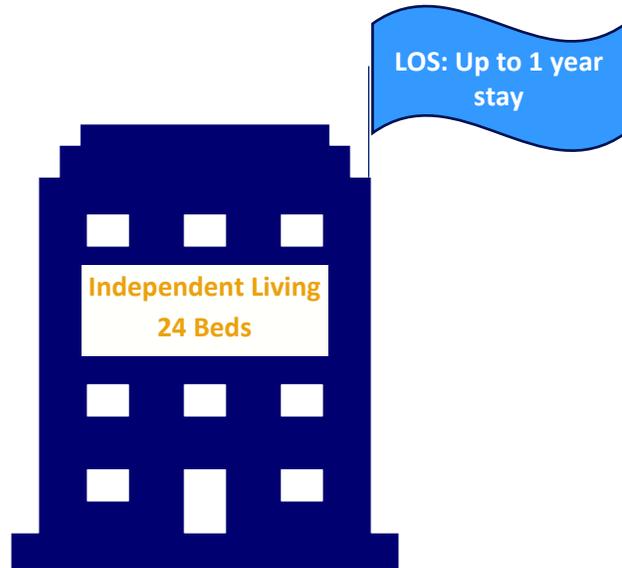
Program Committee Update

Presented By: Kim Kornmayer, LCSW, Vice President – Crisis Services

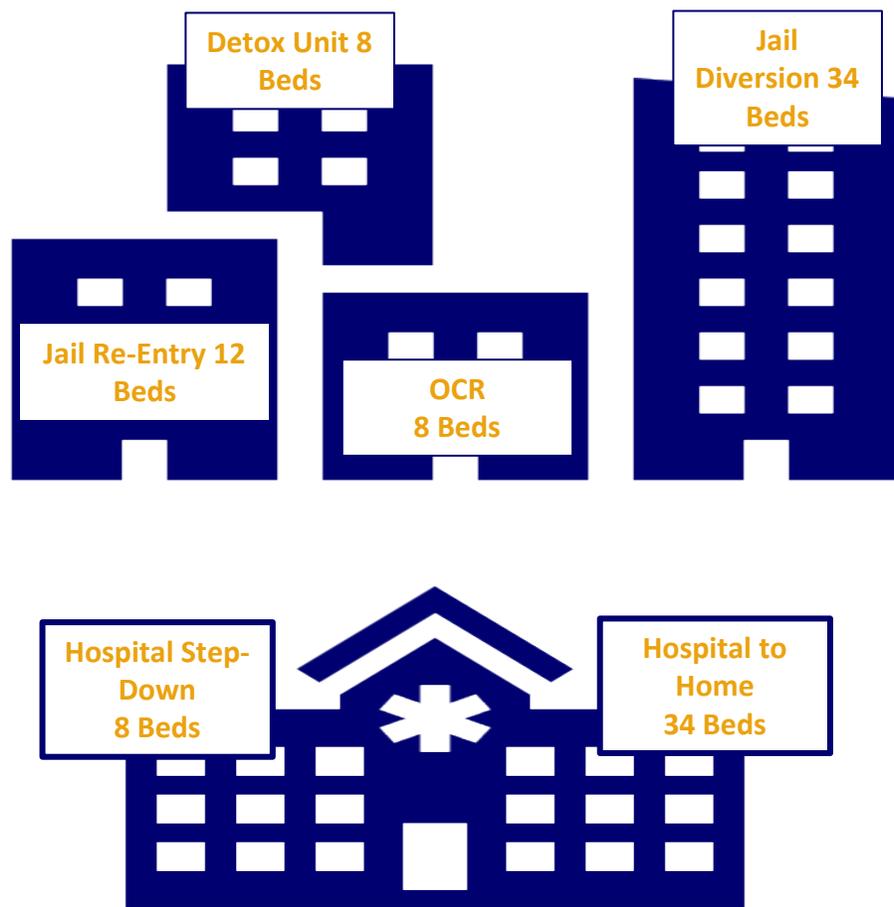
FY 23 - Q1 Details

| Emergency & Residential Programs | | 1st Quarter |
|--|-----------------|-------------|
| Psychiatric Emergency Services | (PES) | 1680 |
| Crisis Stabilization Unit | (CSU) | 310 |
| Crisis Residential Program Caroline | (CRU Caroline) | 79 |
| Crisis Residential Program Southmore | (CRU Southmore) | 137 |
| PEER's House | | 77 |
| Independent Living | | 5 |
| The Respite, Rehabilitation and Re-Entry Center (6160) | | |
| Hospital to Home | (H2H) | 27 |
| Jail Re-Entry | | 128 |
| Outpatient Competency Restoration | (OCR) | 11 |
| Detox | | 35 |
| Step Down | | 0 |
| Law Enforcement Collaborations | | |
| Crisis Intervention Response Team | (CCSI) | 1160 |
| Clinician Officer Remote Evaluation | (CORE) | 251 |
| Chronic Consumer Stabilization Initiative | (CCSI) | 10 |
| Homeless Outreach Team | (HOT) | 624 |
| Jail Diversion | | 398 |
| Jail Diversion Aftercare | | 95 |
| Crisis Call Diversion | (CCD) | 1679 |
| Mobile Crisis Outreach Team Rapid Response | (MCOT) | 306 |
| Homeless, Field Based & Long Term Care Programs | | |
| Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness | (PATH) | 156 |
| Substance Use Disorder Outreach Program | (SUDOP) | 1366 |
| Mobile Crisis Outreach Team | (MCOT) | 515 |
| Behavioral Health Response Team | (BHRT) | 83 |
| Total | | 9132 |

