

Here's What's Happening...

TEXAS PANHANDLE CENTERS

901 WALLACE BLVD. AMARILLO, TEXAS www.texaspanhandlecenters.org

August 2017, Volume XIV, Issue 8

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and Wheeler counties

NWTH HUGH A. PENNAL LECTURE

The 2017 Hugh Pennal Lecture will feature Kevin Hines—Survivor and Advocate - Out of the thousands of people who have jumped off the Golden Gate Bridge, he's part of the less than 1% who survived the mostly deadly jump. He survived, and in the 16 years since his nearly fatal try, Kevin has become the bridge between the many mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, children, spouses, friends, and loved ones who made a similar act. Each doing what they did to put an end to unimaginable suffering—and those left behind, wondering why. What could we have done to help?

Hines, in sharing his story, is fostering a critical bridge of hope between life and death for people caught in the pain of living with serious mental illness, difficult life circumstances, and more.

October 6, 2017 • 11:30 am - 2:00 pm Civic Center Grand Plaza

RSVP to: 806.351.4622

In observance of Labor Day,
Texas Panhandle Centers will
be closed on Monday,
September 4th.

Have a restful Labor Day Weekend.





The Home and Community-based Services Program

Elvire Sanders-Blakemore, Developmental Health Director

The Home and Community-based Services (HCS) is a state funded Medicaid waiver program that provides individual-

ized services and supports to persons with intellectual disabilities who are living with their family, in their own home, or in group homes. Services include:



- Adaptive aids
- Minor home modifications
- Counseling and therapies (includes audiology; speech/language pathology, occupational or physical therapy; dietary services; social work; and psychology)
- Dental treatment
- Nursing
- Residential assistance
- Supported home living
- Host Home/companion care
- Supervised living
- Residential support
- Respite
- Day habilitation

The HCS Administration department consists of the Director, Tanya Fenwick; two HCS case workers, Terri Andersen and Marie Farbro, who share a caseload of 155 HCS clients. The case workers assist individuals with their day to day needs; help with any adaptive aids; dental services; and emergency response systems, as they are needed. They are also responsible for ensuring continued eligibility for the individuals in the HCS program. Laura Ratheal, another caseworker, provides the monitoring and oversight for our thirty-three host homes, which are located throughout the Panhandle. Host Home (formerly known as Foster Care) services are provided to both minors and adults and are

monitored to ensure each home provides a safe and healthy environment for the individuals who live there. Brittany Padgett and

Yolanda King are responsible for ensuring our respite program is available to provide a safe, clean, and homelike environment for those we serve.

Respite ser-

vices are provided for caregiver relief to allow our families the opportunity to have some time away and temporary relief from their loved ones. Our Consumer Benefits Coordinator, Cindy Pulse, ensures that each individual remains Medicaid eligible and assists them with dealing with Medicaid and Social Security issues.

Crystal Farmer and Tami Savage, also in our HCS Admin department, assist individuals in managing their funds; paying their bills; and ensuring their benefits are utilized according to Social Security regulations through a trust fund program. Trust funds are also utilized to assist an individual who may have had their funds exploited by someone in the community.

Nick Montoya, Alternate Living Director, and his group home leaders, Michael Ray, Janie Cobb, Jeromy Thornton, Janice Alexander, Rhonda Stacey, Betty Gonzales, and Susie Young are responsible for the care and well-being of forty-four consumers that are living in our eleven HCS group homes. It is also their responsibility to provide clean, safe, and nurturing homes to the people we serve. At this time, all of our group homes are currently filled.



Welcome back to Compliance Corner. Each month we will address a question that was received internally for the purpose of education. (All personal identifying information has been removed to protect the identity of the employee and client)

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING.....

Employees are the "eyes and ears" of the organization to detect any violation of our Compliance Program. You are required to immediately report anything that you encounter at TPC which you believe may be unethical, illegal, or fraudulent to:

Your supervisor or,

Donald Newsome, Director, Quality Management & Compliance, (Privacy Officer)

Phone: (806) 351-3284

Email: donald.newsome@txpan.org

This phone line has a **confidential** voicemail for reporting possible compliance issues.

