

Legal Responsibilities for Community Initiatives for Program Development

Statutory References

- ◆ Federal: Title XX, Social Security Act
- ◆ Federal: Title IV-B, Part 2, Social Security Act
- ◆ State: Texas Family Code, 264.301
- ◆ State: Human Resources Code, 40.0561

Major Activities:

The Youth and Family Services Division manages community based programs to prevent child abuse and delinquency. Additionally, the Texas Runaway Hotline is managed from this Division.

- ◆ Community Youth Development Program - This program assists communities in designing comprehensive approaches to support families and enhance the positive development of youth. Using legislative appropriations, grants are made available for developing juvenile delinquency prevention approaches in communities with high incidence of juvenile crime. Eleven communities are being served.
- ◆ Services to At-Risk Youth (STAR) Program - These services are offered to youth ages 7-18 who are runaways, truants, youths experiencing family conflict or involved in delinquent conduct (but have not been adjudicated), and their families. Contracted community agencies offer family crisis intervention, short-term emergency residential care, individual and family counseling, and an array of supportive services.
- ◆ Texas Families: Together and Safe - Grants are allocated for Family Support services to community based preventive programs. The services are designed to alleviate stress and promote parental competencies and behaviors that will increase the ability of families to successfully nurture their children; enable families to use other resources and opportunities available in the community; and create supportive networks to enhance child-rearing abilities of parents.
- ◆ Texas Runaway Hotline - Hotline staff and volunteers work closely with social service agencies and juvenile delinquency prevention programs. Their goal is to provide callers with 24-hour crisis intervention and telephone counseling; information and referral for callers in need of food, shelter and/or transportation home; conference calls to parents and shelters; and a confidential message relay service between runaways and parents.
- ◆ Gang Activity Prevention - The program's objectives are to reduce the risk factors that may lead to gang involvement and students dropping out of school. Activities that are provided encourage parental involvement, educational enhancement, cultural and social enrichment activities, drug prevention education, and supportive guidance.

The Community Initiatives Division develops and implements special projects and initiatives in the agency's three program areas: Child Protective Services, Child Care Licensing, and Adult Protective Services. This includes Research and Evaluation staff who monitor federal and foundation funding opportunities and match ideas for innovation in service delivery to the types of projects federal agencies or private foundations want to fund.

- ◆ Community Partners - Community Partners is a public/private partnership that develops local boards to support Child Protective Services staff by creating projects such as Adopt-A-Caseworker and Rainbow Room. Adopt-A-Caseworker focuses on finding a sponsor to meet caseworker needs for resources for clients. The Rainbow Room stocks emergency items needed by children and families such as diapers, formula, clothes, toys, and cleaning supplies.
- ◆ Young at Heart - Young at Heart is an intergenerational program that encourages older Texans to volunteer and spend time with young children in child-care settings. A grant for Volunteers in Service to America has enabled the agency to implement the program. The project includes recruitment, training, media materials, and volunteer recognition.
- ◆ Family Outreach - Family Outreach is an all volunteer organization that works to recruit successful parents to work with at-risk families under the supervision of a PRS case manager. Services by trained volunteers include services to at-risk families, parenting classes, "warm lines" for parents in crisis, and other services as determined by the local center.