Residential Programs



The Respite, Rehabilitation and Re-Entry Center (6160)



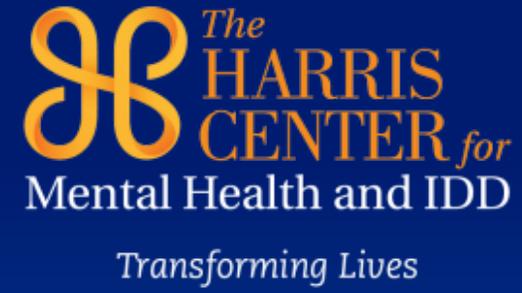
CPEP Program Accomplishments

- Working on collaboration with the IDD Division to provide Out of Home Respite for IDD Clients
- Awarded a Harris Center Foundation Grant to build a Resiliency Team to respond to both man-made and natural disasters that occur throughout Harris County and even throughout the state
- Crisis Call Diversion (CCD) was transitioned to CPEP from the ACCESS Division so that both CCD and MCOT Rapid Response would have the same Manager since both programs work so closely together
- PES began a process for Care Coordinators to work at the front desk & back desk to:
 - Link clients with the Nursing line if clients are open to a clinic and are just requesting medications
 - To secure outpatient clinic appointments and place a reminder call in advance of the appointment
- MCOT Human Trafficking Care Coordinators successfully screened several youth referred to MCOT and as a result were able to connect clients with a Human Trafficking Advocate

CPEP Spotlight Program- Crisis Residential Units



CRU Caroline- Recreation Area



Thank You

EXHIBIT P-3

Harris County Jail Based Competency Restoration:

Answering the Call to Eliminate the Wait

*Monalisa Jiles, LPC, NCC, LBSW
Vice President-Forensic Services
The Harris Center for Mental Health & IDD*



Transforming Lives



What is Competency Restoration

General Overview

- *Competency Restoration is the process used when an individual charged with a crime is found by a court to be incompetent to stand trial (IST), often due to an active mental illness or an intellectual disability.*
- *A defendant must be restored to competency before the legal process can continue (Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Chapter 46B, Dusky v. United States, 1960)*





JBCR at the Harris County Jail

Basic Components

- ***JBCR is a 20 bed program that provides Competency Restoration services to individuals found incompetent to stand trial.***
- ***JBCR is a joint collaboration between HCSO and the Harris Center that is funded by Health and Human Services***
- ***JBCR utilizes a compassionate, competent, person-centered approach designed to engage incarcerated individuals in the court-education process using a multidisciplinary treatment team in a jail-based setting***



Services Provided in JBCR

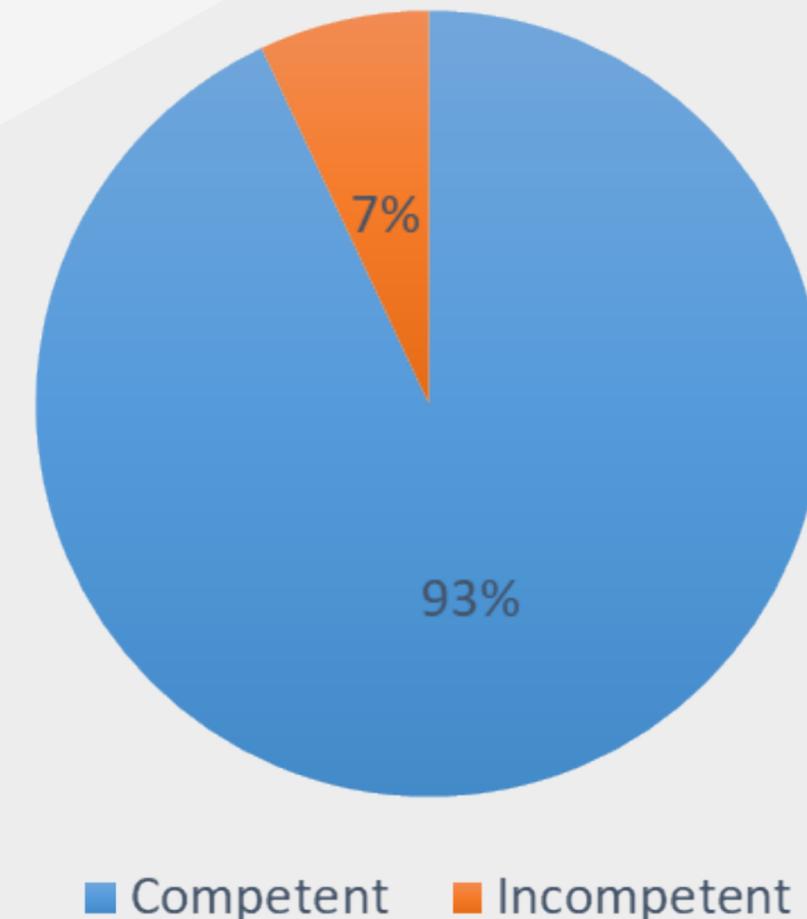
- *JBCR uses a combination of multimodal educational tools such as individual and group education, and experiential activities to engage different types of learners.*
 - *Medication Management*
 - *Individual Therapy*
 - *Group Therapy*
 - *Recreational Therapy*
 - *Substance Abuse Education (COPSD)*
 - *Trauma Informed Care (TIC)*
 - *Wellness and Recovery Groups*
 - *Peer Support Services*
 - *Case Management and Discharge Planning*

