



**VISION: A CERTIFIED  
TRAUMA INFORMED CARE BEXAR COUNTY**

## **2021 Consortium Quarterly Meetings Schedule**

**Save the dates for the year:**

**April 28**

**July 28**

**October 27**

**All meetings are 2:00pm-4:00p**

**Organizational Structure of the STTICC**

**Consortium descriptions**

### **MESSAGE FROM THE TRI-CHAIRS:**

February is Black History Month. February is American Heart Month.  
February is also National Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month.  
Let's spend some time thinking about these important remembrances  
and how they fold very well into the vision of our Consortium.

Embrace diversity. Take care of your heart. And healing is complete  
when we are heard. Be safe.



**current list of meetings scheduled-always being updated**

## **Please note this important addition to the newsletter**

In collaboration with the South Texas Trauma Informed Care Consortium, Drs. Monica Lawson and Megan Piel from UTSA are conducting a survey to better understand trauma-informed practices and the the impact of COVID-19 on child and family serving agencies in Bexar County. **The survey will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete and no personally identifiable information will be collected.**

**We hope you consider participating** as your feedback will inform our efforts to create a trauma-informed community of support for children and families in Bexar County. **Please also share this survey link with colleagues both at your agency and at other agencies that would be interested in participating.**

Please click on the link below to participate in this survey: [https://utsa.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_2mKTfG2OpFcyrvn](https://utsa.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2mKTfG2OpFcyrvn)

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**Updates from the Institute for Trauma Informed Care**

**ACE Interface Training Schedule for February**

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**Updates from the Certifying Entity**

## **ONLINE INTEREST FORM TO SIGN UP FOR TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION**

[click here to get more information and fill out the form](#)

If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Forbes at [tjforbes@ecrh.org](mailto:tjforbes@ecrh.org), or Mary Beth Fisk at [mbfisk@ecrh.org](mailto:mbfisk@ecrh.org)

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## **FOCUS ON THE FIELD House of Neighborly Service**

Recently I spoke with Josh Mireles about his work and his agency,

House of Neighborly Service.

HNS has been a social service agency since 1917, serving the Westside of San Antonio, now called the "traditional Westside" of San Antonio. Josh is the program director at HNS, and an active member of the Family Support Services, and the Early Care and Education workgroups. A memorable quote from Josh was, "The best thing we can give people are options, we can provide a choice."

[click here to read the story](#)

Have an agency or a local leader you want to recognize? Please send [Cheryl Weise](#) an email about agencies and leaders in the field. I'd like to interview you and highlight your agency about the good work being done in the South Texas area.

[HNS website](#)

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## POST ADOPTION SERVICES

Centers for Children and Families is the contracted provider of post adoption services in your area, and we appreciate the opportunity to inform you about our program. Post adoption services are available to help adoptive families adjust to their new family dynamics, provide support through professional services and the opportunity to meet other adoptive families, cope with any history of abuse of the child, and avoid long-term or permanent removal of the child from the adoptive family setting. Adoptive families do not have to be in crisis to contact our agency. In fact, we prefer that families enroll in our program as soon as possible after the adoption is finalized. We want to provide a strong foundation of knowledge and resources to the family so that should crisis issues arise in the future, we are all better equipped to handle them.

### SERVICES AVAILABLE

Casework and service planning	Respite care*
Parent training and support groups	Residential placement services*
Counseling*	Information and referral
Therapeutic camping*	24-hour crisis intervention

*\*Availability of these services is dependent on funding and the individual child and family situation.*

A contractor such as Centers may certify an adoptive family as eligible for Post Adoption Services if all four of the following criteria are met:

- When the child was placed for adoption, either:
  - DFPS served as the child's managing conservator and placed the child for adoption,
  - or
  - A licensed child-placing agency in Texas served as the child's managing conservator and placed the child for adoption and DFPS is currently providing Title IV-E adoption assistance to the child;
- The adoption is consummated;
- The adoptive parents have requested Post Adoption Services; and
- The child is younger than 18. (When necessary, services may continue for up to 90 days past the child's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday to ensure an orderly termination of services.)

