

## The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD 9401 Southwest Freeway Houston, TX 77074 Board Room #109

#### Program Committee Meeting April 16, 2024 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, March 19, 2024 (EXHIBIT P-1)
- IV. REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION
  - A. Recommendation No. 436R-Mercedes Alejandro for IDD-PAC Family Advocate Membership (EXHIBIT P-2 Evanthe Collins)
- V. REVIEW AND COMMENT
  - A. 3200 Main St. (EXHIBIT P-3 Kim Kornmayer)
- VI. 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.
- VII. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION
- VIII. CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION AS A RESULT OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION
  - IX. INFORMATION ONLY
    - A. Approved IDD-PAC Minutes from November 7, 2023 (EXHIBIT P-4)
    - B. Approved IDD-PAC Minutes from February 6, 2024 (EXHIBIT P-5)

X. 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** 



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES The HARRIS CENTER for Mental Health and IDD OGRAM COMMITTEE MEETIN

#### PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024 MINUTES

Mrs. Hellums, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:56 a.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: Dr. R. Gearing, Dr. L. Moore, B. Hellums

Committee Member in Absence:

Other Board Members in Attendance:

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:56 a.m.

#### 2. DESIGNATION OF BOARD MEMBERS AS VOTING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None

#### 3. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Mrs. Hellums declared a quorum of the committee was present.

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no Public Comments.

### 5. Approve the Minutes of the Board of Trustees Program Committee Meeting Held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

MOTION BY: MOORE SECOND BY: GEARING

With unanimous affirmative votes

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Board of Trustees Program Committee meeting held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 under Exhibit P-1, are approved and recommended to the Full Board for acceptance.

#### 6. REVIEW AND COMMENT

**A.** Community Assistance Referral Program-Alandria Sellers and Sean McElroy presented to the Program Committee.

Board of Trustees Program Committee Meeting (03/19/2024) MINUTES Page 1 of 2 **B.** Harris Center Resiliency Team-Sara Strang and Kim Kornmayer presented to the Program Committee.

#### 7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Hellums announced the Program Committee would enter into executive session at 12:35pm for the following reason:

\* In accordance with §551.071 of the Texas Government Code, consultation with attorney on a matter related to a contract with Harris County Administration in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct to the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act. Kendra Thomas, General Counsel, Keena Pace, Chief Operating Officer and Monalisa Jiles, Vice President of Forensic Services

#### 8. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION-

The Program Committee reconvened into open session at 12:55 p.m.

#### **ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm.

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

#### INFORMATION FORM FOR INDIVIDUAL NOMINEES TO THE

#### Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Planning Advisory Council [IDD-PAC]

Please Print:				
Name: Mercedes E. Alejandro				
☐Mr. ☐Mrs. ☐Ms. ☐ Dr. ☐ Consumer ☐ Family Member of Consumer*				
Mailing Address:				
City: Houston State: Texas Zip Code:				
Telephone: Home Work Cell				
Fax No.: E-mail Address:				
Occupation: Retired				
Employed by: - Formerly employed at Baylor College of Medicine 40 yrs,				
Texas Children's Hospital 5 yrs.				
I am seeking appointment as a Consumer/Family Member defined as: Any individual living in Harris County and receiving or having previously received services from an agency appropriate to the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Planning Advisory Council [Autism or other Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities]; a family member or guardian of such a person.				
I am being nominated by: Shelley A. Townsend				
[Yourself or person who recommended you become an IDD-PAC member]				
Why do you want to be a member of the IDD-PAC?  I bring a comsumer's point of view as I've valsed a child  with IDD and received services from our LIDDA for over 40 years				
with IDD and received services from our LIDDA for over 40 years				
What special interests, talents, or experience do you feel you bring to the IDD-PAC?				
My interests include community outreach as part of the Arc's  Spanish parent support group. I am a legal grandian fora				
Spanish parent support group. I am a legal grardian tora				
young man with IDD (not related) and bring a consumer's point of view				

