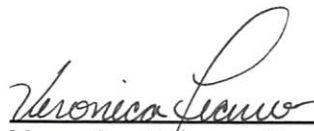


**Program Committee Meeting**  
September 17, 2024  
10:00 am

- I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM**
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - A. Approve Minutes of the Board of Trustees Program Committee Held on Tuesday, August 20, 2024  
(EXHIBIT P-1)
- IV. REVIEW AND COMMENT**
  - A. IDD Services Division Update  
(EXHIBIT P-2 Evanthe Collins)
- V. EXECUTIVE SESSION –**
  - \* **As authorized by §551.071 of the Texas Government Code, the Board of Trustees reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to seek legal advice from its attorney about any matters listed on the agenda.**
- VI. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION**
- VII. CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION AS A RESULT OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- VIII. INFORMATION ONLY**
  - A. Approved IDD-PAC Minutes from June 4, 2024  
(EXHIBIT P-3)
- IX. ADJOURN**



**Veronica Franco, Board Liaison**  
**Max A. Miller, Jr, MTh, D.D. Chairperson**  
**Program Committee**  
**The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD**  
**Board of Trustees**



# **EXHIBIT P-1**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
***The HARRIS CENTER for***  
**Mental Health *and* IDD**  
**PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2024**  
**MINUTES**

Mrs. Hellums, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. in Room 109 of the 9401 Southwest Freeway location, noting a quorum of the Committee was present.

**RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**

Committee Members in Attendance: Dr. R. Gearing, Dr. L. Moore, B. Hellums, Dr. L. Fernandez

Committee Member in Absence:

Other Board Members in Attendance: Dr. M. Miller and N. Hurtado

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 12:07 p.m.

**2. DESIGNATION OF BOARD MEMBERS AS VOTING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**3. DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

Mrs. Hellums declared a quorum of the committee was present.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no Public Comments.

**5. Approve the Minutes of the Board of Trustees Program Committee Meeting Held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024.**

**MOTION BY: MOORE                      SECOND BY: GEARING**

**With unanimous affirmative votes**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Board of Trustees Program Committee meeting held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024 under Exhibit P-1, are approved and recommended to the Full Board for acceptance.

**6. REVIEW AND COMMENT**

**A. Behavioral Health-**Lance Britt, Tiffany Williams-Brooks and Dr. Hill presented to the Program Committee.

**7. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No Executive Session was needed.

**8. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION-**

No Executive Session was needed.

**9. ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:06 pm.

**MOTION BY: FERNANDEZ**

**SECOND BY: GEARING**

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**Veronica Franco, Board Liaison**

**Bonnie Hellums, Chairman**

**Program Committee**

**THE HARRIS CENTER *for* Mental Health *and* IDD**

**Board of Trustees**

# **EXHIBIT P-2**

# #IDDTEAMMELITE

*Inclusion*



CAPEABLE CARNIVAL WATER BALLOON BATTLE

**Dr. Evanthe Collins**  
Vice President, IDD Services Division/Agency Grants & State Contracts



About Us

# IDD SERVICES DIVISION

## BUDGET/STAFF

\$43.5 mil annual budget

- 5% Local
- 14% ARPA/Federal Grants
- 38% HHSC
- 43% 3rd Party Billing

484 FTEs

## ELIGIBILITY

ECI Eligibility: Medical diagnosis, deaf/hard of hearing, blind/visually impaired, or developmental delay

Traditional IDD Services Eligibility: Intellectual Disability (previously mental retardation), Autism

ECI Age: Birth - 3 years

Traditional IDD Services Age: Birth - End of Life

## SERVICES

ECI Services: Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Physical Therapy, Dietician Services, Case Management

Traditional Divisional Services: Eligibility Determination, Service Coordination, Behavioral Supports, Crisis Intervention, Crisis Respite, Outpatient Psychosocial Services, Autism Socialization Programs, Intermediate Care Facilities (residential), In-Home and Out-of-Home Respite, Day Habilitation, Employment Assistance, Applied Behavior Analysis, Inspire (provides grants for families to acquire disability related resources), Medicaid Waiver Enrollment/Monitoring, Nursing Facility Transition, Community 1st Choice



