

Additional Backup Information

Prior to 1999, the City of Austin and Travis County purchased substance abuse treatment services through multiple agencies with eligibility determinations made and services provided by the individual organizations pursuant to the terms of their respective contracts. The auditing of services was performed retrospectively by Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) staff.

The Interlocal Agreement for the Managed Services Organization between the City of Austin, Travis County, and the Austin Travis County Mental Health Mental Retardation Center (d.b.a Austin-Travis County Integral Care (ATCIC, formerly known as Austin/Travis County Mental Health Mental Retardation) originated in 1999. The City and County developed the Interlocal Agreement in order to contract for substance abuse treatment services utilizing a Managed Services Organization (MSO) approach. The purpose of this approach is to better coordinate and standardize substance abuse treatment services for the community and to designate the target populations to be served, eligibility criteria, services to be covered, and expected outcomes according to those standards and requirements set forth in the Agreement. Under the Agreement, ATCIC provides specific services as the MSO in order to prevent duplication of administrative services and promote a continuum of care for clients. The Agreement also facilitates the coordination of City and County funded services with state funded services in order to maximize leveraging of all available funds.

As the local authority for mental health and mental retardation services with extensive experience in this area, ATCIC serves as the MSO under the Agreement. In the model established under the Agreement, individuals are authorized and then served by organizations in the network that provide the assessment and treatment of eligible clients. In addition, the following MSO functions are provided: Credentialing, Gate Functions, Utilization Management, Quality Management, Management Information Systems, Financial Management, Administration/Contract Management, and Network Development and Management as set forth in the Agreement and specified by City and County.

Following this initial term, the Agreement shall automatically renew each year, if funding is available, unless terminated earlier.