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

INDIVIDUAL APPLICATION TO THE INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PLANNING ADVISORY COUNCIL [IDD-PAC] PAGE 2 OF 2

	and Developmental Disabilities Planning Advisory Council meets the first Tuesday of every month from 12:00 p.m. Are you available to attend these monthly meetings on a regular basis?
Yes No I	f no, please explain: AVAILABLE VIA ZOOM AND IN PERSON
	nemberships in other professional and civic organizations and associations:  - Pastoral Council, All Saints Catholic Church
	nt, Gradalupana Assn, All Saints Catholic Church
<u>Member</u>	er, The Arc of Harris County
Membe	er, Texas Guardianship Associations
Former (	Commissioner, Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities Houston COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
	HOUSTON COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
for review. To be regarding partici	vided a copy of The Harris Center Policy pertaining to Advisory Council membership and the Code of Ethics e considered as an advisory council nominee, you need to review and sign a non-conflict of interest statement pation on the Council and that you will be guided by the Code of Ethics of the Board of Trustees of The lease include both of these signed statements when you return this completed form.
Mercedes	E. Alejandro 11/2/2023 (DATE)
(SIGNATURE)	(DATE)
Developmental :	completed application form to: Cindy Hernandez, Recording Secretary, Intellectual and Disabilities Planning Advisory Council, The Harris Center, 9401 Southwest Freeway, Houston, Texas
77074. Or the co	ompleted application form may be emailed to Alicia.Hernandez@TheHarrisCenter.org or faxed to 713-970
Attachments:	What is the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Planning Advisory Council? The Harris Center Board By-Laws Regarding Advisory Councils Copy of The Harris Center Code of Ethics Certification of Compliance with Code of Ethics Conflict of Interest Declaration

Voluntary Disclosure Statement







## Programs Located at 3200 Main

The Mobile Crisis Outreach team was developed in 2003 and is widely dispatched throughout Harris County. Its mission is to provide rapid community based crisis response and assessment to establish safety and provide interventions, skills training and resources to restore balance, promote self-efficacy and increase support systems.

In 2020, the Harris Center received funding to create the Behavioral Health Response Team (BHRT). BHRT provides clinical, substance use and peer support to individuals experiencing mental illness &/or addiction who are transitioning into housing from homelessness. The goal is to help them maintain their mental health and retain their housing. All referrals come through the Coalition for the Homeless, the Way Home program and the City of Houston's Navigation Center.

In 2021 funding to create a new Rapid Response Program was received. The Rapid Response Program works in collaboration with the Houston Police Department (HPD), Houston Fire Department (HFD) and the Harris Center Crisis Call Diversion (CCD) Program. Rapid Response is available 24/7 and serves as the fourth option for dispatch and first line response for all callers to 911 and the HPD non emergency line, experiencing a mental health crisis. The goal of RR is to eliminate an automatic response of Fire, EMS or Law Enforcement when someone contacts 911 in need of assistance with mental health.



## **Programs Located at 3200 Main**

With the creation of BHRT and RR, they have been co-located in two different locations along with the MCOT Program, at 9401 and at the Bristow Center, downtown. There has not been enough space in any one location to house the entire team. Management has been located in one location while half their staff have been housed in another location.

This new 3200 Main location offers a centrally located office space to house all three programs including Management, in the same location. It also offers ample and available parking for both employee and agency vehicles. Most important, is that the location of the 3200 space (downtown) makes it convenient for the staff to quickly respond to calls throughout Harris County.



### Benefits of the 3200 Main Space



- Enables all staff need to be centrally located and housed in the same facility.
- A central location allows staff to respond to calls more efficiently.
- Have easy access to ample parking
- Economy of Scale; savings in program expenses (equipment, supplies, support staff).
- Resolves issues relative to insufficient parking at current locations
- Expanded security for staff safety; Programs are 24 hours a day and HCC Police Department patrol the area 24 hours a day. The HCC Police Department is located 3 minutes away from the building
- Boost team morale, employee satisfaction and connection with leadership
- This location also serves as the Command Center for the Harris County Resiliency Team.





### **3200 Main**

3200 Main		
Premises:	Approximately <b>11,683</b> rentable square foot ("RSF") located on the 1st floor of the parking garage adjacent to elevator, subject to final architectural plans.	
Use:	The Premises may be used for general office purposes.	
	Thirty-six (36) months	
Term:	Allows for option of two (2) one year extensions	
Parking:	Reserved parking for staff and agency vehicles	
Location:	Centrally located in downtown Houston	
Space Status:	Total redesign of space making it accommodating to all staff	
Security:	Houston Community College (HCC) Police Dept. located 3 minutes .06 miles from building (24 hrs)	
Commencement Date:	February 9, 2024	