# Population DATA



## ▶▶ INCIDENT RATE

- ID - 2.5 - 3% (equal across genders)
- Autism - 1 in 36 (males 4x more likely)
- 33 - 40% higher incident rate of mental illness than the general population

## ▶▶ POPULATION FACTS

- Harris County ID - apx. 144,000
- Harris County Autism - apx. 134,400


## ▶▶ THE HARRIS CENTER - IDD DIVISION

- Served per month - apx. 6,000
- Unduplicated served per year - apx. 13,000



# SAFETY NET

**SAFETY NET SUPPORTS**



**The HARRIS CENTER** *for*  
Mental Health and IDD

*Transforming Lives*

Individuals living in the community

ICF-IID  
*Public/Private*

HCS  
*Private*

Other  
Personal Care  
Homes  
Independent Living

State Supported Living Centers

State Hospitals

Private Psychiatric Beds



# Are You INTERESTED?

## INTEREST LIST: MEDICAID WAIVER

	Home & Community-based Services (HCS)	Texas Home Living Waiver (TXHML)
<b>Total on Interest List in TEXAS</b>	124,001	111,848
<b>Average Time on Interest List</b>	16-17 years	13-14 years
<b>Total on Interest List in HARRIS COUNTY</b>	24,421	22,680
<b>FY24/25 Biennial Slots STATEWIDE 88<sup>th</sup> Session</b>	1,144	305
<b>Interest List Slots Allocated to Harris County YTD</b>	205 Sept. 2007	652 Nov. 2009

## INTEREST LIST: HHSC GENERAL REVENUE SAFETY NET SERVICES

	2022- JUL	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG
R021 Community Supports		112	112	112	105	100	99	96	92	89	90	89	88
R022 Out-of-Home Respite		118	118	119	118	113	113	113	110	109	107	106	106
R023 In Home Respite		727	732	761	733	680	660	664	648	634	659	664	670
R032 Residential Living		6	6	6	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
R041 Employee Assistance		70	71	71	71	68	78	84	85	79	84	83	83
R042 Supported Employment		6	6	6	6	6	7	9	14	21	22	26	33
R043 Vocational Training		62	62	62	62	57	58	58	58	55	54	54	51
R053 Day Habilitation		192	197	198	194	176	206	205	223	221	236	243	247
R054 Specialized Therapies		590	640	650	637	604	675	690	716	728	741	747	751
R055 Behavioral Support		477	488	491	472	460	611	516	522	530	551	557	562
<b>UNDUPLICATED COUNT</b>	<b>7523</b>	<b>2902</b>	<b>1909</b>	<b>2531</b>	<b>2404</b>	<b>2060</b>	<b>1849</b>	<b>1865</b>	<b>1818</b>	<b>1795</b>	<b>1789</b>	<b>1704</b>	<b>1724</b>



# Recent WINS

▶ 2ND ANNUAL IDD BACKPACK & DISASTER PREPAREDNESS EVENT

300 Backpacks w/ school supplies  
20 Community Partners

Next Year's Event:  
Saturday,  
August 9, 2024



# Recent WINS

## ▶▶ GENUINE WORLD CUP

In anticipation of the upcoming 2026 FIFA World Cup the Genuine World Cup is a parallel event aimed at promoting the inclusion of people with IDD through the game of soccer. The goal is not only to showcase the abilities of individuals with IDD but also to foster a sense of inclusivity and diversity within the soccer community.

