

Legislative/Funding Updates Related to 2023-2025 Williamson County CHIP Goals

Legislation	Description	CHIP Goal / Strategy	Status
<u>House Bill 2059</u> (Price, Zaffirini)	Expands current statute related to MHFA to make trainings available at no cost to school district employees or contractors; employees or contractors of an institution of higher education, an open-enrollment charter school, or a private school; employees and contractors of an institution of higher education, an open-enrollment charter school, or a private school; employees and contractors of a child-care facility; youth; individuals with direct and continuous contact with students; first responders; active military service members, veterans, or immediate family members of active military service members or veterans; or judges and attorneys, as applicable based on the practice of law of the judge or attorney.	<p>Goal BHTF 3: Williamson County will continue to work to reduce the stigma of seeking behavioral health services by increasing public awareness that mental healthcare is an important part of overall healthcare and wellness.</p> <p>Strategy BHTF 4.1.2: Increase efforts to train Williamson County residents on Mental Health First Aid/Suicide Prevention Training, including local businesses, schools, churches and parents.</p>	BTCS has been able to expand Mental Health First Aid Training at no cost to additional persons as a result of this legislation.
<u>Senate Bill 26</u> (Kohlhorst, Jetton)	<p>Through an amendment to Chapter 531 of the Texas Government Code, this bill created a matching grant program for mental health early intervention and treatment, called the <i>Supporting Mental Health and Resiliency in Texans Innovation Grant Program</i>, with \$30M in available funding for the 14-month project period.</p> <p>This bill also added requirements for discharge planning for individuals transitioning out of state hospitals.</p>	<p>Goal BHTF 1: Williamson County will advocate with representatives in the Texas legislature to increase and sustain funding for behavioral health services that support a robust continuum of care.</p> <p>Goal MHWB 1: Williamson County residents have access to high quality, equitable, affordable, and timely mental healthcare.</p>	BTCS will submit a grant application by February 8, 2024 requesting dollars to sustain the Youth Therapeutic Respite Program in Round Rock.

<p>Senate Bill 30 (Huffman, Bonnen)</p>	<p>This bill established a Construction Grant Program for Mental Health Facilities. HHSC has released a pre-solicitation notice for applications from county-based community collaborations interested in constructing mental health facilities to support and assist local needs. Eligible projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jail Diversion Facilities • Step Down Facilities • Permanent Supportive Housing • Crisis Stabilization Units • Crisis Respite Units <p>The anticipated total amount of state funding available is \$100M.</p>	<p>Goal BHTF 1 and Goal CYBHTF 5: Lack of accessible residential treatment options is a significant gap in the county.</p>	<p>BTCS will submit an application once this opportunity is officially posted, to include a request to build a Crisis Stabilization Unit for youth in Round Rock.</p>
<p>Rider 48 under the 2024-25 Texas General Appropriations Act – Expands funding for the Mental Health Grant for Justice-Involved Individuals (MHGJII)</p>	<p>\$15M was added to the MHGJII Program for the 2024-2025 biennium. LMHA/LBHAs were invited to competitively apply for the new funds. This grant was originally authorized through Senate Bill 292 (85th Legislature).</p>	<p>Goal BHTF 1 and Goal MHWB 1: Williamson County residents have access to high quality, equitable, affordable, and timely mental healthcare.</p>	<p>BTCS submitted a grant application on January 5, 2024 requesting dollars to sustain the Williamson County Diversion Center.</p>
<p>Rider 48 under the 2024-25 Texas General Appropriations Act – Expands funding for the Community Mental Health Grant (CMHG) Program</p>	<p>Original projects funded through the CMHG Program, authorized by House Bill 13 (85th Legislature), end on August 31, 2024. LMHAs/LBHAs and other Governmental Entities/Non-Profits are invited to competitively apply for up to \$27.5M per state fiscal year through new grant applications.</p>	<p>Goal BHTF 1 and Goal MHWB 1: Williamson County residents have access to high quality, equitable, affordable, and timely mental healthcare.</p>	<p>BTCS will submit a grant application by the February 23rd due date for the following initiatives in Williamson County:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustain Diversion Center • Sustain Youth Therapeutic Respite Program • Sustain Withdrawal Management Program • Sustain 911 MH Project • Sustain community-based and justice-based Care Coordination • Sustain Medication Assisted Treatment • Sustain Housing Flex Funds also supporting Williamson County Homelessness Prevention efforts

<p>Rider 52 under the 2024-25 Texas General Appropriations Act – Creates funding for Crisis Facilities and Community-Based Programs</p>	<p>LMHAs/LBHAs were invited to competitively apply for 90.2M for the 2024-2025 biennium in new funds made available through Rider 52.</p>	<p>Goal BHTF 1 and Goal CYBHTF 5: Lack of accessible residential treatment options is a significant gap in the county.</p> <p>Objective MHWB 2.1: By 2025, Reduce the Substantiated Child Abuse Rate in Williamson County from 4.7 case/1,000 children to 2 cases/1,000 children.</p>	<p>BTCS submitted a grant application in August 2023 requesting funds to develop a Crisis Residential Unit for youth in Round Rock. This was not awarded.</p> <p>BTCS was awarded the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional funds for our Coordinated Specialty Care First Episode Psychosis Program • Funds to expand our State Hospital Stepdown Program • Funds for a CPS-Focused Youth Crisis Outreach Team (modeled after MCOT)
<p>Rider 52 under the 2024-25 Texas General Appropriations Act – Expands Private Psychiatric Bed (PPB) funding</p>	<p>Through this Rider, \$99,098,599 was allocated each fiscal year to maintain and expand existing PPB capacity.</p>	<p>Goal BHTF 1: Williamson County will advocate with representatives in the Texas legislature to increase and sustain funding for behavioral health services that support a robust continuum of care.</p>	<p>LMHAs/LBHAs fortunately did not have to apply for new funds. HHSC allocated additional bed days based on utilization data. Awaiting contract from HHSC, expected late Spring 2024.</p>