



Quarterly Report

Office of Community-Based Care Transition Implementation Status

December 2024

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Introduction and Background

As required by Texas Family Code, Subchapter B-1, Chapter 264, Section 264.172 (f), 88th Texas Legislature, the Office of Community-Based Care Transition (OCBCT) “shall report to the legislature at least once each calendar quarter regarding the implementation of Community-Based Care in the state.” Status reports shall be provided on September 30th, December 30th, March 31st, and June 30th of each year to the Texas Legislature.

Community-Based Care (CBC) changes the way the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) procures, contracts, and pays for paid foster care services. Under a performance-based grant agreement, a single contractor provides services to children and families community (also known as “catchments” or “community areas”).

In Stage I, this Single Source Continuum Contractor (SSCC) is responsible for ensuring the full continuum of paid foster care placements and other services for children in the state’s legal conservatorship. SSCCs also support adoption recruitment, matching, and home studies. In Stage II, the SSCC expands services to include unverified relative or “kinship” placements, services to parents, and the SSCC has sole responsibility for the legal case management function. In Stage III, the SSCC continues the provision of all Stage I and II services and is awarded with financial incentives and disincentives for permanency outcomes, and additional performance measures for child safety and well-being. For information and data on the performance of SSCC contractors, see the [DFPS Rider 15 Report](#).

Update on Community-Based Care Expansion

Currently, of the children in paid foster care, 49.3¹ percent are in SSCC community areas (as of November 26, 2024). Additionally, of the seven Community-Based Care catchments, four SSCCs are in Stage III and three SSCCs are in Stage II. There are no catchments in Stage I as of this report; details of the progress specific to each catchment area are outlined later in this report.

OCBCT and CBC Operations Division within DFPS work in partnership to ensure sound contract management and implementation processes to support the expansion of CBC in Texas. DFPS posted a Request for Application (RFA) for Regions 6A, 6B, 8A, and 10 in February 2024 and is

¹ DFPS Data Warehouse, CPS pp_01; November 26, 2024



currently in the contract negotiation/formation phase for regions 6A, 6B, and 8A.

On June 21, 2024, an Interagency Contract (IAC) notification was sent to the colleges and universities in Texas to seek proposals for completing the statutorily required CBC Process Evaluation, which aims to identify strengths, challenges, and to provide recommendations for changes needed for future CBC implementation. Effective August 23, 2024, DFPS awarded a contract to the University of Texas at Austin. A final evaluation report is expected by August 31, 2025.

On July 19, 2024, OCBCT and the CBC Operations Division released a Request for Information (RFI) for Regions 9 and 10 to gain an understanding of how the community would implement CBC to address the unique circumstances in these parts of the state, as neither region had responses to an RFA. The RFI closed on September 3, 2024, and there was a total of six responses received. Themes of the responses included lack of resources, financial struggles, insufficient placement resources, geographic boundary concerns, and concerns with the current SSCC contracting process. Regarding the lack of resources, respondents shared that there is a lack of mental health resources and specialized pediatric resources. The financial struggles noted by respondents were around the poverty experienced in the regions, which leads to struggles for kinship and adoptive placements, and included the financial risk that an entity would take to become an SSCC. The respondents shared that insufficient placement resources have led to children being placed outside of the regions and given the expansiveness of these regions, respondents noted that even when children are placed within region there are service delivery and coordination challenges. DFPS and the OCBCT will take these responses into consideration as plans are made to move CBC forward in these regions.

During the months of September and October 2024, DFPS and OCBCT received multiple unsolicited proposals for Community-Based Care for the Central Texas/Waco community area, otherwise known as Region 7A. This community area includes the counties of Bell, Bosque, Brazos, Coryell, Falls, Freestone, Grimes, Hamilton, Hill, Lampasas, Leon, Limestone, Llano, Madison, McLennan, Milam, Mills, Robertson, San Saba, and Williamson. As a result of multiple proposals being received, the unsolicited proposal process for Region 7A was cancelled and DFPS, along with OCBCT, will begin the formal procurement process for advertising an RFA for this community area.