JBCR Data & Metrics

FY 2022

- *Restoration Rate: 93%*
 - *Admissions: 94*
 - *Discharges: 96*
- *Description of Participants*
 - *Male: 62%*
 - *Female: 38%*
- *Description of Charges*
 - *Felony: 83%*
 - *Misdemeanor: 17%*
- *Average Length of Stay in JBCR: 55 Days*

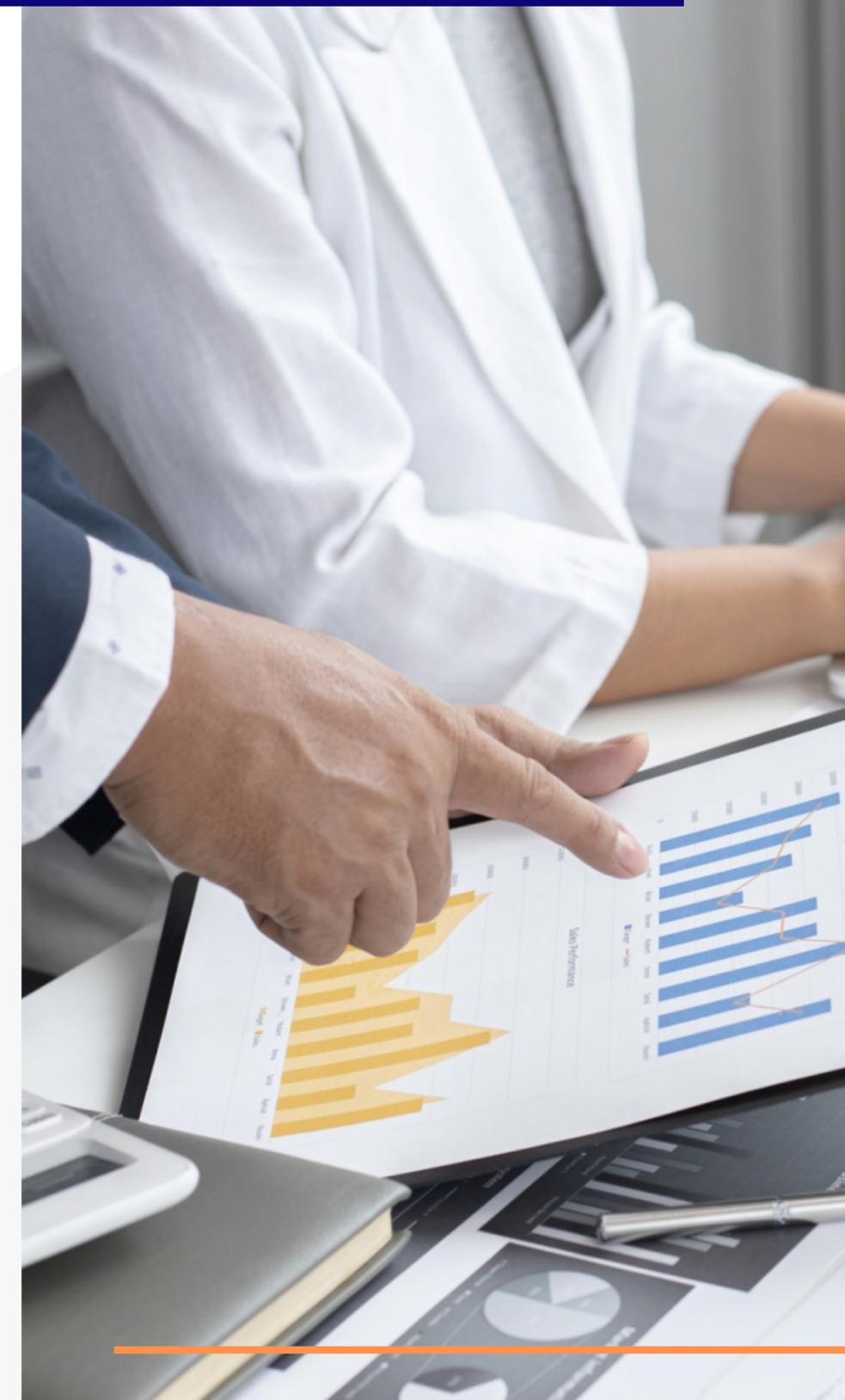
JBCR Restoration Rate (FYTD)