FY 1997 Expenditures and Staffing

Community Initiatives for Program Development

Staff Costs

◆ Total Salary Costs - \$875, 575

◆ YTD Average FTE - 25.67

\$21,637,317 Budgeted Contracted Services

◆ Services to At-Risk Youth

◆ Community Youth Development

◆ Texas Families Together and Safe

◆ Gang Prevention

Community Youth Development Average Monthly Clients Served Fiscal Year 1997

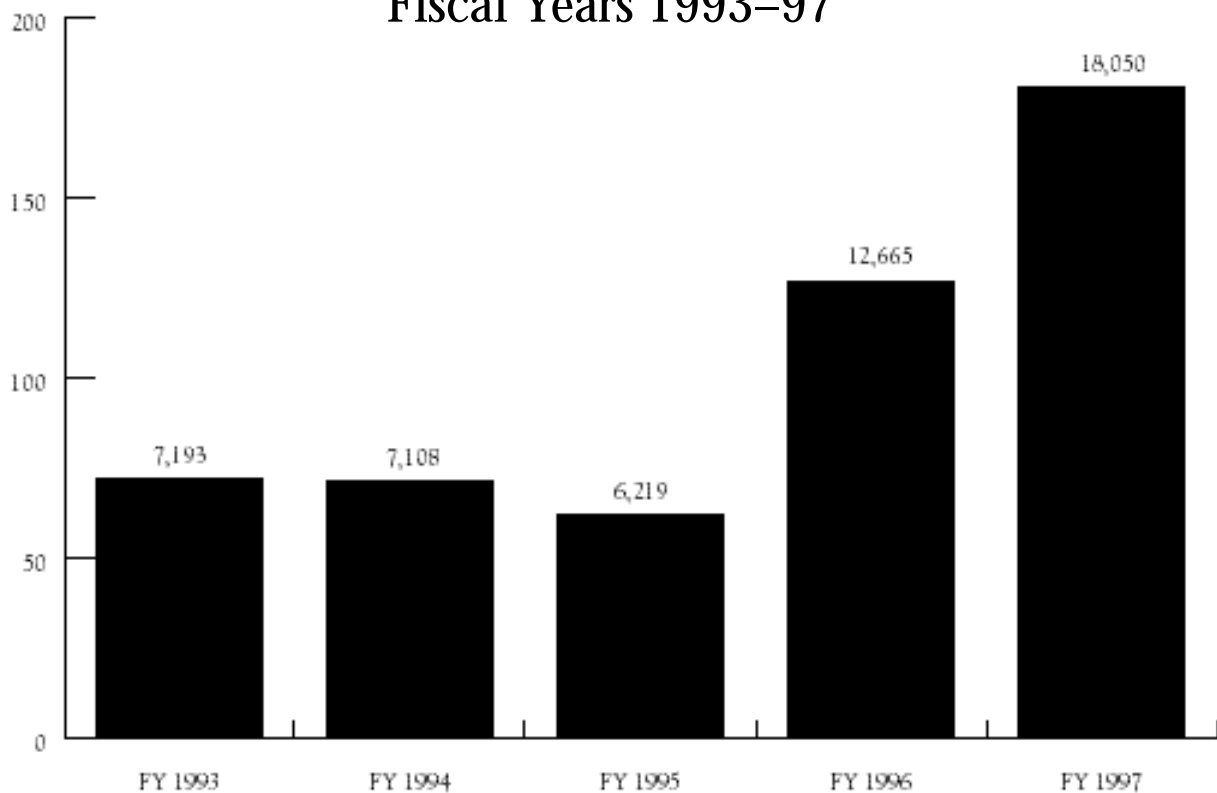
County	City	ZIP Code of Site	Average Served per Month
Potter	Amarillo	79107	262
Travis	Austin	78744	427
Cameron	Brownsville	78520	120
Nueces	Corpus Christi	78415	363
Dallas	Dallas	75216	429
El Paso	El Paso	79924	274
Tarrant	Fort Worth	76106	119
Galveston	Galveston	77550	105
Harris	Houston	77081	580
Hidalgo	McAllen	78501	846
Bexar*	San Antonio	78207	26
State Total			3,551

*Contract began services in June 1997.