As CBC implementation moves forward, OCBCT and DFPS remain committed to partnering and supporting community stakeholders. The [CBC Outreach Request](#) form can be utilized by stakeholders, community members, staff, or any interested party to request information and

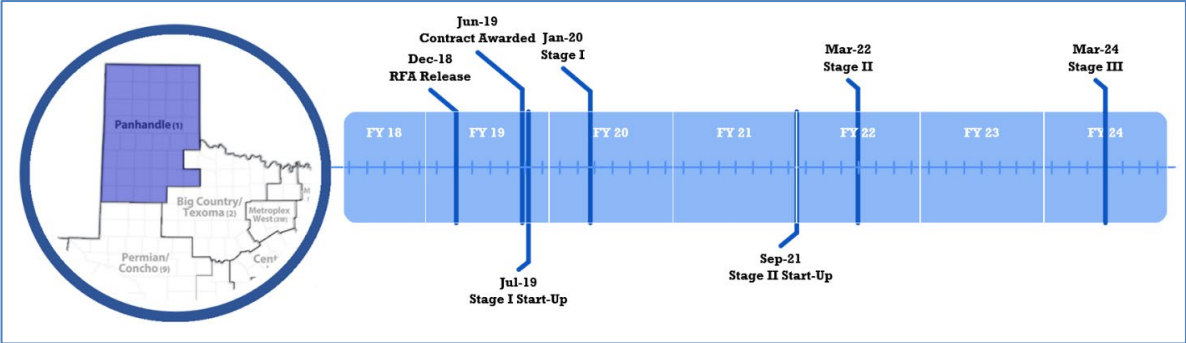


presentations on CBC. This form can be found on the external [CBC website](#).

Below is a point in time implementation update for each SSCC.

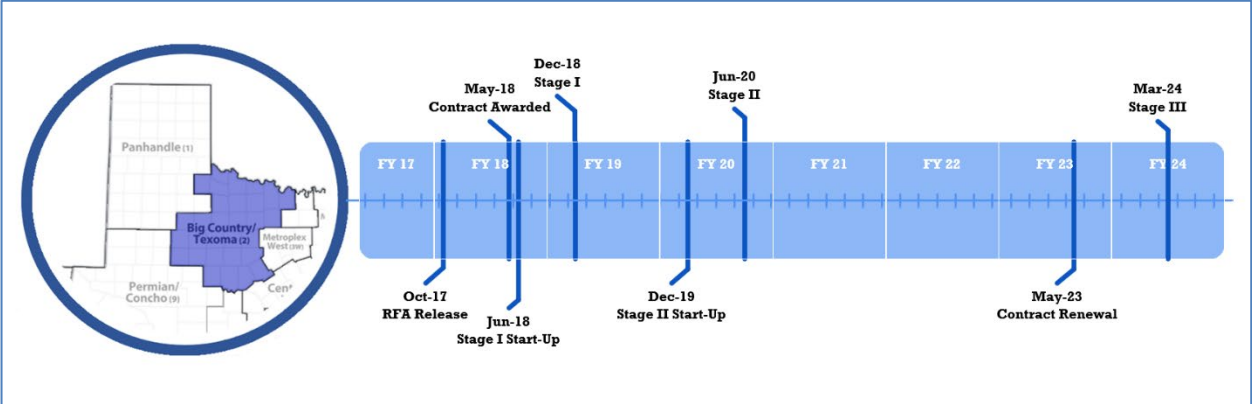
Panhandle- Saint Francis Community Services, Inc (SFCS) and their SSCC division, Saint Francis Community Services in Texas, Inc

The Panhandle community, previously known as Region 1, is comprised of [41 counties](#) in the Texas Panhandle. The visual below depicts the timeline of this community’s CBC progress. SFCS is currently in Stage III in all 41 counties.



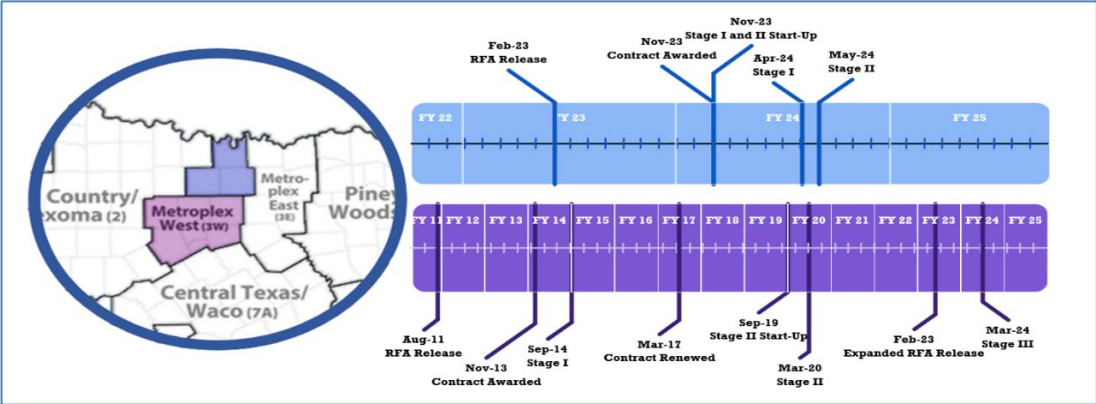
Big Country & Texoma- Texas Family Initiative and their SSCC Division, 2INGage

The Big Country & Texoma community, previously known as Region 2, is comprised of [30 counties](#) in northwest Texas. The visual below depicts the timeline of this community’s CBC progress. 2INGage is currently in Stage III in all 30 counties.