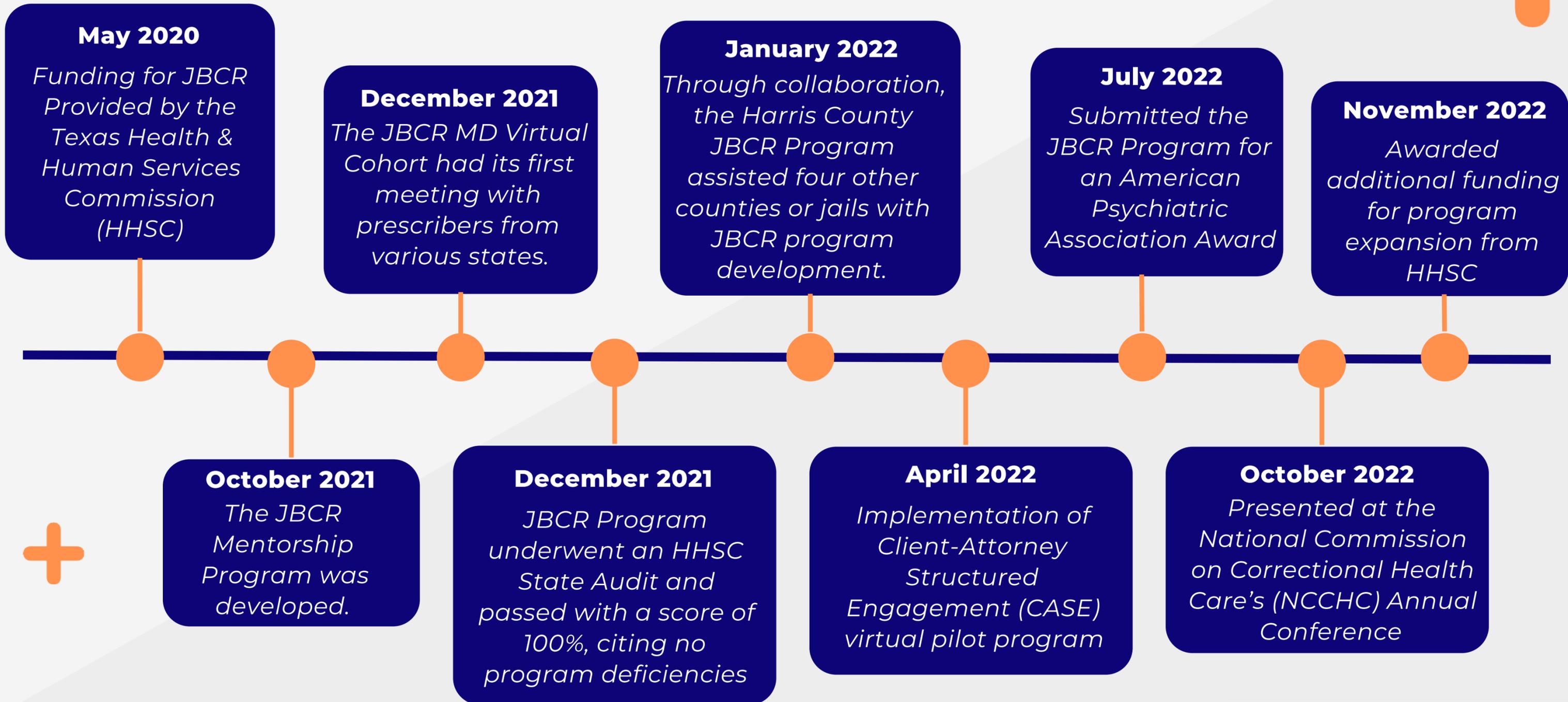
JBCR Data & Metrics

Data Since Inception

- Restoration Rates:
 - FY 2021: 87%
 - FY 2022: 93%
- Total # of Patients Served in JBCR: 189
 - FY 2021 (01/26/2021 -08/31/2021): 65
 - FY 2022 (09/01/2021 -08/31/2022): 98
- Court Ordered Medications:
 - FY 2021: 51%
 - FY 2022: 45%
- Total # of Maximum Security Patients Served in JBCR: 88 (48%)
 - FY 2021 (01/26/2021 -08/31/2021): 33 (51%)
 - FY 2022 (09/01/2021 -08/31/2022): 49 (52%)



JBCR Program Highlights



Program Expansion

- *A JBCR expansion would allow an increase from a current capacity of 20 patients to 50 patients.*
- *In addition to an increase in patients, the expansion would provide the opportunity to have JBCR programming for the Pre and Post Admission patients.*
- *Engagement services/education can be provided to patients waiting for placement for restoration and for patients recently opined competent to stand trial.*
- *Harris County's average waiting list for CY 2022 is 255. The expansion would have a positive impact on the local wait list, but also impact the state, the county, the jail, and the patients themselves.*



Program Expansion

- *The Harris County JBCCR Program has a restoration rate of 93% (other state JBCCR programs average 40%).*
- *Last FY the program served 98 patients-exceeding the annual target of 80 patients served*
- *Expansion to 50 beds would mean that up to 200-245 patients could be served annually.*
- *In addition, it expedites the patient's ability to proceed in his/her legal case which should result in less time jail waiting for a bed.*



