Texas Panhandle CENTERS
Behavioral & Developmental Health
Making Lives Better

# Here's What's Happening

www.texaspanhandlecenters.org

November 2026, Volume XXII, Issue 11

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## Texas Panhandle Centers is excited to participate in the 2026 Panhandle Gives Fundraising Campaign!

### What is The Panhandle Gives?

The Panhandle Gives is a nine-day charitable giving campaign hosted by the Amarillo Area Foundation. Beginning the Monday before Thanksgiving and continuing through Giving Tuesday. The campaign brings people across the Texas Panhandle together to support nonprofit organizations making a difference in our communities.

Since its beginning, The Panhandle Gives has grown into one of the region's most powerful celebrations of generosity. In 2025 alone, participating organizations raised approximately $10 million to support their missions and strengthen communities throughout the Texas Panhandle.

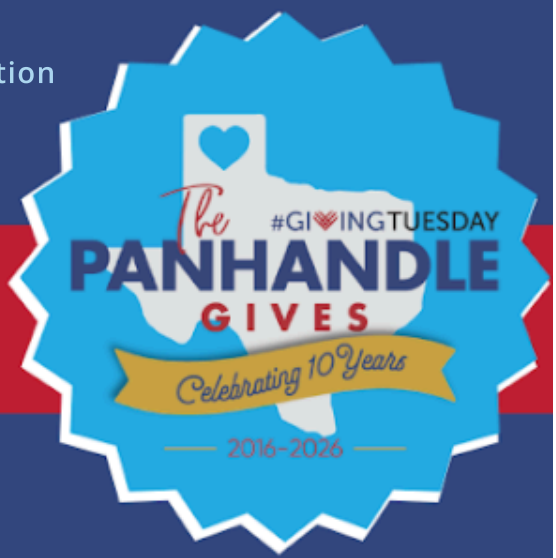
Help us by sharing your story with someone outside of TPC. Let them know who we are, what we do and why our work is so important.

We will be highlighting 3 programs at TPC:

- Mental Health First Aid
- Respite Services
- IDD Individualized Skills & Socialization (ISS) Day Program

Help us spread the word!

**November 23, 2026 - December 1, 2026**



# Behavioral Health Crisis Respite

**Andrew McKinstry, CCBHC Clinical Access Manager**



Texas Panhandle Centers' Behavioral Health Crisis Respite is a 24/7 program that serves adults ages 18+ across the upper 21 counties of the Texas Panhandle. This program is designed as a vital community-based alternative to both inpatient hospitalization and incarceration. It addresses treatment gaps by providing short-term, intensive care for individuals in crisis and helps ensure continuity of care during treatment transitions. Respite offers both step-down support for individuals transitioning from inpatient care and step-up services for those requiring more intensive treatment to prevent future crises.

When a person is admitted to Respite, their treatment team engages with them immediately to provide person-centered and trauma-informed services. We collaboratively identify the specific needs of the individual and connect them to the appropriate treatment options and community resources they need. We also work with the individual to create a sustainable discharge plan for them to return to the community of their choice. This approach not only stabilizes the immediate crisis but also sets a foundation for sustainable recovery.

Certified Peer Specialists offer daily peer support programming at Respite, including both group and individual peer support services. Peer Support helps people build hope, strengthen their coping skills, and connect with recovery focused resources. Transportation is provided to peer support groups held at the Killgore location.

Our RESET Diversion Center and the Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT) work closely with Respite. When individuals are brought for Diversion, Respite can be used as a next step in stabilization, providing a safe and therapeutic environment where they can begin engaging in the recovery process. Using TPC's Behavioral Health Crisis Respite helps reduce the strain on local law enforcement, hospitals, and emergency services while promoting recovery.

For an individual needing a Crisis Respite assessment, please call our 24/7 crisis line at: (806) 359-6699 or 988.

*Featured in The Panhandle Gives campaign.*

# WHITE HAT AWARD



The IDD Service Coordination Department would like to present this month's White Hat Award to **Sharon Sturgeon, Program Specialist.**

Sharon has been very gracious during the transition to SmartCare as we are still learning the ins and outs of the program. She has been helpful in assisting with notes, answering endless questions, creating reports and much, much more with the best attitude.

Raul Aguilar, for IDD Service Coordination

## Welcome these New Employees

| | |
|---|---|
| Juvia Montoya | Children's BH Service Coordination |
| Mark Branum | Purchasing & Materials Management |
| Cassandra Davila | IDD Servic Coordination |





## Employee Recognition

At the October 29th Board of Trustees meeting, Larry Adams, Chair, along with the rest of the Board and Executive Management Team, recognized Stacy Sandorskey, Director of Children's, FAYS and Disaster Services, for 30 years tenure. She was awarded a crystal award, gift card and a day off.