- PANEL 1: ELIMINATING BARRIERS FOR EQUAL ACCESS TO BENEFITS
- PANEL 2: HOW TO EMPLOY AND TRAIN?
- PANEL 3: USING SPORTS AND FITNESS AS A VENUE FOR INCLUSION

*“Soccer has been defined as the international language, having the ability to bring people together through sport, health, and a sense of belonging. However, for people with intellectual or neurological differences, soccer is often a language from which they are excluded. By moving beyond spectatorship to active engagement, athletes with intellectual and neurological differences become stronger, healthier, and more self-assured, allowing them to engage more confidently in their broader communities.”*

#ONEGOAL

# GENUINE CONNECT Houston 2024



**RON LUCEY**  
Executive Director on Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities



**DR. EVANTHE COLLINS**  
Vice President IDD services division at the Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD



**CHRISTOPHER BANKS**  
President and CEO Autism Society of America



**OLGA DE LA FUENTE**  
Director of FUNDACIÓN LALIGA



**JOHN WATSON**  
Founder and President Bloom Fitness



**ALBERTO PUIG**  
Patron Fundación Mi Alex, Be My Referee project



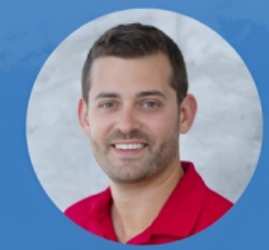
**TIM MARTIN**  
CEO of Special Olympics Texas



**JOSE VELASCO**  
SVP Autism Society of America, SAP Autism program Founder (retired)



**CHARLES NJUGUNA**  
President and CEO of the Center for Pursuit



**THOMAS D'ERI**  
COO Rising Tide



**JEFF MILLER**  
CEO of Potentia



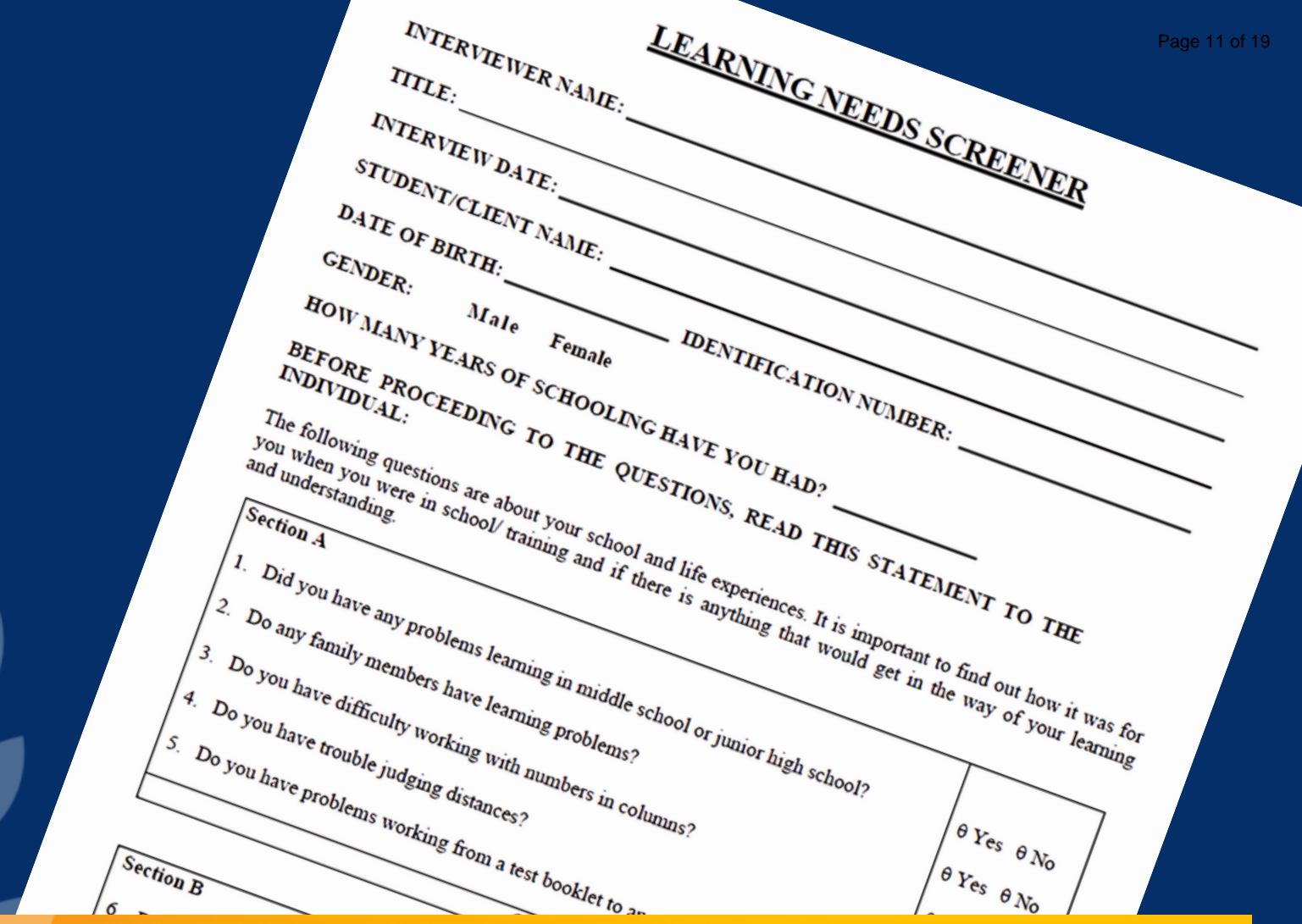
**DR. LORNA ORTIZ**  
Technology and Innovation Specialist, Founder of The Genuine Foundation - Moderator