Here is the compliance question of the month:

Question: Since Spanish and English are the most common languages spoken in our area, are we required to have information in any other languages available at my clinic?

To be in compliance with Section 1557 (non-discrimination provision) of the Answer: Affordable Care Act (ACA) which applies to health programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance, TPC must post taglines in at least the top 15 languages spoken by individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) in the state of Texas.

All TPC locations at which intake services are provided as well as the administrative offices should have taglines (statements in the reader's language which provide information on how to access interpretation services) posted or available to individuals who do not speak English or are limited in their ability to do so.

If you work at a clinic that does not have taglines available, please contact Gaynelle Williams, Coordinator of Compliance & Planning, at (806) 351-3207 or Donald Newsome, Director, Quality Management & Compliance, at (806) 351-3284.

If you have a question/scenario that you would like to be considered for inclusion in the newsletter, email the information to Compliance.Corner@txpan.org.



Texas Department of Transportation

More than a million children and teens depend on buses to get them safely to and from the more than 9,000 Texas schools every day. They also depend on motorists to know the law and drive safely around school buses.

Texas School Bus Law



- Stop for flashing red lights on a school bus, regardless of which direction you're headed.
- Continue your trip once the bus has moved, the flashing lights stop flashing or the bus driver signals it's okay to pass.
 - Violations can lead to a \$1,000 fine.

Safety Tips for Motorists

- Obey the posted speed limit.
- Fines double in school zones.
- Keep an eye on children gathered at bus stops.
- Watch for children who might dart across the street to catch the bus.

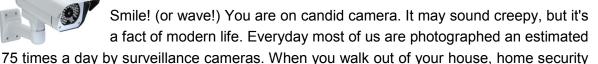
Tips for Students

Respect your school bus driver and follow these rules:



- Stand far back when you are waiting for the bus.
- Sit still so the driver can pay attention to the road.
- Look both ways if you have to cross the street after getting off the bus, or wait for the driver to signal it's safe to cross the street.

International Wave at Surveillance Day



cameras are likely watching you. When you stop for gas or when you go get coffee, enter the lobby at a local business, take an elevator or when you go to the bank, pharmacy, restaurant, or convenience store. With 210 million surveillance cameras worldwide, why not say hello? August 16th is International Wave at Surveillance Day. Wave at the Surveillance Day was created several years ago to help us take a step back and have a little fun.

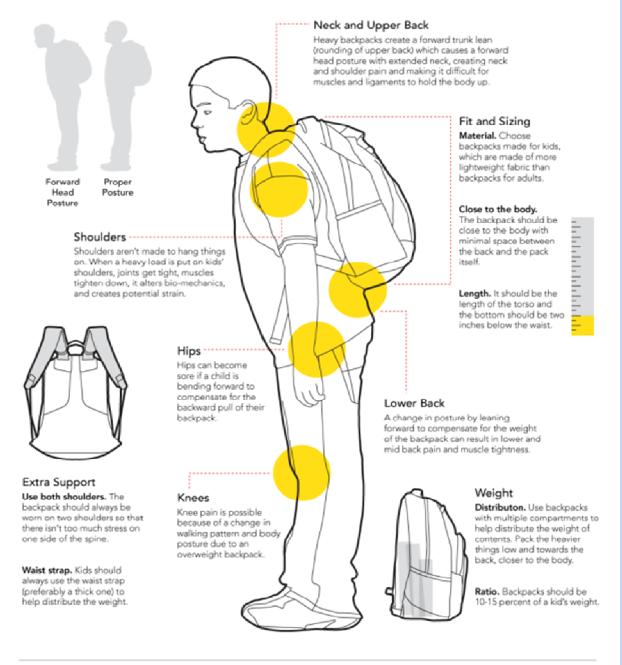


Keeping Little Backs Healthy: Smart Backpacking

Submitted by Desire Winslow, Quality Management

What Heavy Backpacks Are Doing To Kids' Bodies

About 5,000 children visit emergency rooms each year because of backpack-related injuries, and at least 14,000 kids are treated for them. While not every kid will go to the hospital because of heavy backpacks, overweight loads can cause neck, back and shoulder pain and more. Below, see what is so dangerous about kids carrying heavy backpacks — and what parents can do about it.