Current JBCR Budget

Table 1: Current JBCR Budget

| JBCR Funding | JBCR Current Budget |
|--|---------------------|
| HHSC | \$ 871,500.00 |
| The Harris Center Contributions | |
| - OCR Contract | \$ 216,594.57 |
| - Clinical Contract | \$ 108,173.53 |
| Subtotal | \$ 1,196,268.10 |
| Admin Fee (5%) | \$ 59,813.41 |
| Total | \$ 1,256,081.51 |



JBCR Expansion Budget

Table 2: HHSC JBCR Expansion

| Table 2 | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| HHSC JBCR Expansion (20 beds) | \$ 476,237.24 |
| Subtotal | \$ 476,237.24 |
| Admin Fee (10%) | \$ 47,623.72 |
| Total | \$ 523,860.96 |

Table 3: Harris JBCR County Expansion

| Table 3 | |
|---|----------------------|
| Harris County JBCR Expansion (10 CR beds and 20 Stepdown) | \$ 586,917.27 |
| Subtotal | \$ 586,917.27 |
| Admin Fee (10%) | \$ 58,691.73 |
| Total | \$ 645,609.00 |

JBCR Success Stories

Mr. Jones was arrested and charged with a felony crime; however, his case could not move forward because he was found to be Incompetent to Stand Trial. After a very long wait on the State Hospital Waitlist, Mr. Jones was one of the first patients admitted into JBCR.

Prior to his arrival on the unit, Mr. Jones was very discouraged. He had spend many years of his life in and out of jail and hospitals. During the process of JBCR, it was clear Mr. Jones was ready for a change. He no longer wanted to continue in the same cycle of homelessness, incarceration, and hospitalization.

In JBCR he was looked upon favorably by some of the younger patients. He felt he had a purpose and oftentimes helped other patients in the program.

Upon completion of the program, Mr. Jones recieved his certificate of successful program completion and was able to re-enter the community after spending 512 days incarcerated. Mr. Jones was able to enter a personal care home and has not returned to the Harris County Jail since his release in April of 2021.





JBCR Success Stories

Tony is a man in his early 30's currently facing a very serious charge. He was opined Incompetent to Stand Trial based on the severity of his mental illness and was admitted to the Jail Based Competency Restoration (JCBR) Program.

As a juvenile, he had a difficult upbringing. Tony grew up in a single parent household and relied heavily on his family for support. He even had a promising musical career until experiencing his first psychiatric episode in his early 20's.

Through his dedication and hard work in JBCR, Tony was restored to competency in 53 days. At the time of his restoration, Tony was the number one patient on the waitlist. He had spent over 800 days incarcerated, 771 of those days on the State Hospital Waitlist.

While he currently awaits his return to court, Tony has started to resume writing poetry and music again, something he did not think would ever be possible again.

JBCR Program Contact Information

Monalisa Jiles, LCDC, LPC, NCC
Vice President of Forensic Services



713-970-3661



Mona.Jiles@TheHarrisCenter.org

Sean McElroy, M.ED., LPC-S
Director of Adult Forensic Services



346-286-2351



Sean.McElroy@TheHarrisCenter.org

Krystin Holmes, PhD, LPC-S, LMFT-S, NCC
Program Manager, Jail Based Competency Restoration



832-954-6258



Krystin.Holmes@TheHarrisCenter.org

EXHIBIT P-4

The Harris Center for Mental Health & IDD
9401 Southwest Freeway
Houston, TX 77074
PASADENA COTTAGES BOARD

Name: Beverly Lively
Mailing Address: _____
Telephone: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____
Email Address: _____

I am being nominated by: Lily Pan

Why do you want to be a member of Pasadena Cottages Board?

Member of Pasadena Junior Forum whose members constructed the Pasadena Cottages and the adjacent building for The Center to provide IDA services in this community.

What special interest, talents, or experience do you feel you bring to the Pasadena Cottages Board?

Employed by the Center to manage programs at the Pasadena Center (15 years). Cottages residents attended the deaf program for several years. Teaching certification. Past member Cottages Board.

Please list your memberships in other professional and civic organizations and associations:

Board member Pasadena Public Library and Pasadena Philharmonic Society, Member Pasadena Jr. Forum; Halveston Bay Area Ch. Texas Martin Luther King; United Women in Faith, Sunset U.M.C. Sect. the Crowder (Funding 50k\$ a) organizations in this area) Foundation

You will be provided a copy of The Harris Center Policy pertaining to Pasadena Cottages Board and the Code of Ethics for review. To be considered as a Director & Officer nominee, you need to review and sign a non-conflict of interest statement regarding participation on the board and that you will be guided by the Code of Ethics of the Board of Trustees of The Harris Center.

Beverly Lively
(SIGNATURE)

1/17/23
(DATE)

**THE HARRIS CENTER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION
Pasadena Cottages Inc.**

I own no interest in any business, company, or firm which contracts with or sells merchandise or services to The Harris Center, nor does any member of my immediate family.*

EXCEPTION:

I am not employed by a business, company, or firm which has a contract with The Harris Center or sells its merchandise or services nor is any member of my immediate family*.

EXCEPTION:

I receive no income or payment of any kind from The Harris Center, nor does any member of my immediate family*.