## **3200 Main**

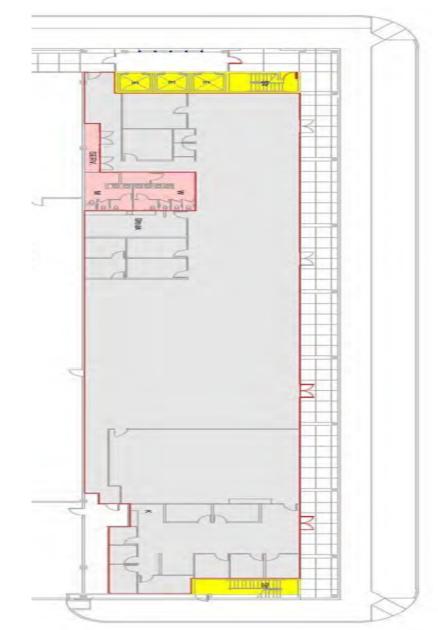














Transforming Lives





Transforming Lives

## **Thank You**

#### THE HARRIS CENTER

### INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PLANNING ADVISORY COUNCIL

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

#### **November 7, 2023**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Judy Blake (Advocate); Dory Cayten (Advocate); Charles Davis (Harris County Psychiatric Center); Ellen Goudeau (Advocate); Janice Jackson (Humble Independent School District); Kennitha Jenkins (Consumer Advocate); Kevin (The Center for Pursuit); Elworth Lusk (Consumer Advocate); Kassandra Malveaux (Harris Co. Protective Services); Dr. Deborah Pearson (McGovern Medical School, UT Health Science Center – Houston, Dept. Psychiatry); Angel Ponce (Mayor's Office for People w/ Disabilities); Eric Prim for Tasheara Jennings Gobert (Texas Workforce Solutions – Vocational Rehabilitation Services); Paola Jimenez Rodriguez (Advocate); Gene Rowe (Advocate); Dr. Bill Schnapp (Community Member); Shelley Townsend (University of Houston); Mary Jane Williams (Advocate); Albert Williamson (Spring Independent School District);

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cynthia Fannin (Richmond State Supported Living Center); Naila Ibrahim (Dar-us-Sakina); Eileen Lam (Consumer Advocate); Iris Lewis (Harris County Juvenile Probation Department); Janniece Sleigh (The Arc of Harris County); VACANT (Community Care Services Eligibility – HHSC); VACANT (Down Syndrome Association of Houston); VACANT (Houston Independent School District); VACANT (Region 4 Education Service Center)

#### **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

The Harris Center Staff: Patrina Anthony; Maria Chavarria; Annie Cuba; Randi Garza; Cindy Hernandez; Dr. Trista Huckleberry; Charles Kerlegon; David Long: Amanda Piete; Dana Sobers Ben; Katrina Ware; Amanda Willis

<u>Public Attendees</u>: Mercedes Alejandro; Norine Gill (Imagine Enterprises); Eric Prim (Texas Worksource Solutions); Jacqueline St. Germain (McGovern Medical School, UT Health Science Center)

#### I. Call to Order

The General (In-Person) Meeting of The Harris Center Planning Advisory Council (IDD-PAC) was called to order at 10:02 AM by Mary Jane Williams, Co-Chair, there being a quorum present. An Interpreter was not due to Spanish-speaking guests not being present.

#### II. Approval of Notes

Approval of the minutes taken on October 3, 2023 and brought before the Council.

#### MOTION BY: Ellen Goudeau

SECOND BY: Dr. Deborah Pearson

The minutes from October 3, 2023 were approved as submitted.

#### II. Call for Public Comment

There was no public comment brought forward.

#### III. Council Training

Randi Garza, Program Director, SC: HCS Teams 1, 2, and 6, ID Authority Services, The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD presented on *Consumer Directed Services*.

Due to technical difficulties, Annie Cuba (Program Director of Service Coordination) stepped in to proceed with the presentation, however, Ms. Garza was able to re-join the Zoom meeting to conclude her presentation.

Ms. Garza provided a Q&A following her presentation.

#### IV. <u>Call for Subcommittee Reports</u>

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

Per Judy Blake, the AJJC Conference might be postponed to Spring 2024. The subcommittee is currently under reorganization.

#### B. Public Outreach

Social Engagement Subcommittee - Dory Cayten, Co-Chair

The Candy Cane Ball will be held on December 8, 2023. Ms. Cayten will send the updated flyers to Cindy Hernandez so that she may send to members.