*Congratulations!*

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
joyce.lopez@txpan.org

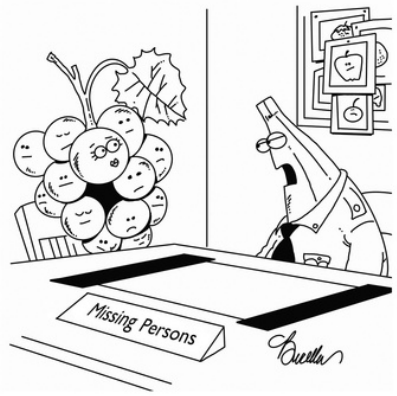
# Answer Correctly

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

1. TPC's BH Crisis Respite serves as an alternative to both _____ and _____.
2. The Panhandle Gives Campaign runs from _____.
3. TPC's Family Peer Specialist is _____.

*Submit your answers to joyce.lopez@txpan.org. Deadline for responses is the 5th of the following month. You must include "Monthly Drawing" in the email subject line to be eligible. Hard copy submissions accepted. The same requirements apply. Please remember to include your name.*

**Answers to last months questions:**
**1) 13-17 2) 2 business days 3) October 30th from 10 -1**




"Are you sure he just didn't fall off and roll under the stove?"

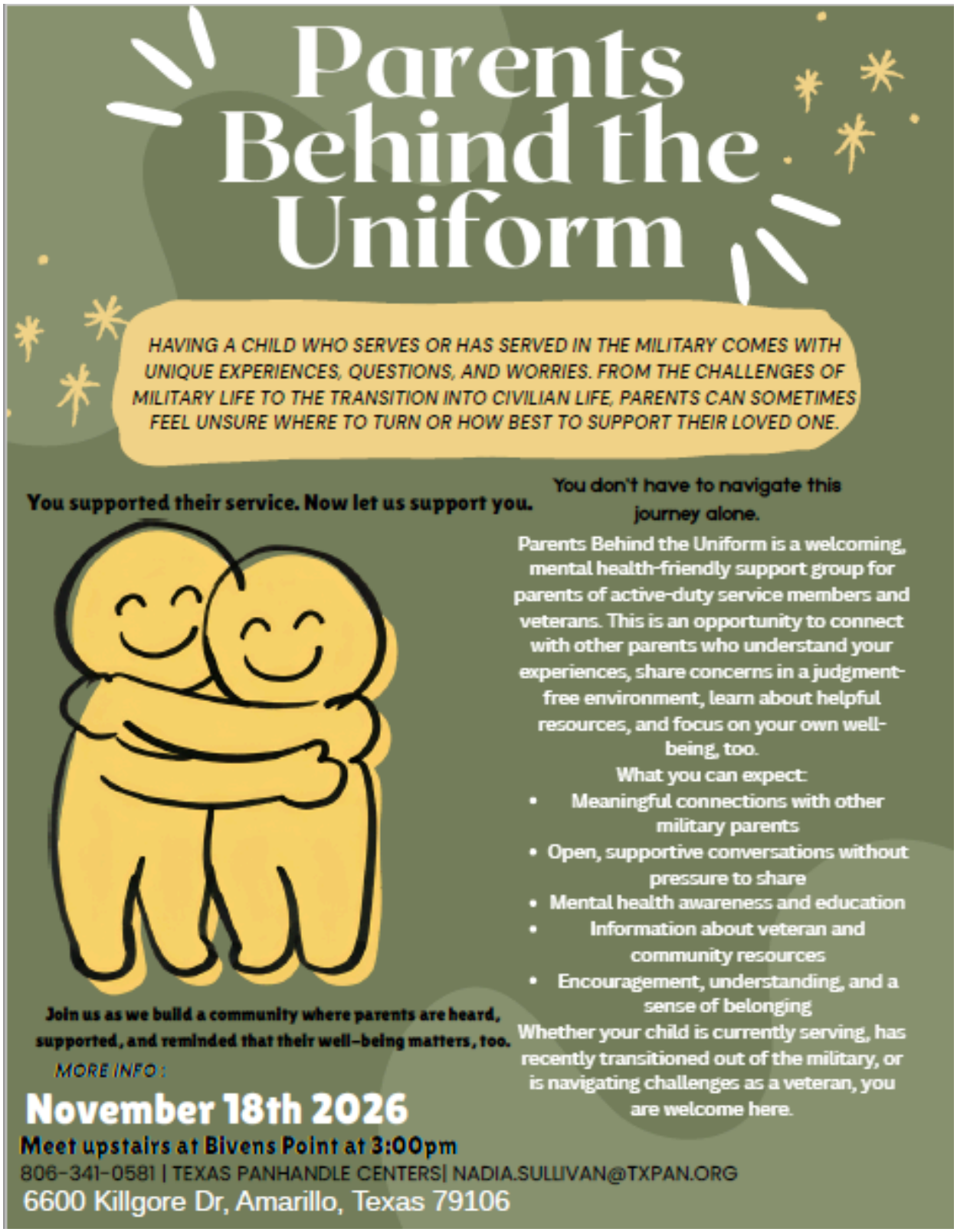



"Pay attention as the menu has changed..."