EXCEPTION:

I am not employed by The Harris Center, nor is any member of my immediate family*.

EXCEPTION:

I have no other conflict of interest which would make it undesirable for me to serve on this Advisory Council, nor does any member of my immediate family*.

EXCEPTION:

Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Planning Advisory Council

Print Your Name: Beverly Lively

Signature: Beverly Lively

Date: 1/17/23

* Member of immediate family means a relative in the first or second degree, which includes, but is not limited to mother, father, brother, sister, son, daughter, husband, wife, grandmother, grandfather, legally authorized representative.

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE

THE HARRIS CENTER'S CODE OF ETHICS

I, Beverly Lively hereby certify that I have read and will comply with the Code of Ethics as adopted by the Board of Trustees with the most recent revision having been adopted on November 1, 2006 by unanimous affirmative vote of the Board of Trustees FOR The Harris Center.

Beverly Lively
(Signature)

1/17/23
(Date)

EXHIBIT P-5

THE HARRIS CENTER
INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
PLANNING ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Prepared by: The Office of the Vice President for Intellectual and
Developmental Disabilities Services**

October 4, 2022

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Judy Blake (Advocate); Elva Caballero (Advocate); Dory Cayten (Advocate); Charles Davis (Harris County Psychiatric Center); Cynthia Fannin (Richmond State Supported Living Center); Ellen Goudeau (Advocate); Naila Ibrahim (Dar-us-Sakina); Janice Jackson (Humble Independent School District); Kennitha Jenkins (Consumer Advocate); Nicholas Johnson (Katy Independent School District); Karen Kast (Community Care Services Eligibility – HHSC); Iris Lewis (Harris County Juvenile Probation Department); Elworth Lusk (Consumer Advocate); Kassandra Malveaux (Harris Co. Protective Services); Brenda Mullins (Harris County Department of Education); Dr. Deborah Pearson (McGovern Medical School, UT Health Science Center – Houston, Dept. Psychiatry); Gene Rowe (Advocate); Janniece Sleigh (The Arc of Harris County); Teaya Smith for Kevin Kern (The Center for Pursuit); Kim Torres (Advocate); Shelley Townsend (University of Houston); Glenn Urbach (Down Syndrome Association of Houston); Mary Jane Williams (Advocate); Albert Williamson (Spring Independent School District)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tasheara Jennings Gobert (Texas Workforce Solutions – Vocational Rehabilitation Services); Paola Jimenez Rodriguez (Advocate); Angel Ponce (Mayor’s Office for People w/ Disabilities); Deborah Quintero (Advocate); VACANT (Houston Independent School District); VACANT (Region 4 Education Service Center)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

The Harris Center Staff: Mamie Adams; Janice Baines; Coneka Caleb; Dr. Evanthe Collins; Annie Cuba; Randi Garza; Cindy Hernandez; Francisco Hernandez; Kenyonika Johnson; Amanda Jones; Charles Kerlegon; David Long; Stephanie Meads; Consuelo Martinez; Dana Sobers Ben; Amanda Willis

Public Attendees: Jeff Furrh (Waller ISD); Norine Gill; Casaundra Miller (Maximus); Sarah Sanchez Pequeño (Maximus)

I. Call to Order

The General (Virtual) Meeting of The Harris Center Planning Advisory Council (IDD-PAC) was called to order at 10:01 AM by Mary Jane Williams, Co-Chair, there being a quorum present. An Interpreter was not provided since this was a virtual meeting and Spanish-speaking guests were not present.

Mary Jane Williams advised attendees to 1) mute mics unless speaking; 2) utilize the Chat feature when voting on the minutes taken on September 13, 2022.

II. Approval of Notes

Approval of the minutes of September 13, 2022 meeting was brought before the Council.

MOTION BY: Janice Jackson

SECOND BY: Janniece Sleigh

The minutes of September 13, 2022 were approved as submitted.

III. Call for Public Comment

There was no public comment brought forward.

IV. Council Training

Casaundra Miller, Enrollment Broker from Maximus, presented information on the *Texas STAR+PLUS Medicaid Program*.

The STAR+PLUS is a Medicaid managed care program for people who have a disability or are age 65 and older. People in STAR+PLUS get Medicaid health care and long-term services and support through a medical plan that they choose. It is designed to be a cost-effective model that enhances the support and benefits provided to this population. The STAR+PLUS program integrates the delivery of acute care (short term medical conditions) and long-term services and supports for people. The goal is to provide services and additional resources including Service Coordination to help members stay as independent as possible while meeting their medical needs.

The number to Texas STAR+PLUS Program Helpline is 1-800-964-2777 (TTY: 1-800-735-2989).

The Special Populations Unit for IDD Population, Nursing Home Residents or Medicare-Medicaid Plan (MMP) and STAR Kids is 1-877-782-6440.

IDD-PAC members were provided with Ms. Miller’s PowerPoint presentation a week prior to the meeting.

Kenyonika Johnson (The Harris Center) asked in the Chat feature the following question:

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Is there any information on how individuals can switch from QMB to STAR+PLUS? Elva Caballero (Maximus) referred Ms. Johnson to HHSC's Eligibility Department.