#### IV. Old Business

A. <u>Legislative Updates – Amanda Jones, J.D., Director of Government and Public Affairs</u>
Amanda Jones did not have any updates to report at this time.

#### B. Recommendations

The following proposed recommendations were discussed by the IDD-PAC members:

#### Recommendation #1:

Using The Harris Center's Public Relations/Communications Department, The Harris Center Board of Trustees should create a public awareness campaign to educate the community about the vast array of services provided by the IDD Division for individuals with IDD and Autism. Communication should be provided through various media outlets, both video and print (i.e. newspaper, radio, social media, etc.), and provide a QR code to complete the intake packet.

#### Recommendations #2:

Move Early Childhood Intervention (age 0-3) back under the IDD Division to offer continuity of care for children and youth with IDD or Autism.

#### Recommendation #3:

The Harris Center's IDD Division should initiate partnerships with various law enforcement offices (County, City, Juvenile Probation, etc.) to develop/provide training on the characteristics they may encounter with a person with IDD or Autism.

#### Recommendation #4:

The Harris Center needs to continue to explore additional options for youth and adults with IDD or Autism with cooccurring disorders.

#### Recommendation #5:

The Harris Center's IDD Division should also provide training to the Mental Health Division, as well as explore opportunities to train private mental health institutions in the greater Houston area to expand the capacity of services available for individuals with IDD or autism and co-occurring disorders.

The IDD-PAC members approved the proposed recommendations to be sent to The Harris Center Board of Trustees for their review and approval.

#### VI. New Business

There was no new business brought forward.

VII. <u>Call for Consideration of Communication, Advice and Recommendations from Public and Private Agencies and Organizations</u>

No consideration of communication, advice and recommendations were shared at this time.

VIII. <u>Consideration of Board Requests for Advice Concerning Service Needs and/or Implementation Priorities – Dr. Robin Gearing, Board Liaison, The Harris Center Board of Trustees</u>

Dr. Gearing was not in attendance to provide a report.

- IX. <u>Vice President's Report Dr. Evanthe Collins, Vice President, IDD Service Division/Grants & State Contracts</u>
  Dr. Collins was not in attendance to provide a report; however, Charles Kerlegon briefed the IDD-PAC members on the following:
  - Senate Bill 944
  - Patrina Anthony has assumed her new duties as the Manager for Residential and ISS Services.

#### X. Call for Announcements

The following announcements were made:

- The Center for Pursuit:
  - o Believe Dental will be at The Center for Pursuit on November 11th at 10am noon.
- Family to Family Network:
  - Creating Possbilities Luncheon on November 14<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am 1pm at Junior League of Houston located at 1811 Biar Oaks Lane, Houston, TX 77027.

    Link to register: <a href="https://bit.ly/F2FNLunch2023">https://bit.ly/F2FNLunch2023</a>
- Families CAN:
  - Eric Bacus, Attorney will present on "Ley de Inmigración y su Hijo con Necesidades Especiales" on November 11<sup>th</sup> from 10am – noon. Link to register:

PAGE 3

#### https://uh-edu-cougarnet.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYpde6qqzMuEtwpByLybu4rB 9Q5n3xvqyB

- Tara Rocha, Digital Learning Trainer from Easter Seals Greater Houston will present on "Tick Tock Transition: The Road to Independence with Tech Tools" on December 7<sup>th</sup> from 3pm 4:30pm Link to register:
   <a href="https://uh-edu-cougarnet.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwuceirpz8jE9H-AtGkqC-OaD-AOmEvQCLS">https://uh-edu-cougarnet.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwuceirpz8jE9H-AtGkqC-OaD-AOmEvQCLS</a>
- The Harris Center
  - Blueprint 2.0 presented by The Coffeehouse Program in collaboration with Project H.E.A.L. will be on November 29<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 2pm at 9401 Southwest Freeway.
- XI. <u>Call for Public Questions Pertaining to Agenda Items</u>
  There were no questions pertaining to agenda items.

The IDD-PAC will meet in person on December 12th to celebrate the IDD-PAC's 50th Anniversary.

