



## **85<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislative Session Texas Council of Community Centers Legislative Priorities (Overview)**

### **General Platform**

- Promote opportunities to improve access to integrated care while retaining local control of resources and important community decisions related to public intellectual and developmental disability, mental health, and substance use disorder services.
- Promote role of Community Centers as Intergovernmental Transfer (IGT) entities and Performing Providers in the 1115 Transformation Waiver—promoting options for sustainability and continuing to educate decision-makers about the value of developing local health care systems for people with serious mental illness, substance use disorders and intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Explore, monitor and promote options to expand access and enhance federal funding for essential community-based services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, serious mental illness and substance use disorders.
- Promote equitable and sustainable provider rates that cover the true cost of delivering quality care across intellectual disability, mental health and substance use disorder services.

### **Intellectual and Developmental Disability Services**

Promote HHSC agency base appropriations, exceptional items, contract requirements, and policy decisions necessary to ensure essential community-based services are available for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in a manner that preserves client choice and dignity.

### **Early Childhood Intervention Services**

Promote HHSC agency base appropriations, exceptional items, contract requirements, and policy decisions necessary to ensure essential services are available for children in need of Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) and autism services.

### **Mental Health, Substance Use, Criminal Justice & Veterans Services**

Promote agency base appropriations, exceptional items, contract requirements, and policy decisions necessary to increase access to essential mental health and substance use disorder services that reduce demand on higher cost government systems, including state institutions, jails and prisons, hospitals, and other local health care systems.