Sarah Sanchez-Pequeno (Outreach Supervisor, Maximus) provided the following information in the Chat feature: Maximus represent Texas Health Steps, Texas STAR, STAR+Plus, STAR Kids programs serving Medicaid children and families. Maximus staff educate clients on how to use their Texas Health Steps Medicaid benefits, assist on choosing a medical or dental health plan and a primary care physician and do plan changes if necessary. Maximus staff are also available to do virtual group presentations for organizations' staff meetings. The toll-free number to Texas Health Steps is 1-877-847-8377. The toll-free number to Texas STAR is 1-800-964-2777. The toll-free number to Special Populations Unit is 1-877-877-782-6440.

Legislative Update – Amanda Jones, J.D., Director of Government and Public Affairs

Amanda Jones, J.D., Director of Government and Public Affairs from The Harris Center, provided members with a Legislative Update: HHSC's Legislative Appropriations Request (FY 2024 – 25).

Ms. Jones explained that every year before session the State agencies prepare a legislative appropriations request (funding request for the upcoming biennium). Ms. Jones shared that she (also coordinating with Texas Council of Community Centers) is currently analyzing the voluminous document and presented to the members what she's found thus far.

Health and Human Services Commission's (HHSC) first priority for the 88th Legislature is addressing critical workforce needs. Critical staff are need in the following areas:

- State hospitals and state supported living centers
- Eligibility workers
- Long-term care inspections and investigations and technical staff (such as contract attorneys)

Second priority is Medicaid, CHIP, and ECI.

- There was a funding request for Medicaid cost growth (\$5.6 Billion for the biennium);
- Maintaining Medicaid Waiver Programs at FY 2023 levels;
- Funding for projected case growth in the Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) program.
 - 11% more children in FY 2024;
 - An additional 4% more children in FY 2025

Third priority is to improve mental health services.

- Waitlist for State hospital beds
- Alternatives to incarceration
- Efforts to discharge long-term hospital residents into the community
- Timely access to services
- Funding requests for a continuum of behavioral health services
- Recruiting and retaining a competent workforce
- Placeholder (amount is not specified)

Fourth priority is to request funding for support for community-based Medicaid services and promoting independence.

- Stabilize workforce
 - Funding to increase community attendant wages and
 - Proposals to increase types of people eligible to provide services.
- Support policy changes to ensure Texans receive critical supports within program cost caps;
- Improve infrastructure and oversight;
- Fund more waiver slots
- Placeholder (amount is not specified)

Fifth priority is to request funding for state hospitals.

- FY 24 - \$36 Million and FY 25 - \$82.7 Million
- Requested funds to operate 168 new beds at the Dunn Center;
- Complete pre-planning for state hospital construction in Wichita Falls and Terrell;
- Support operations at the planned state hospital in Dallas (300 beds);
- Planning and land acquisition for a new inpatient psychiatric hospital in the panhandle; and
- Maintain contracted beds to help reduce the state hospital system waitlist.

Other funding requests are:

- Better Birth Outcomes : Intervention to promote screening and treatment of prenatal and perinatal mood and anxiety disorders
- Maintain services for state supported living centers, behavioral health waiver programs, targeted case management for long term care

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- Consolidated rate request (Community attendant services, physician evaluation and management, and others)

Janice Jackson asked the following question in the Chat feature:

Will there be less of a wait time for students on the waiting list if funding is approved for additional waiver slots. Ms. Jones informed Ms. Jackson that the House Human Services Committee will potentially have a hearing sometime this fall and might come up with some recommendations pertaining to the interest lists.

Ms. Jones added that it might be advantageous to send comments to the members of the House Human Services Committee.

V. Call for Subcommittee Reports

A. Adult and Juvenile Justice Subcommittee – Iris Lewis, Chair

Iris Lewis reminded members of the upcoming The Criminal Justice & IDD Conference – *Autism...A Spectrum of Hope and Challenges* will be on October 27th from 8:30am –12:00pm. The virtual conference is free and CEUs will be provided. Dr. Maria Quintero-Conk will present on *Understanding Autism – Be Aware, Be Understanding*. Chase Cardiff (self-advocate) will be presenting on *Autism is Only Part of Who I Am*. There will also be a parent panel that will present on *Journey Into Our World*. All who are interested are asked to register at: <https://forms.office.com/r/PnemHyE8DT>

B. Public Outreach

Social Engagement Subcommittee – Janniece Sleigh, Chair

Dory Cayten reminded members of the upcoming Candy Cane Ball which will be held on December 9, 2022 at the Bayou Event Center. The event is made possible with the assistance of the IDD-PAC and a private sponsor.

VI. Old Business

A. Meeting Dates and Locations

Meeting dates and location are as follows:

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| December 13 Harris Center | January Cancelled | February 7 Zoom |
| March 7 Harris Center | April 4 Zoom | May 2 Zoom |
| June 6 Harris Center | July Cancelled | August 1 Zoom |

Note: The meeting scheduled on November 1st will be virtual via Zoom.

VII. New Business

There was no new business brought forward.