# Recent WINS

## ▶▶ IDD AND JUSTICE INVOLVED INDIVIDUALS

Increase the identification and appropriate treatment of IDD individuals involved in the criminal justice system.

- IDD Criminal Justice Sub-Committee
- Juvenile Justice Probation Officers
- Youth Diversion Center
- Competency Restoration



Transforming Lives

**The HARRIS CENTER for Mental Health and IDD**

**Intellectual and Developmental Disability Services and Supports**

Access, Eligibility, and Beyond

# Recent WINS



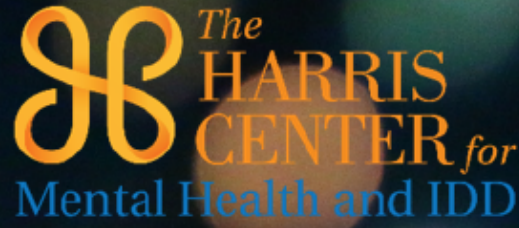
## ▶ CAPEABLE CARNIVAL (JULY DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH)

Disability Pride initially started as a day of celebration in 1990, the year the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law. That same year, Boston held the first Disability Pride Day.

The first official celebration of Disability Pride Month occurred in July 2015, which also marked the 25th anniversary of the ADA. Since then, cities across the country have celebrated disability pride month with parades and other festivities.



Lee Beckman - Dunking Booth



Transforming Lives  
#iddteamELITE

# 2025

## IDD Services Division Calendar

Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities



### Disability Awareness Month

On February 26, 1997, President Ronald Reagan officially declared Proclamation 5613 making March National Disabilities Awareness Month. The proclamation sought to increase "public awareness of the needs and the potential of Americans with developmental disabilities" and to provide the "encouragement and opportunities they need to lead productive lives and to achieve their full potential."

Celebrate the incredible accomplishments and contributions of individuals diagnosed with developmental disabilities. All our citizens are fully integrated into their communities!

### INSPIRE AGES 0 - 6 YEARS

INSPIRE is designed for children with a developmental delay, intellectual disability or emotional/behavioral disorder. It provides a comprehensive, individualized, and evidence-based program of services for children ages 0-6 years. Services are provided in a community-based setting.

Services (up to \$5,000):

- Community-based services (e.g., social skills, self-help, and play)
- Supportive services (e.g., transportation, respite, and home care)
- Therapeutic services (e.g., speech, occupational, and behavioral therapy)
- Parent/caregiver training and support services
- Specialized services (e.g., assistive technology, sensory integration, and feeding therapy)

Scan the QR code to register for INSPIRE.