## In observance of Thanksgiving, TPC Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th.
## Wishing everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

# Attention Parents of Those Who Have Served!

Are you the parent of a child who has served in the military?
Join us on November 18th and let us support you.



# COMPLIANCE CORNER

Welcome back to the 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/or 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 that you believe may be unethical, illegal, or fraudulent to:

- Your supervisor or
- Brittany Villarreal, Director of Quality Management and Compliance/Rights Protection Officer
  Phone: (806) 349-5647
  Email: brittany.villarreal@txpan.org

## Personal Devices and Protected Health Information

If you receive client information from another employee or another outside provider to your personal device, please alert your supervisor immediately! We understand that not all staff may have an agency phone to conduct business, however, no protected health information should be exchanged over personal devices for any reason. The best practice to share information is over the phone or through office email where the subject line contains the word "client" for encryption.

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.



# Family Peer Specialist

**(Formerly Certified Family Partner)**

Hello Family Peer Specialist Team (Formerly CFPs),

Congratulations on meeting the expected performance measure for the second half of the year! Texas Panhandle's score was 72.7%, meeting or exceeding the expected score of 56.2%.

This is a great accomplishment and reflects your team's continued efforts and commitment to providing quality services to the individuals and families you support. Thank you for the work you do and for your dedication to making a positive difference in your community.

As we move forward, I encourage you to continue building on this success and sharing strategies that are working well for your team.

Carole Blackmon, MS, CFP, QMHP, Peer Support Family Coordinator
Texas Health & Human Services






Misty Brown
Family Peer Specialist

**Samantha Zamora, Human Resources,** answered last month's questions correctly and was randomly selected to win a $25 gift card.



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

# Scenes from this year's Employee Health Fair

Many thanks to all the staff that worked so hard to make Employee Health Fair come together but especially Steve Garcia and the TICTOC Wellness Committee, the vendors and Jon Jon's Smoke Shack BBQ.
















Cake Walk





On January 1, 2026, TPC's Employment Assistance Program (EAP) changed from Magellan to ComPsych. ComPsych provides a robust list of benefits including: Counseling, Coaching, Work-life Service (legal and financial), Computerized Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT). Please reach out to Human Resources with any questions.

ComPsych | GuidanceResources®

Principal®

# Life is challenging. We can *help*.

## We're your GuidanceResources® program.

Talk to us for the tools you need to handle any of life's challenges, big or small.



### Our Services:

**Confidential Counseling**
- Anxiety, depression, stress
- Grief, loss, life adjustments
- Relationship/marital conflicts

**Work and Lifestyle Support**
- Child, elder, and pet care
- Moving and relocation
- Shelters, government assistance

**Legal Guidance**
- Divorce, adoption, family law
- Wills, trusts, estate planning
- Free consultation and discounted local representation

**Financial Resources**
- Financial planning, retirement, taxes
- Relocation, mortgages, insurance
- Budgeting, debt, bankruptcy

**Digital Tools and Support**
- Immediate connection to counseling, work-life support, and more
- Personalized guided behavioral health and well-being programs
- Interactive articles, videos, on-demand trainings, digital self-care tools
- Accessible resources for anxiety, stress, mindfulness, sleep, and more

**Well-Being Support**
- One-on-one Well-Being Coaching for positive lifestyle changes
- Improve mindfulness, nutrition, sleep, exercise habits
- Support for smoking cessation, weight management, and more

Explore your program: Scan for video tour!

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# Out and About

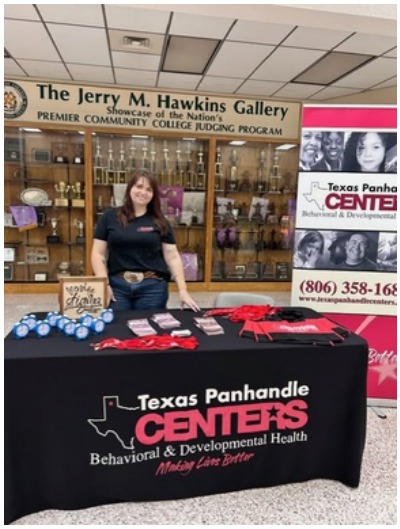
TPC sponsored and participated in several events during the past month.

TPC participated in Ochiltree General Hospital's Health Fair in Perryton on October 13th. TPC's Vanessa Gonzales stayed busy providing resource materials and answering questions. The event hosted over 450 participants.






Bri , Sandra, Mags and April represented TPC at the Future Women in Criminal Justice Conference on October 17th at Amarillo College's First Responder Academy.




Kaysea Christopher represented TPC at the Donley County Health Fair on October 22nd at the Bairfield Activity Center at Clarendon College.




Amanda and Adorah participated in the 14th Annual Walk for Mental Health. The weather was perfect and the event was well attended.







Boo at the Zoo Trunk or Treat was a successful event. A large number individuals and familes learned about TPC and the services offered within the communtity.