



**The Establishment and Maintenance of a
Public Reporting System of Mental
Health and Substance Abuse
Performance and Outcome Measures**

**As Required By
S.B. 126, 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013**



**Department of State Health Services
January 2015**

- This page is intentionally left blank -

Table of Contents

Executive Summary1

Introduction.....2

Background2

Public Reporting System2

Conclusion3

- This page is intentionally left blank -

Executive Summary

[S.B. 126, 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013](#) requires the Department of State Health Services (DSHS), in collaboration with the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), to establish and maintain a public reporting system of performance and outcome measures relating to mental health and substance abuse services established by the Legislative Budget Board, DSHS, and HHSC. Identical language related to a performance and outcome measure reporting was included in Section 3, S.B. 58, 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013.

DSHS in collaboration with interested stakeholders determined the measures used to monitor contract compliance would meet the intent of the legislation and that the reporting would be done semiannually. DSHS has begun the process of formatting and posting the measures on the DSHS website for community mental health programs, substance abuse programs, and NorthSTAR. Currently, the contract performance measures for community mental health and substance abuse services are posted for all of fiscal year 2014 and the NorthSTAR measures are posted for the first half of fiscal year 2014. HHSC mental health and substance abuse Medicaid managed care measures are also posted. DSHS continues to work with interested users to improve the reporting system.

Introduction

S.B. 126, 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013 requires the establishment of a reporting system with specific requirements. The system must allow external users to view and compare the performance, outputs, and outcomes of: community centers established under Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 534, Subchapter A, that provide mental health services; Medicaid managed care pilot programs that provide mental health services; and agencies, organizations, and persons that contract with the state to provide substance abuse services.

DSHS must post the performance, output, and outcome measures on the DSHS' website so that the information is accessible to the public. The legislation requires DSHS to consider public input in determining the appropriate outcome measures to collect in the public reporting system. To the extent possible, DSHS must include outcome measures that capture inpatient psychiatric care diversion, avoidance of emergency room use, criminal justice diversion, and the numbers of people served who are homeless.

S.B. 126 required the reporting system to be established by December 2013. DSHS is required to submit a report to the Legislature and the Legislative Budget Board on the development of the public reporting system.

Background

DSHS has traditionally required performance measures to ensure that contracted entities are meeting contractual and performance expectations. S.B. 126 directs DSHS to make those measures available to the public in an accessible format. Identical language related to performance and outcome measure reporting was included in Section 3, S.B. 58, 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013.

Public Reporting System

Following the enactment of the legislation, DSHS met with the Committee for Advising and Planning for the Prevention and Treatment of Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders and the Association of Substance Abuse Programs to determine the appropriate measures to collect in the public reporting system. Per statutory requirements, the reporting system was established by December 2013. DSHS created a webpage to provide information on performance and outcome measures to the public (<https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhsa/prs/>). As of December 2014, the reporting system contains contract measures for DSHS community mental health and substance abuse programs for all of fiscal year 2014 and NorthSTAR contract measures for the first half of fiscal year 2014. The reporting system also contains measures for HHSC mental health and substance abuse Medicaid Managed Care. All DSHS reported measures are scheduled to be updated semiannually.

Conclusion

DSHS established a public reporting system for mental health and substance abuse performance measures. The reporting website contains data from fiscal year 2014. The website is designed to accommodate future additions and improvements in response to user input.