### NEW SERVICE

## ABA-Skip

APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS - SKILLS INTERVENTION PROGRAM

ABA-Skip is designed for children with autism spectrum disorders ages 2-6 years. The program focuses on teaching functional skills and social skills. Services are provided in a community-based setting.

AGES: 2 YEARS - 6 YEARS

Services may include:

- Functional Behavior Assessment
- Focused individualized services
- Social Skills, Telling Behavior Management
- Community and In-home Services
- Parent Training

REGISTER TODAY!

Scan the QR code or visit: [www.aba-skip.com](http://www.aba-skip.com)

4400 Westburg Blvd., Suite 700  
Houston, TX 77031

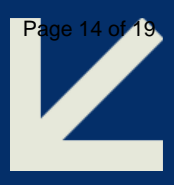
### Sensory Sensitive Supports

New IDD Clinical Services Lobby

For individuals who struggle with sensory processing issues, a calming area can reduce stressors and problem behaviors, while improving fine motor skills, play, balance, spatial orientation, learning, exploration, and social skills.

Made possible by a generous grant from The Harris Center Foundation

# HOT OFF THE PRESS



# WHAT'S NEXT

## Upcoming Projects



### Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)

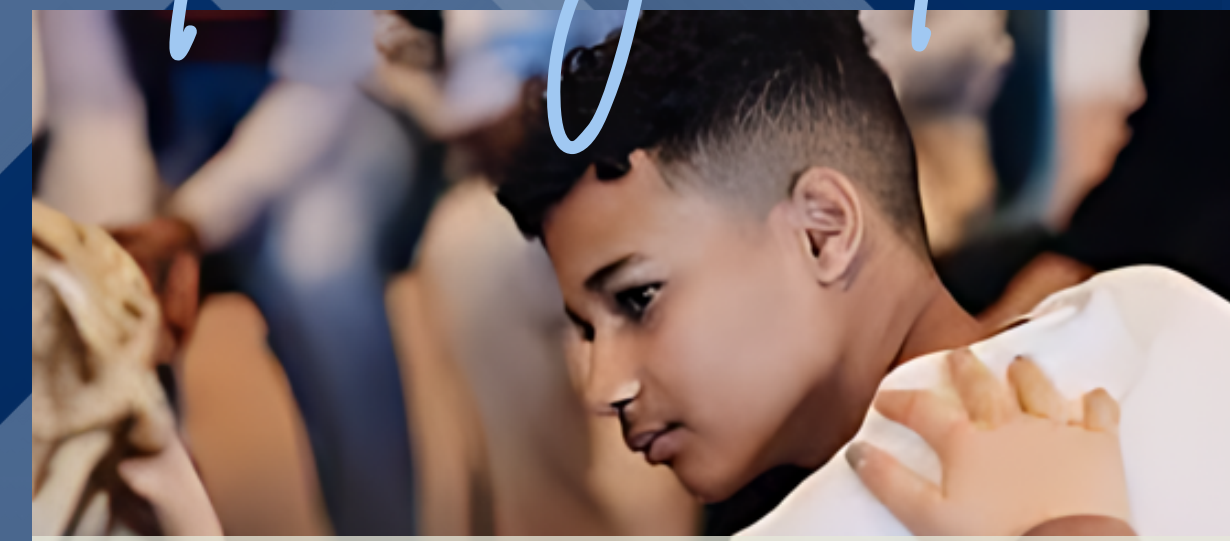
Transitions to the IDD Services Division effective October 2024.