*\*Note: Eligible families need not live in Texas to receive services; the case is managed from the region where the DFPS adoption was finalized.*

We are more than happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the post adoption program and the services we provide. To enroll with Centers for post adoption services, please contact our main office at (432) 570-0027 or email us at [postadoption@centerstx.org](mailto:postadoption@centerstx.org) to request an information packet via email, fax or mail. You will then be connected with the Case Manager assigned to your area, and together we will develop a plan to meet the needs of your children and family.

Thank you, and we hope to hear from you soon!

**Cindra Rains, LMSW**  
Program Director, Post Adoption Services  
Centers for Children and Families  
Contracted Provider; DFPS Regions 1,2,4,5,7,8,9,10  
Cell: 210.510.8690 Fax: 800.360.0145  
[CRains@centerstx.org](mailto:CRains@centerstx.org)

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT AND UPCOMING EVENTS:

### Supreme Court of Texas Children's Commission Trauma Informed Care Task Force UPDATES

[click here for the news!](#)

Website is live!

## Please join us for the Handle with Care Virtual Conference in February!

<http://www.handlewithcarewv.org/2020-virtual-conference.php>

### HANDLE WITH CARE VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

#### February 2021 Speaker Spotlight



[handlewithcarewv.org/2020-virtual-conference.php](http://www.handlewithcarewv.org/2020-virtual-conference.php)

**FEB**

3:00-4:30  
PM EST

2/3: Dr. Christine Schimmel, Associate Professor, WVU School of Counseling

2/10: Dr. Lauren Swager, Associate Professor, WVU Dept. of Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatry

2/17: Hon. Patricia A. Keller, JD, Family Court Judge, Sixth Family Court Circuit

2/24: Susan Harrison, MSW, MPA, LGSW, Director of CASA for Children Inc.



<http://www.traumainformedcareproject.org/>

### Trauma Informed Care

No one is immune to the impact of trauma. Trauma affects the individual, families, and communities by disrupting healthy development, adversely affecting relationships, and contributing to mental health issues including substance abuse, domestic violence, and child abuse.

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# 2021 Survivor Trauma Informed Care Virtual Conference

information and tickets

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## Reminder!

May 2021 is Trauma Informed Care Awareness Month in Bexar  
County

Look for upcoming events and if your agency has events and trainings  
to share, please let Cheryl Weise know so we can share it with the  
Trauma Informed Care community

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## MONTHLY OBSERVANCES

### FEBRUARY

- Black History Month
- American Heart Month
- National Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

### MARCH

- National Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month
  - National Brain Injury Awareness Month
  - National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month
  - National Nutrition Month
  - National Women's History Month
  - National Social Work Month
  - National Music in Schools Month
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What are ACEs?

What is Epigenetics?

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## CONSORTIUM MANAGEMENT TEAM

Interested in joining a workgroup? Contact a consortium  
manager listed below:

**Angelica Valle** (The Children's Shelter). [click to email](#)

She provides support to the full consortium in concert with the other team members.

**Connie Soria** (The City of San Antonio/COSA). [click to email](#)

She works with:

- Medical/Hospitals workgroup
- Government/Strategic Communications workgroup
- Higher Education workgroup

- Mental Health/Behavioral Health workgroup

**Miranda Cushman** (Voices for Children) [click here to email](#)

Will work with:

- Education PreK-12 workgroup
- Early Care and Education workgroup
- Youth Development/Afterschool workgroup
- Faith Based workgroup

**Cheryl Weise** (The Children's Shelter) [click to email](#)

She works with:

- Child Welfare/Foster Care workgroup
- Family Support Services workgroup
- Philanthropy workgroup
- Justice Systems workgroup
- Newsletter/Website/Twitter

[Visit our website](#)



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South Texas Trauma Informed Care Consortium

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