



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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To: Executive Directors
Mental Health Directors
Local Mental Health Authorities (LMHAs)
ValueOptions
NorthSTAR Providers

From: Tom Best, Section Director 
Contractor Services Section
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Division (MHSA)

Re: Online Training Materials for MHSA Uniform Assessments for State Fiscal Year
2014/Announcement of CMBHS 45 Day Countdown Plan

Training Materials

This broadcast message serves as a reminder that LMHAs and NorthSTAR providers administering mental health assessments must use the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment (CANS) and the Adult Needs and Strengths Assessment (ANSA) tools beginning September 1, 2013. Clinicians must complete training and be certified prior to using the new assessment tools. Training may also be made available by LMHAs and NorthSTAR providers to other personnel. Recertification must be completed annually.

As previously communicated, DSHS is providing a **web-based, self-paced training program**, developed by the Praed Foundation (developer of the CANS and ANSA), that supports certification requirements. No physical travel is required when using the web-based program to meet training and certification requirements.

LMHA Directors of Child and Adult Mental Health Services listed on Form S as reported to DSHS were emailed detailed information for their LMHA, including the training website and a set of unique, pre-paid, registration codes for use by the LMHA. Each code may be used to register a single user for year-long access to the training site. If necessary, additional training seats may be purchased by the LMHA through the training website. Each LMHA will have access to training reports, allowing it to access information about staff trained, certificate expiration information, and other data. Any individual for whom a separate training purchase is made will be included in organization-level reporting when they are associated with an organization.

NorthSTAR providers should contact ValueOptions for information about accessing CANS and ANSA training and receiving unique registration codes for their use.

Questions regarding CANS and ANSA training should be directed to Tegan Henke, DSHS, Tegan.Henke@dshs.state.tx.us.

45 Day Countdown Plan Announcement

DSHS will be releasing a 45 Day Countdown Plan in early July 2013 to LMHAs, ValueOptions, and NorthSTAR Specialty Provider Networks to assist in their transition to CMBHS. The plan will be posted to the CMBHS documentation website, <https://cmbhslst.dshs.state.tx.us/cmbhs/Documents/>.