### THE 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL BLUEPRINT

A Seasonal Market Featuring Artists With Autism & IDD

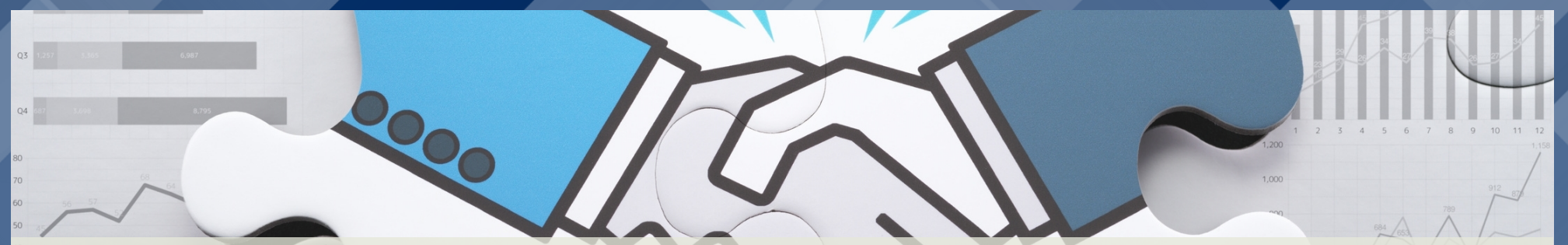
### The Blueprint 3.0

Entrepreneurial event for persons with IDD to be held December 4, 2024.



### Crisis Respite/Step-Down

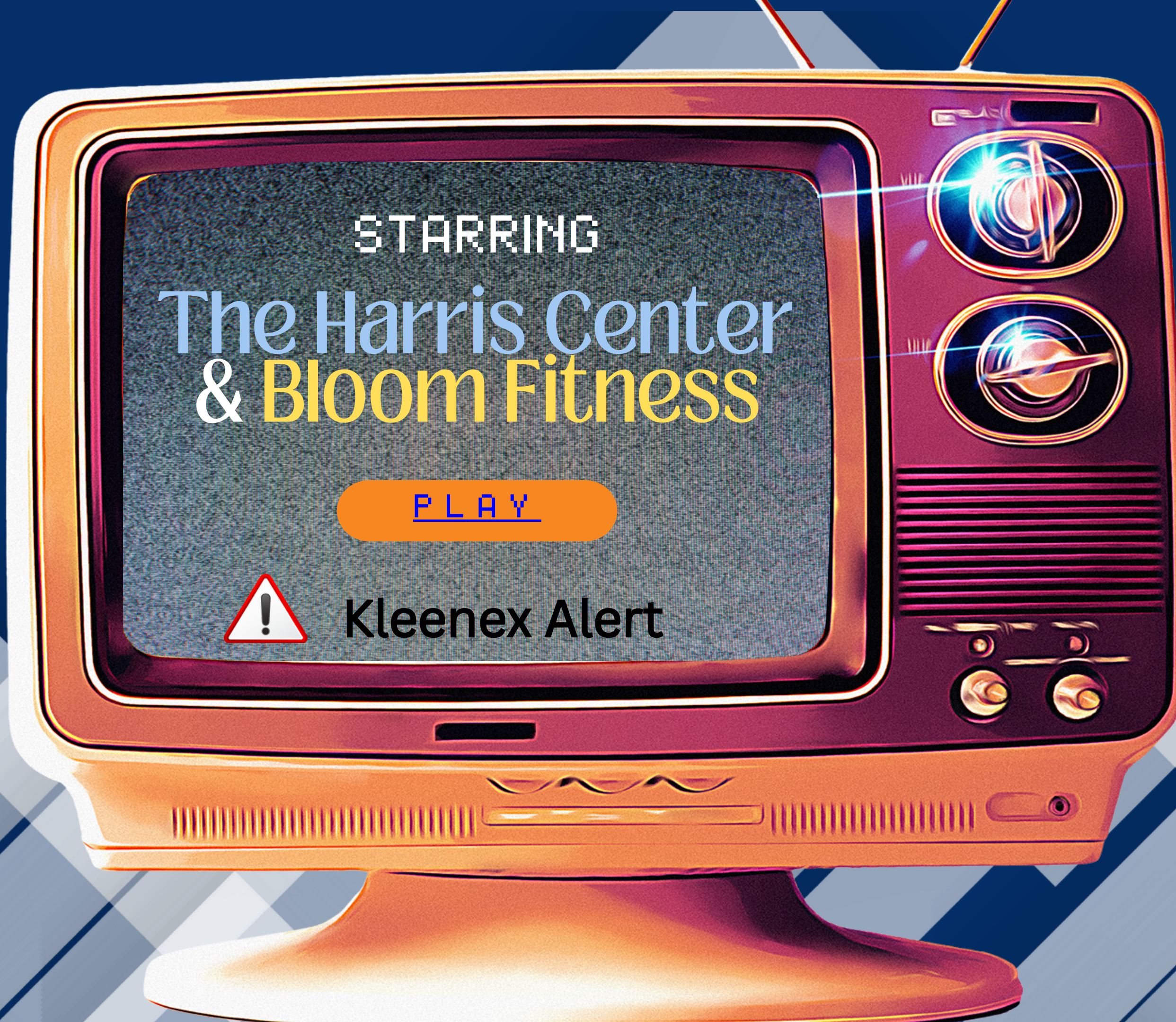
Expansion of comprehensive, wraparound supports for those with intensive needs.