There being no further business before the Council, Judy Blake, Co-Chair, called for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION BY: Dr. Deborah Pearson SECOND BY: Janice Jackson Judy Blake, Co-Chair, adjourned the meeting at 11:35 AM

PREPARED BY:

Cindy Hernandez, Recording Secretary

IDD Planning Advisory Council

Jahice Jackson, Secretary
IDD Planning Advisory Council

#### THE HARRIS CENTER

### INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PLANNING ADVISORY COUNCIL

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

#### February 6, 2024

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Judy Blake (Advocate); Dory Cayten (Advocate); Charles Davis (Harris County Psychiatric Center); Cynthia Fannin (Richmond State Supported Living Center); Stephanie Haechten for Angel Ponce (Mayor's Office for People w/ Disabilities); Kennitha Jenkins (Consumer Advocate); Eileen Lam (Consumer Advocate); Kassandra Malveaux (Harris Co. Protective Services); Dr. Deborah Pearson (McGovern Medical School, UT Health Science Center – Houston, Dept. Psychiatry); Paola Jimenez Rodriguez (Advocate); Gene Rowe (Advocate); Dr. Bill Schnapp (Community Member); Jennifer Singletary (Region 4 Education Service Center); Janniece Sleigh (The Arc of Harris County); Shelley Townsend (University of Houston); Mary Jane Williams (Advocate); Albert Williamson (Spring Independent School District);

<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>: Tasheara Jennings Gobert (Texas Workforce Solutions – Vocational Rehabilitation Services); Ellen Goudeau (Advocate); Naila Ibrahim (Dar-us-Sakina); Janice Jackson (Humble Independent School District); Kevin Kern (The Center for Pursuit); Iris Lewis (Harris County Juvenile Probation Department); Elworth Lusk (Consumer Advocate); VACANT (Community Care Services Eligibility – HHSC); VACANT (Down Syndrome Association of Houston); VACANT (Houston Independent School District);

#### **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

The Harris Center Staff: Patrina Anthony; Maria Chavarria; Margo Childs; Dr. Evanthe Collins; Annie Cuba; Randi Garza; Cindy Hernandez; Francisco Hernandez; Kenyonika Johnson; Amanda Jones; Charles Kerlegon; David Long: Consuelo Martinez; Latedra Montgomery; Samor Sherrod-Haynes; Dana Sobers Ben; Katrina Ware; Amanda Willis

<u>Public Attendees</u>: Mercedes Alejandro; Camille Boudreaux (The Center for Pursuit); Jeff Furrh (Waller Independent School District); Casaundra Miller (Maximus); Eunice Patron (Family to Family Network); Ana Perez (Pasadena Independent School District); Kelly Pillow (Pasadena Independent School District);

#### I. Call to Order

The General (In-Person) 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 needed due to Spanish-speaking guests not being present.

SECOND BY: Maria Chavarria

#### II. Approval of Notes

Approval of the minutes taken on November 7, 2023 and brought before the Council.

#### MOTION BY: Dory Cayten

The minutes from November 7, 2023 were approved as submitted.

#### II. Call for Public Comment

There was no public comment brought forward.

#### III. Council Training

Amanda Willis, LCSW-S, Practice Manager of IDD Clinical Services, The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD presented on Collaborative IDD Crisis Intervention.

Ms. Willis gave an overview on crisis intervention services for individuals with IDD and highlighted challenges such as limited understanding and resources, complex organizations, and family barriers. She also discussed problem behaviors and their causes, as well as recommendations for caregivers.

Ms. Willis provided a Q&A following her presentation.

#### IV. Call for Subcommittee Reports

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

Per Judy Blake, the AJJC Conference might be postponed to Spring 2024. The subcommittee is currently under reorganization.

#### MINUTES FROM INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PLANNING ADVISORY COUNCIL February 6, 2024

PAGE 2

#### B. Public Outreach

Social Engagement Subcommittee - Dory Cayten, Co-Chair

An update was not provided.

#### IV. **Old Business**

A. Legislative Updates - Amanda Jones, J.D., Director of Government and Public Affairs

Amanda Jones mentioned that Medicaid coverage for mothers after giving birth has been approved starting March1st.

Ms. Jones also mentioned that there are plans underway for an IDD town hall event in May or the fall.

B. Recommendations and Member Applications

PAC recommendations will be presented to the Board later this month.

Membership applications for Mike Roberts (Down Syndrome Association of Houston) and Jennifer Singletary (Region 4) are awaiting board approval.

Membership applications for Mercedes Alejandro was put to a vote by members present at the meeting, which resulted in unanimous support.

VI. **New Business** 

There was no new business brought forward.

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

No consideration of communication, advice and recommendations were shared at this time.