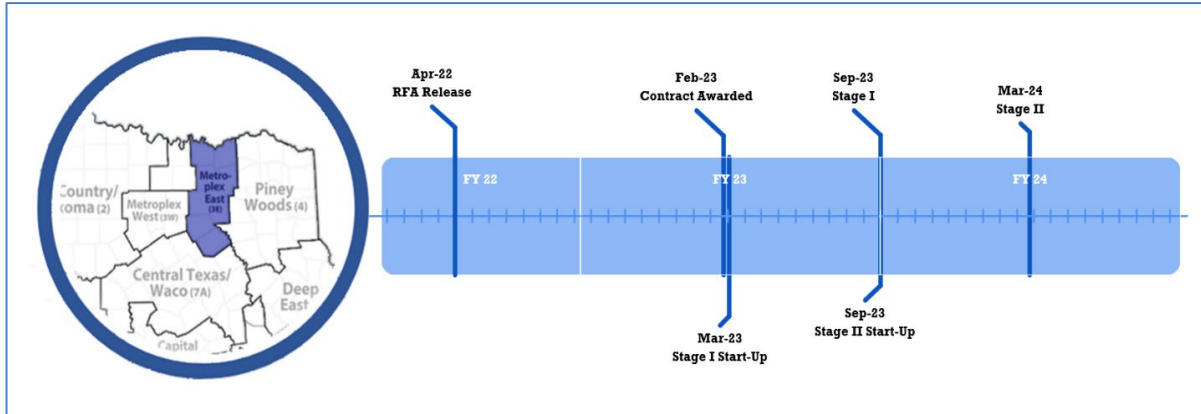
Metroplex West- ACH Child and Family Services and their SSCC Division, Our Community Our Kids (OCOK)

The Metroplex West community, previously known as Region 3W, is comprised of Cooke, Denton, Erath, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Tarrant, and Wise counties. The visual below depicts the timeline of this community’s CBC progress. OCOK has been the SSCC in the Metroplex West community since 2014, serving the southern seven of the ten counties in the area. OCOK is in Stage II for the northern three counties of Cooke, Denton, and Wise. OCOK is in Stage III for the counties of Erath, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, and Tarrant. The visual below depicts the timelines for both Stage II and III for OCOK.



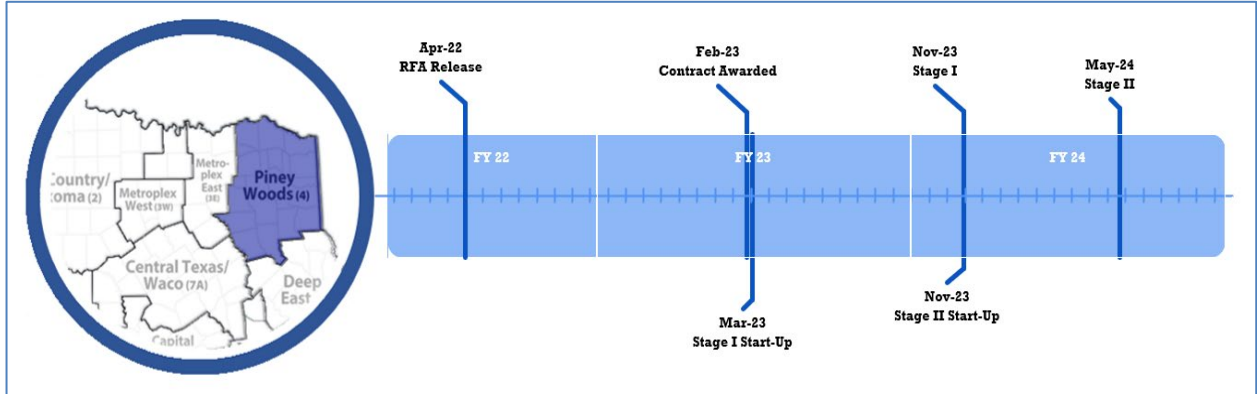
Metroplex East- Texas Family Initiative and their SSCC Division, EMPOWER

The Metroplex East community, previously known as Region 3E, is comprised of the following nine counties in and around Dallas: Collin, Dallas, Ellis, Fannin, Grayson, Hunt, Kaufman, Navarro, and Rockwall. The visual below depicts the timeline of this community’s CBC progress. EMPOWER is currently in Stage II in all nine counties.