### Community Partnerships

Expand community education at critical intersections directly impacting the IDD community.





STARRING

The Harris Center  
& Bloom Fitness

PLAY



Kleenex Alert



# #IDDTEAMELITE

*Elite professionals serving an incredible population*



Transforming Lives

# **EXHIBIT P-3**

**THE HARRIS CENTER**  
**INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**  
**PLANNING ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**Prepared by: The Office of the Vice President for Intellectual and  
Developmental Disabilities Services**

**June 4, 2024**

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**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Mercedes Alejandro (Advocate); Judy Blake (Advocate); Charles Davis (Harris County Psychiatric Center); Tasheara Jennings Gobert (Texas Workforce Solutions – Vocational Rehabilitation Services); Naila Ibrahim (Dar-us-Sakina); Kennitha Jenkins (Consumer Advocate); Kassandra Malveaux (Harris Co. Protective Services); Dr. Bill Schnapp (Community Member); Shelley Townsend (University of Houston); Mary Jane Williams (Advocate); Albert Williamson (Spring Independent School District)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dory Cayten (Advocate); Cynthia Fannin (Richmond State Supported Living Center); Ellen Goudeau (Advocate); Kevin Kern (The Center for Pursuit); Angel Ponce (Mayor’s Office for People w/ Disabilities); Eileen Lam (Consumer Advocate); Iris Lewis (Harris County Juvenile Probation Department); Elworth Lusk (Consumer Advocate); Dr. Deborah Pearson (McGovern Medical School, UT Health Science Center – Houston, Dept. Psychiatry); Michael Roberts (Down Syndrome Association of Houston); Paola Jimenez Rodriguez (Advocate); Gene Rowe (Advocate); Jennifer Singletary (Region 4 Education Service Center); Janniece Sleight (The Arc of Harris County); VACANT (Community Care Services Eligibility – HHSC); VACANT (Houston Independent School District); VACANT (Humble Independent School District);

**OTHERS ATTENDANCE:**

**The Harris Center Staff:** Patrina Anthony; Dr. Evanthe Collins; Annie Cuba; Randi Garza; Cindy Hernandez; Francisco Hernandez; Dr. Trista Huckleberry; Kenyonika Johnson; David Long; Alejandra McKinney; Dana Sobers-Ben; Raul Ureste; Alia Vasilev; Amanda Willis

**Public Attendees:** Ana Perez (Pasadena Independent School District); David Pomerantz (We Rock the Spectrum); Eric Prim (Texas Workforce Solutions – Vocational Rehabilitation Services); Maria Thompson (Spring Independent School District)

- I. **Call to Order**  
The General (In-Person) Meeting of The Harris Center Planning Advisory Council (IDD-PAC) was called to order at 10:10 AM by Mary Jane Williams, Co-Chair, there being a quorum present. An Interpreter was not needed due to Spanish-speaking guests not being present.
- II. **Approval of Minutes**  
Minutes taken on May 7, 2024 were brought before the council for approval.

**MOTION BY: Albert Williamson**

**SECOND BY: Kennitha Jenkins**

**The minutes from May 7, 2024 were approved as submitted.**

- II. **Call for Public Comment**  
There was no public comment brought forward.
- III. **Council Training**  
Dr. Evanthe Collins, Vice President of IDD Services Division/Grants and State Contracts, provided the following update.