Sources: Dr. Rob Danoff, an osteopathic family physician, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, Elise G. Hewitt, Board Certified Pediatric Chiropractor

THE HUFFINGTON POST

Welcome these New Employees ...

Ricardo Ballin Accounts Payable

Jacqueline Cullum Adult Behavioral Health

Gary Fox P/T Behavioral Health

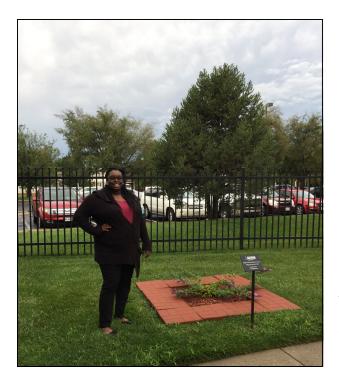
Nona Rivas 1115 Waiver

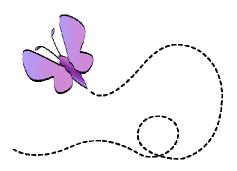
Vanessa Santos Children's Behavioral Health

Gary Scheller Jr. Maintenance
Jessica Arce IDD Intake

Karla Villalovos Specialized Services







Shawntel'e Gormany, Service Coordinator, Children's Services, stands next to the blooming butterfly bush that was planted in the courtyard between the Taylor and Polk Street Clinics. Several bushes were planted at various locations in recognition of Children's Mental Health Awareness in May.

Rhonda Stacey, Alternate Living, answered last month's questions correctly and was randomly selected to win a \$25 gift card from Amarillo National Bank.

To claim your card, contact Joyce Lopez-Enevoldsen at 806.351.3308 or email: joyce.lopez@txpan.org.

White Hat Award

The IDD Service Coordination Department would like to give this month's White Award to **Janice Stoner**, **Director at ASCI**. Janice is doing such a great job with the clients. She is knowledgeable about all the clients that attend ASCI. Janice has a positive attitude and is always patient and available for anyone who needs help. Janice goes above and beyond her job duties and from all of us in the IDD Service Coordination Department, we thank you and appreciate all that you do.

Breanna Deakin for IDD Service Coordination Department

Answer's to last months questions:

1) Military Veteran Peer Network 2) 6 3) Heat Stroke

Answer the questions correctly and your name will be entered in a random drawing to be eligible to win a \$25 gift card.

I. ______ is services and supports to persons with intellectual disabilities who are living with their family, in their own home, or in group homes.

2. As a TPC employee, you are required to immediately _____ anything that you encounter at TPC which you believe may be unethical, illegal, or fraudulent.

3. Approximately 5,000 children visit the emergency room each year due to _____ related injuries.

Submit your answers to joyce.lopez@txpan.org. Deadline for responses is the 5th of the following month. You must type "Monthly Drawing" in the email subject line to be eligible. For those that do not have a computer, entries may be submitted via interoffice mail. The same requirements apply for hard copy submissions.

Articles or suggestions for this publication may be submitted by the 1st of each month to:

Joyce Lopez-Enevoldsen ● 901 Wallace Blvd., ● Amarillo, Texas 79106 Phone: (806) 351-3308 Fax: (806) 351-3345 Email: joyce.lopez@txpan.org

STAMPING OUT









STIGMA

WALK for MENTAL HEALTH 2017

"There is no health without mental health,"

October 7, 2017 3 pm - 5 pm Memorial Park

Register, sponsor, and donate at: www.walkformentalhealth.gdk.mx

This Walk is held to raise mental health awareness, reduce stigma, and to support the FREE support groups and classes held by NAMI Texas Panhandle (National Alliance on Mental Illness) and the Amarillo Area Mental Health Consumers / Agape Center.

Call 806-676-3540 for more information.