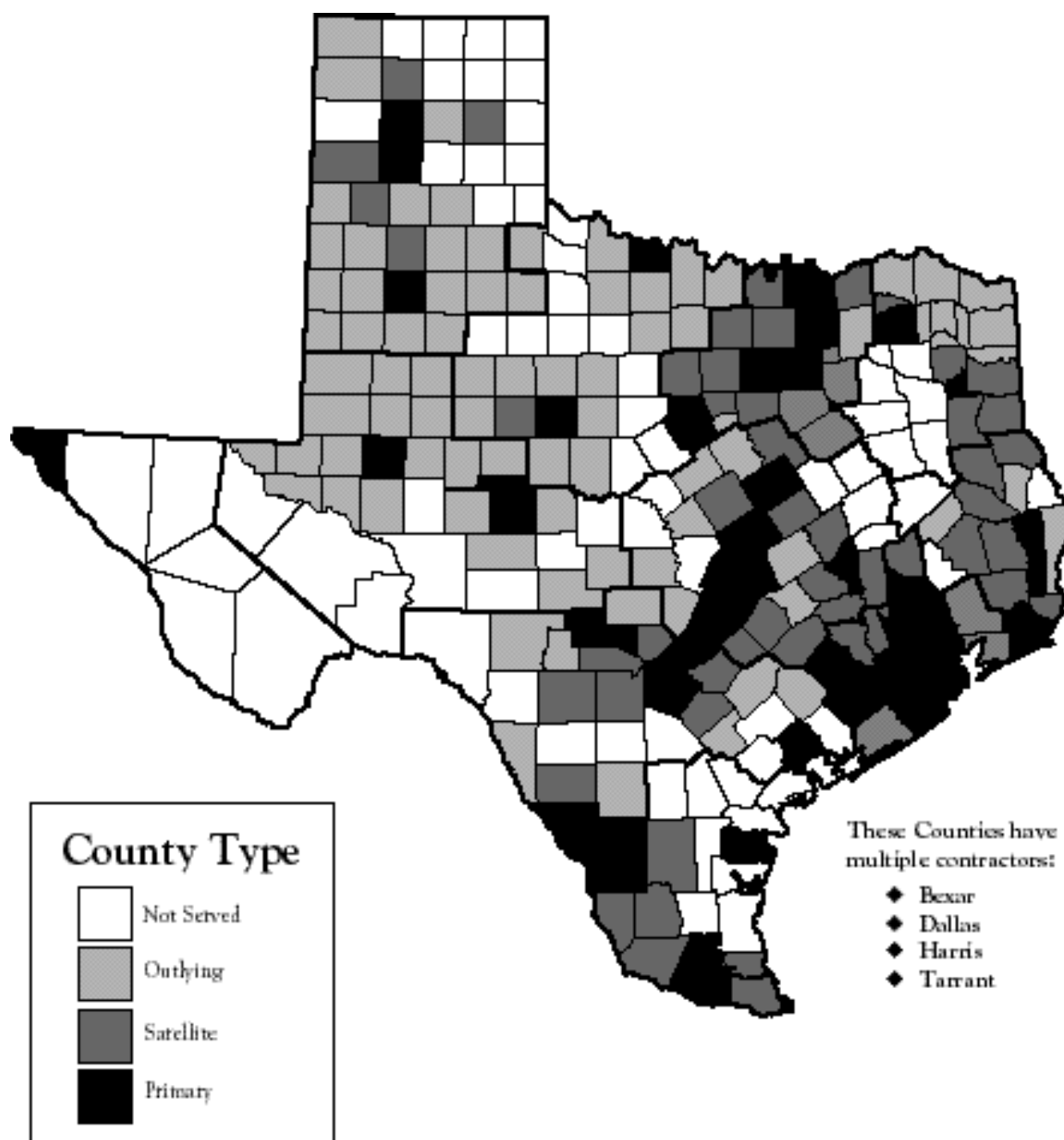
Services to Runaways and At-Risk Youth (STAR)

The Services to Runaways and At-risk Youth (STAR) program was developed to assist local communities in serving youth who often fall between the cracks of the service delivery system. Their problems are not severe enough to receive services from traditional systems such as Child Protective Services or Juvenile Probation. Therefore, the STAR program has established 32 contracts around the state with local agencies who make crisis counseling, emergency short-term residential care, and skill training available to runaway and at-risk youths and their families.

Runaway and At-Risk Youth Receiving Counseling and Residential Services Fiscal Years 1993–97