VIII. Consideration of Board Requests for Advice Concerning Service Needs and/or Implementation Priorities - Dr. Robin Gearing, Board Liaison, The Harris Center Board of Trustees Dr. Gearing was not in attendance to provide a report.

IX. Vice President's Report - Dr. Evanthe Collins, Vice President, IDD Service Division/Grants & State Contracts Dr. Collins provided updates on HCS slots allocation and attrition slots redistribution statewide as well as within Harris County specifically.

Legislators allocated a total of 1,144 HCS slots (statewide) and 305 TxHmL slots (statewide); however, It was noted that HHSC will release a total of 1,728 HCS names statewide along with 3,720 TxHmL names. Harris County will receive a total of 833 TxHmL names and 266 HCS names.

Dr. Collins informed members of an upcoming ribbon-cutting ceremony for a newly built sensory waiting room a the STARS Clinic within The Harris Center which will feature various activities aimed at improving balance/movement/spatial orientation while reducing anxiety/stress levels among individuals.

Dr. Collins shared details about two upcoming opportunities:

1. Project "We R.I.S.E." (Response Intervention Services and Engagement) involving expansion of capacity through ARPA grant funding (to add staff positions/revise policies) and implementation of dedicated IDD resource line plus ECI-type services; another initiative focused on increasing access to ABA therapy services across Harris County.

The program, aimed at children aged three to eight with autism, will provide ABA services through BCBA behavior analysts. The program has received funding from Harris County and will serve about 100 families over two years. It includes a service coordination component for ongoing advocacy and planning.

2. The Inspire program offers grants of up to \$6,000 for Harris County residents age zero through six, along with service coordination and follow-up support as the child ages out of the program. Both programs have been approved and are expected to be implemented in April.

Dr. Collins added that there are additional grants that are being pursued to expand IDD clinical services in other areas of the agency.

Χ.	Call for Announcements

The following announcements were made:

- Humble ISD:
  - o Humble ISD Parent Resource and Transition Fair
    - Atascocita High School, 13300 Will Clayton Pkwy., Humble, TX 77346
    - February 17<sup>th</sup> form 9:00am 1:00pm
- Family to Family Network:
  - A series of learning session for parents will be provided during the months of February through April.
    - Topic 1: Understanding Your Child's IEP Let's Discuss What It Means!
      - Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> 12:00pm OR 6:00pm
      - Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> 6:00pm (Spanish)
    - Topic 2: Special Education What You Need To Know!
      - Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> 12:00pm OR 6:00pm
      - Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm (Spanish)
    - Topic 3: Top Tips for a Successful ARD/IEP Meeting!
      - Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 12:00pm OR 6:00pm
      - Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> 6:00pm (Spanish)
    - Topic 4: Medicaid, CHIP or the Medicaid Buy-In Program What Should You Apply For?
      - Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> 12:00pm
      - Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm

Link to register: <a href="https://f2fn.org/iep-training/">https://f2fn.org/iep-training/</a>

- Families CAN:
  - Gayle Fisher, M.Ed., Founder of Getting Sorted will present on "Pulling Back the Layers" on Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, from 10am – noon. The workshop will be in English and Spanish. Link to register:

https://uh-edu-cougarnet.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEkdeqtqzkrHdMJ8LUPZ-fHVsjRofBSjqpz

Gayle Fisher, M.Ed., Founder of Getting Sorted will present on "Pulling Back the Layers" on Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, from 10am – 11:30am.
 Link to register:
 <a href="https://uh-edu-cougarnet.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAkfu6tpz0pGNa0sk2N5tPht89-Pn1x8KRO">https://uh-edu-cougarnet.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAkfu6tpz0pGNa0sk2N5tPht89-Pn1x8KRO</a>

Kennitha Jenkins announced her upcoming birthday on February 18th. Members wished her a Happy Birthday.

XI.	Call for Public Questions Pertaining to Agenda Items
	There were no questions pertaining to agenda items

The IDD-PAC will meet in person on March 5th at 9401 Southwest Freeway in Conference Room 104.

There being no further business before the Council, Mary Jane Williams, Co-Chair, called for a motion to adjourn.

Mary Jane Williams, Co-Chair, adjourned the meeting at 11:27AM

Dr. Deborah Pearson

APPROVED ON THIS THE \_\_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_ MAKAN 200

PREPARED BY:

MOTION BY:

Cindy Hernandez, Recording Secretary IDD Planning Advisory Council

Janice Jackson, Secretary
IDD Planning Advisory Council

SECOND BY: Kennitha Jenkins