



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

JOHN HELLERSTEDT, M.D.
COMMISSIONER

P.O. Box 149347
Austin, Texas 78714-93471-888-963-7111
TTY: 1-800-735-2989
www.dshs.state.tx.us
Broadcast MSG 225

February 1, 2016

To: Local Mental Health Authorities (LMHAs)
Executive Directors
Children's Mental Health Directors
Behavioral Health Directors
North Texas Behavioral Health Authority (NTBHA)

From: Trina Ita, Director 
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division, Program Services Section II

Re: ~~Change to Youth Empowerment Services (YES) Waiver Policy Manual~~

Purpose:

YES Waiver policy has been changed to allow specialized therapists to bill for their participation in YES Child and Family Team meetings.

Of Note:

Specialized therapists, such as Animal-Assisted, Art, Music, and Recreational therapists, as well as Nutritional Counselors may now bill for their consultation at Child and Family Team meetings.

New Billing Guidelines

- A therapist who attends a Child and Family Team meeting in person may bill for up to one hour of consultation for each Child and Family Team meeting attended.
- A therapist who would have to travel 50 miles or more to attend a meeting in person may call in to participate, and bill for up to one hour of consultation for each Child and Family Team meeting attended.
- A therapist who would have to travel 49 miles or less to attend a meeting in person may call in to participate, but may only bill for one 15-minute unit of consultation for each Child and Family Team meeting attended.

Contact

For questions or further information regarding the YES Waiver policy manual, please contact Erin Oehler at erin.oehler@dshs.state.tx.us or (512) 838-4363.

For questions regarding the YES Waiver, please contact Jennifer Martinez at JenniferM.Martinez@dshs.state.tx.us or (512) 838-4358.