The IDD Division from The Harris Center presented two proposals for two new programs – RISE and Inspire – to Harris County Commissioners Court. These proposals aim to enhance support for the IDD community by expanding client services and increasing staffing to boost the division’s capacity. The division collaborated with Family-to-Family Network, which provided testimony in support of both programs.

**ABA-SkIP (component of Harris County RISE)**

ABA-SkIP, similar to ABA-SkIP program offered from the late 1990s until 2009, will provide applied behavior analysis (ABA) services to children aged 3 – 8 diagnosed with Autism. Previously, the program was funded by the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) with an annual budget of \$600,000. For this iteration, we The Harris Center are collaborating with Harris County to secure over \$2 million in funding over a two-year period. The program is set to commence on July 1<sup>st</sup> and is currently accepting registrations. Targeted outreach will be conducted in 35 zip codes most impacted by COVID-19. Program flyers are available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese, with printed copies also to be distributed.

## MINUTES FROM INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PLANNING ADVISORY COUNCIL

June 4, 2024

PAGE 2

The Harris Center extends its appreciation to Kevin Kern and The Center for Pursuit, as the program will be housed at their new campus. Each recipient of services will initially receive ABA therapy for 90 days in a clinical setting. Following this period, an ABA technician will provide in-home and community-based support to address maladaptive behaviors. After the 90-day cycle, children will be paired with a services coordinator who will offer long-term monitoring, explore additional needs or supports, and ensure continued engagement with support services to promote successful growth and transition into mainstream or school environments.

Margo Childs, serving as the Program Director for IDD Network Development and Management Services, including all GR contracts, will have oversight of the RISE program.

**Inspire**

The Inspire program is available for children from birth up to six years of age who are Harris County residents. Eligibility requires that the family's gross income be at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. The program offers financial assistance for goods and services directly related to the child's disability, including transportation. Families can receive up to \$5,000 for these needs. Additionally, the program provides up to 100 hours of respite care or \$1,000.

To qualify for this program, families must submit a request. If approved, the grant will be paid directly to the vendor. Families will be given a list of approved vendors based on the services they need. However, families may choose to work with a particular vendor not on the list by going through our procurement process to get them added. Immigration status does not affect eligibility for this service.

**Additional Program Details**

Dr. Collins highlighted that the ABA-SkIP is a component of Harris County RISE. RISE, which stands for Responsive Intervention Services and Engagement, includes two additional components. One component involves the Establishment of IDD resource specialists, such as an IDD call center, to assist callers with enrolling in applicable Medicaid waivers. Another component will provide early childhood intervention services to families who do not qualify for traditional Early Childhood intervention (ECI) services.

Dr. Collins conducted a Q&A session with the members and public attendees following her presentation.

IV. **Call for Subcommittee Reports**

A. **Adult and Juvenile Justice Subcommittee – Iris Lewis, Chair**  
No updates were provided at this time.

B. **Public Outreach**  
**Social Engagement Subcommittee – Dory Cayten, Co-Chair**  
No updates were provided at this time.

IV. **Old Business**

A. **Legislative Updates – Amanda Jones, J.D., Director of Government and Public Affairs**  
Ms. Jones was not available to provide an update.

B. **Meeting Dates and Locations:**

June 4 Harris Center	July Cancelled	Aug 6 Zoom
Sept 3 or 10 Harris Center	Oct 1 Cancelled	Nov 5 Zoom
Dec Harris Center	January Cancelled	Feb Zoom

VI. **New Business**

No updates were provided at this time.

VII. **Call for Consideration of Communication, Advice and Recommendations from Public and Private Agencies and Organizations**

No updates were provided at this time.

VIII. **Consideration of Board Requests for Advice Concerning Service Needs and/or Implementation Priorities – Dr. Robin Gearing, Board Liaison, The Harris Center Board of Trustees**

Dr. Gearing was not in attendance to provide an update.

