



SIERRA ARCENEAUX

Body, Mind & Spirit



KESHIA FLOWERS

Salutations from Amber Arceneaux and Keyshia Flowers.

Amber Arceneaux is the Home and Community Based (HCS) Care Coordinator at Bay Area. She has over 10 years of experience in the healthcare industry. Six of those years has been with Bay Area Rehabilitations Center's Opportunity Center.

Keyshia Flowers, the Texas Home Living (TxHmL) Care Coordinator, is new to Bay Area Rehab, she is native of Louisiana with over 10 years of case management/Support Coordination experience working with Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. She is enjoying learning about the many facets of the Texas Home Living program (TxHmL) has to offer.

The Home and Community Based Services Program (HCS) and Texas Home Living Program (TxHmL) are Medicaid waiver programs that serve people with intellectual or developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, and/ or mental illnesses. The programs were designed to provide home and community supports as an alternative to institutional care for individuals who are Medicaid eligible.

The Home and Community Based Services Program (HCS) and Texas Home Living Program (TxHmL) offers a variety of

support services such as Host home companion care, community first choice, respite, minor home modification, dental care assistance, adaptive aide assistance, behavior support, nursing, and many therapy services not covered with traditional Medicaid. These services are designed to allow individuals to still live in their own home or family's home to receive supports to achieve the best quality of life as possible.

As the coordinator, our job is to coordinate, implement, and monitor services for individuals in the Home and Community Based Services Program (HCS) and Texas Home Living program (TxHmL). While doing this we must recognize and respect the uniqueness and potential of all participants, their families, and their culture. We ensure reimbursement for services rendered, provide training and support to individuals who are providing care and services to the individuals, set up contracts with outside entities as needed, ensure that the individual's rights are not being violated, and establish a positive rapport with the community and families we serve. We ensure to follow all guidelines for services and the programs outlined in the Texas Administrative Codes (TAC)

and Texas Health & Services Commission handbooks.

Annually, we hold an interdisciplinary team (IPC) meeting which includes the individual served, Legal authorized representative to the individual or their guardian, service coordinator from local authority, and any imperative people to their care. During the meeting we discuss their needs and desired outcome of each service developing the person directed plan (PDP). As well as review all the individual's rights in the program. We address any complaints or concerns the individual or family may have and provide a solution or guidance as needed. During the IPC year if the individual has a medical or need change we are able to modify services to accommodate the changes as they arise.

We implement services outlined on the IPC by developing strategies to accomplish the specific outcome desired by the individual as discussed during the IPC meeting. To obtain this we have to hire qualified staff, find dentist or doctors, day habilitation services, and other supports. We set small strategic steps with in the program guidelines and time frame goal as needed.

We monitor services monthly to ensure the outlined outcome is being met or progress has been made toward accomplishing it. During this we can provide support or guidance, change or modify strategies, or obtain additional staff, if needed.

Overall the programs provide outstanding supports and services to individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, and/ or mental illnesses to be able to strive in their environment and community. ♦

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