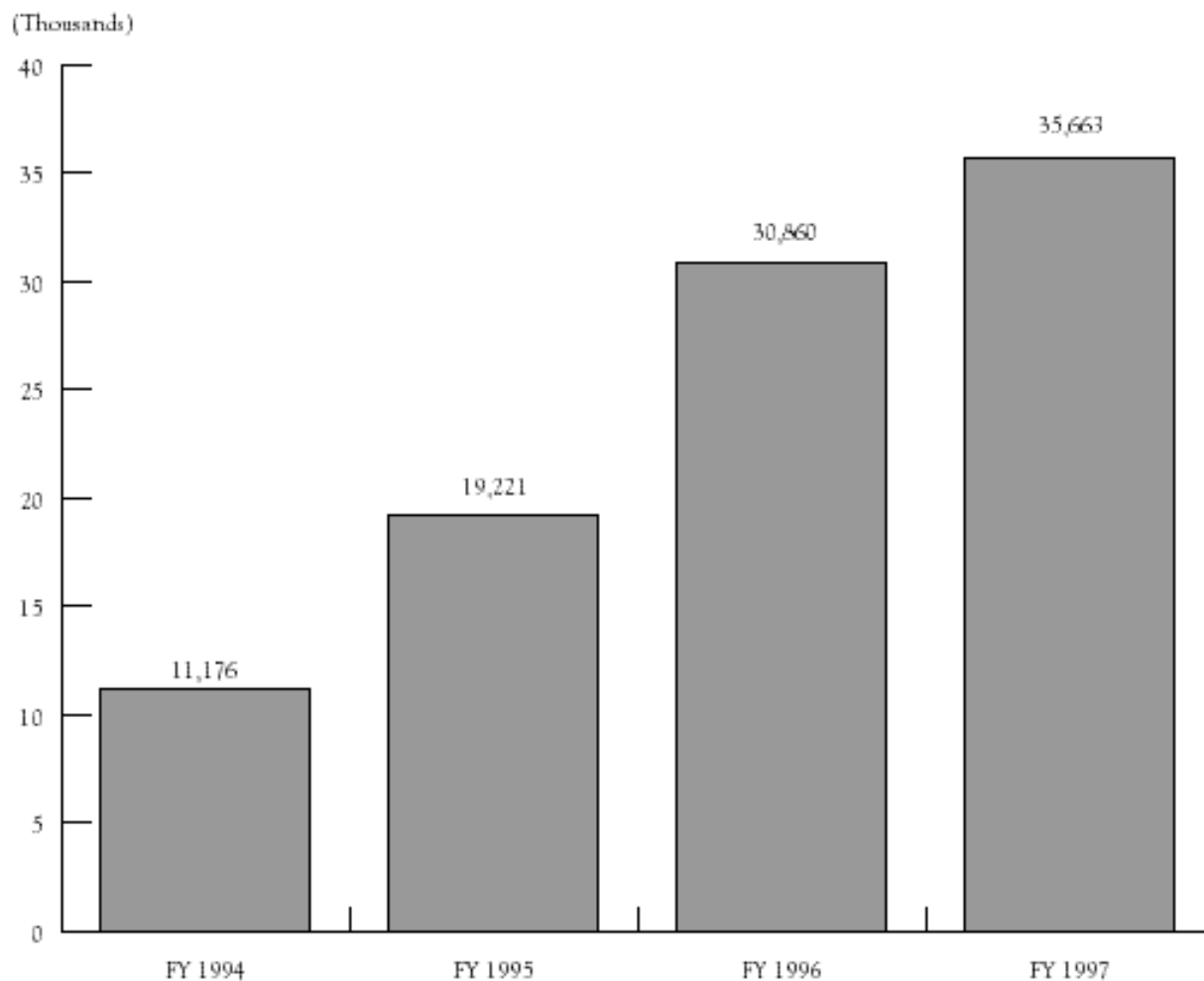
Major Office Locations of STAR Program by County Fiscal Year 1997



Texas Families: Together And Safe

Provider	← Families Served →		
	FY 1995	FY 1996	FY 1997
Harmony Family Services	431	336	603
Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department	N/A	98	103
Brownwood Area Chamber of Commerce	359	1,101	1,104
Bryan Independent School District/TAMU	289	744	1,136
Buckner Children's Ranch	N/A	67	164
United Way of Metropolitan Dallas	N/A	151	229
Youth and Family Impact Center	409	501	552
El Paso Center for Children	1,456	1,800	3,204
Catholic Charities	55	65	113
Galveston County Health District	N/A	1,132	646
DePelchin Children's Center	N/A	810	384
City of Longview Drug Task Force	N/A	468	2,661
Avance Incorporated Rio Grande Valley	437	1,633	1,600
Healthy Families San Angelo	N/A	331	224
United Way of San Antonio & Bexar Co.	N/A	138	95
TAMU	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dalhart	111	596	N/A
Total	3,547	9,971	12,818

Runaway Hotline — Incoming Calls



Major Site Locations and Regional Offices of Young At Heart Program