VIII. Call for Consideration of Communication, Advice and Recommendations from Public and Private Agencies and Organizations

Mary Jane Williams informed members that October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month and thanked those that help individuals with disabilities obtain employment.

IX. Consideration of Board Requests for Advice Concerning Service Needs and/or Implementation Priorities – Shaukat Zakaria, Interim Board Liaison, The Harris Center Board of Trustees

Mr. Zakaria was not present to provide an update.

X. Vice President’s Report – Dr. Evanthe Collins, Vice President, IDD Service Division/Grants & State Contracts

Dr. Evanthe Collins emphasized that CMS is proposing a new rules change around how individuals engage with the Medicaid application process to simplify the enrollment process. They are accepting public comment up until November 7th. The intent is to hold a 60-day comment period and to make sure that individuals have ease of access and be able to have that continuity of care.

At the IDD Director’s Consortium, there was quite a bit of discussion around behavioral health and the IDD population. One of the most popular things that people identified is that being able to access psychological and psychiatric care for the IDD population and being able to find it mission to local psychiatric hospitals was quite a challenge. The consortia (state level consisting of 39 centers) come together on a quarterly basis to discuss everything that is happening at center-levels

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in addition to get updates on what is happening at HHSC level. Many local authorities are experiencing the exact same issue that Harris County is experiencing.

Dr. Collins will be working with The Harris Center's clinical staff to identify some local types of resources. One thing that was discussed at the consortium meeting was the use of geriatric psych facilities that are open to accepting and treating the IDD population. Dr. Collins and staff will explore some local resources and then bring back potentially as a presentation to the PAC.

At the consortium, it was decided to have one consolidated voice for all centers to approach HHSC's mental health side. There will be more discussions at the state level in order to get on the appropriations request funding to purchase psychiatric beds.

During Dr. Collins' last presentation to the PAC, she had mentioned that The Harris Center would be moving towards a targeted push for the IDD community and how The Harris Center would advertise and try to engage some of the marginalized communities who have not historically engaged with The Harris Center.

The Harris Center has onboarded a photographer/videographer who is working with the agency for a variety of projects. One of those projects that we want to undertake in the IDD population is the development of a video whose main target is going to be for a couple of different populations. One being new parents that receive the diagnosis. Another population would be those who have an older loved one who has lost a caregiver.

Dr. Collins and Charles Kerlegon pulled together some internal resources (Annie Cuba, Margaret 'Maggie' Strobel, Mamie Adams and Margo Childs) who created a vision board and utilized the concept of hope towards this population. The overarching vision is that The Harris Center can provide that hope to families through a culture of always.

PAC members may be reached for maybe cameos in the video, or to give a quick speech to talk about his/her engagement with The Harris Center. Dr. Collins hopes to have a finished product by January 2023 to imbed in The Harris Center's social media feeds.

Judy Blake asked what the length of time is to obtain an assessment by a psychologist after submitting the DID application. Dr. Collins stated that Access to Care is one of the areas in which the IDD Division is definitely having some issues and is looking to streamline that process to reduce the wait time. Dr. Collins will find out the actual number of days.

XI. Call for Announcements

Elva Caballero announced that she will be leaving Maximus and will remain on the PAC until the end of the year. Sarah Sanchez and Casaundra 'Cassie' Miller will be attending in her absence.

Cynthia Fannin announced that Richmond SSLC will be hosting a Bi-annual 2022 Fall RSSLC Provider Fair on Friday, November 18th from 9am – noon.

Albert Williamson announced that Spring ISD will be having College Night at Carl Wunsche Sr. High School on October 6th from 6 – 8pm. Over a 100 different colleges and programs will be in attendance. Several special service agencies, resources and local agencies have been invited to attend the event. The flyer will be sent via email.

Dory Cayten announced The Arc of Harris County's Purse Bingo Fundraiser on Saturday, October 15th 5:00-9:00pm. Reserved Table for 8 - \$400, Individual Tickets - \$50. For details and to register, go to <https://form.123formbuilder.com/6227577/formS>

Shelley Townsend announced that University of Houston – Parent Education Project FamiliesCAN Program will be having a Virtual Workshop, "Ten Tips for a Successful Medical Transition" presented by Sam Garcia, LMSW, LCDC, Senior Medical Social Worker with the Baylor College Transition Medicine Clinic on October 20, 2022 from 3 – 4:30pm. Register at: <https://uh-edu-cougarnet.zoom.us/meeting/register/JNST0hfbZGu>.

Ninfa Escobar announced that The Harris Center Team Transformers will be participating at the Houston Buddy Walk on Saturday, November 5th from 10am – 2pm at Constellation Field, 1 Stadium Drive, Sugar Land, TX 77498. To join the team or to donate, visit: <https://www.ds-stride.org/houstonbuddywalk/profiles/team/517>.

Sarah Sanchez Pequeño informed members to Medicaid recipients are advised to visit YourTexasBenefits.com or call 2-1-1 (select option 2) to update personal information.

Mary Jane Williams announced that Family to Family Network will be having free training sessions on November 7th, 9th, and 10th from noon – 1pm and 6pm – 7pm. Register at: <https://f2fn.org/intensive-eip-support/>. Contact Judy Blake for questions at judy@familytofamilynetwork.org.