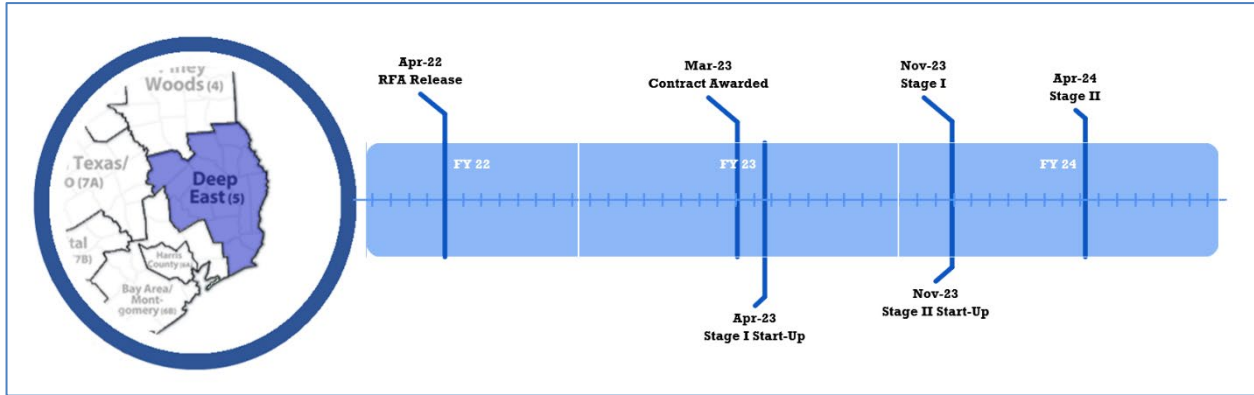
Piney Woods- Arrow Child & Family Ministries and their SSCC Division, 4Kids4Families

The Piney Woods community, previously known as Region 4, is comprised of [23 counties](#). The visual below depicts the timeline of this community’s CBC progress. 4Kids4Families is in Stage II in all 23 counties.



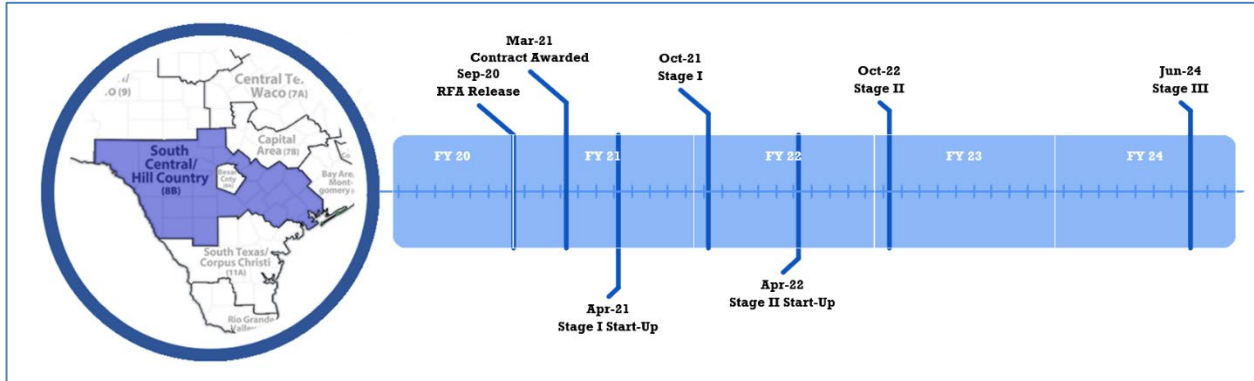
Deep East- Pressley Ridge and their SSCC Division, Texas Family Care Network

The Deep East community, previously known as Region 5, is comprised of [15 counties](#). The visual below depicts the timeline of this community’s CBC progress. TFCN is in Stage II in all 15 counties.



South Central & Hill Country- SJRC Texas and their Division, Belong

The South Central & Hill Country community, previously known as Region 8b, is comprised of [27 counties](#), excluding Bexar County. The visual below depicts the timeline of this community’s CBC progress. Belong is in Stage III in all 27 counties.



Conclusion

DFPS and OCBCT remain committed to supporting and sustaining the implementation of CBC across the state. The support of stakeholders from all facets of the child welfare system is critical to CBC implementation. View the latest [CBC Implementation Plan](#) for additional information on the expansion of CBC.

Appendix A: Current Community-Based Care Communities

