



The Arc of Texas 77th Legislative Session Budget Priorities

TEXAS DEPT. MENTAL HEALTH & MENTAL RETARDATION

➤ **Home and Community-based Services (HCS) Program**

The Home and Community-Based Services (HCS) program provides community-based care for persons with mental retardation. Services include homemaker, habilitation, case management, social services, respite care, occupational, speech and physical therapies, audiology, nursing services, dental care and adaptive aids.

⇒ **Almost 15,000 on the Waiting List**

SUPPORT: \$ 56 million in GR (state funds) for 2,339 new HCS slots

➤ **General Revenue (GR) Funded Community-based Services (Includes: Supported Home Living, Site Based Habilitation, Respite, Specialized Therapies, Supported Employment, and Service Coordination)**

⇒ **2480 on the Waiting Lists for these programs**

SUPPORT: \$34 million in GR for services to 2480 individuals

➤ **Rate increase for the ICFMR & HCS Programs**

TDMHMR has requested \$24.9 million in GR funds for a rate increase for community-based ICF/MR and HCS providers. However, this request falls far short of what providers would need to attract and keep quality direct care staff. Therefore, more dollars must be appropriated for this item.

SUPPORT: \$49.8 million in GR for a 6% rate increase

TDMHMR Continued

➤ Equity Funding

SUPPORT: \$30.3 million in GR for 2,090 additional HCS slots to be distributed by Equity Formula

TEXAS DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES

➤ Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS)

The CLASS program allows children and adults with related conditions to live in the community instead of an institution. Services include attendant care; daily living skills training; nursing and respite care; specialized therapies, psychological services; adaptive aids, minor home modifications; and support employment and pre-vocational services.

⇒ **5,897 on Waiting List**

SUPPORT: \$23.5 million in GR for 1,500 additional CLASS slots

➤ Medically Dependent Children's Program (MDCP)

The Medically Dependent Children's Waiver program provides in-home nursing, respite care, home modifications, adaptive aids and other supports that can prevent a family from placing their child in a nursing facility. Individuals must be under age 21 and have a disability or medical condition that qualifies them for nursing facility care.

➤ **1,905 on Waiting List**

SUPPORT: \$8.1 million in GR for 425 additional MDCP slots

EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION

The Early Childhood Intervention program provides services to children with developmental delays and their families for the first three years of the child's life. Services can include therapies, self-help training, adaptive equipment, case management, parent training, transportation, respite and parent support groups.

SUPPORT: \$62 million (all funds) for expanded services

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

SUPPORT: Continuation of rider directing funds to be used to train school personnel to work with students with disabilities.

SUPPORT: Continuation of rider directing funds to be used for provision of non-ed. Community-based support services for students at-risk of institutionalization.