

## What Is Wraparound?

Wraparound is a strengths-based, family-centered planning process that is a central part of YES Waiver services.

A Wraparound facilitator works with the youth and family to create a Child and Family Team, which meets monthly and may include family, friends, neighbors, professionals and others who are important to the youth and family.



Together, the Child and Family Team helps families achieve their vision of success and build a foundation of support that will be there even after youth have graduated from YES.

## What Is the YES Waiver?

The Youth Empowerment Services Waiver is a 1915(c) Medicaid program that partners with families and the community to ensure qualifying Texas youth have access to a wide range of community-based services and supports.

The YES Waiver provides intensive services delivered within a strengths-based team planning process called Wraparound.



YES Waiver services promote lifelong independence and self-defined success and are:

- Family centered.
- Coordinated.
- Effective at preventing out-of-home placement.

### YES Waiver

Information for Families, Youth and Community Members

To learn more about the YES Waiver program, visit [hhs.texas.gov/YES-waiver](https://hhs.texas.gov/YES-waiver).

# YES Waiver

Information for Families, Youth and Community Members

\*\*\*\*\*

*Promoting lifelong independence and self-defined success.*

\*\*\*\*\*



HHS COMM 2000007 • October 2019  
Publication number 777

## What Are the Goals of the YES Waiver?

- Reduce the amount of time youth are out of their home and community because of a mental health need.
- Prevent entry into the foster care system and relinquishment of parental custody.
- Expand available mental health services and supports.
- Ensure families have access to nontraditional support services as determined in a family-centered planning process.
- Improve the lives of youth and families.



## Who Is Eligible for YES Waiver Services?

To participate in the YES Waiver, youth must:

- Be 3 through 18 years old.
- Have serious mental, emotional and behavioral difficulties.
- Have a qualifying mental health diagnosis.

- Be at risk of being placed outside of their home due to their mental health needs.
- Meet the criteria to be in a psychiatric hospital.
- Be eligible for Medicaid — parent's income does not apply.
- Currently live in a home setting with a legal guardian, or on their own if they are legally emancipated.



## YES Waiver Service Array

The Child and Family Team decides which services best meet the youth's needs. The types, locations and availability of YES services may vary.

### SPECIALIZED THERAPIES:

Nontraditional services that provide alternative and creative forms of therapy to help improve the youth's health, welfare and functioning in their community.

- » Animal-assisted therapy
- » Art therapy
- » Music therapy
- » Recreational therapy
- » Nutritional counseling

### COMMUNITY LIVING SUPPORTS:

Help families adjust to special challenges related to the youth's mental health needs by using proven practices and strategies.

### FAMILY SUPPORTS:

Connect family members with others who can support them by sharing similar lived experiences.

### EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT:

Help youth find a job and be successful in it.

### PARAPROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

Help with stressful situations through coaching and mentoring.

### RESPIRE SERVICES:

Allow families and caretakers to take a temporary break from caring for youth enrolled in YES.

### NONMEDICAL TRANSPORTATION:

Take youth to YES Waiver services when no other transportation is available.

### SUPPORTIVE FAMILY-BASED ALTERNATIVES:

Provide support and model healthy interactions for the whole family while the youth temporarily lives in a therapeutic home.

### ADAPTIVE AIDS AND SUPPORTS:

Supplement YES services with medically necessary supports to prevent out-of-home placement.

### MINOR HOME MODIFICATIONS:

Support the youth's ability to function independently at home and in the community.

### TRANSITION SERVICES:

Help with the costs associated with a youth moving into their own home.

## How Long Does the Program Last?

The average length of time in the YES Waiver is 11–18 months. However, each youth's needs will determine duration of care.

## How Do Youth Get YES Waiver Services?

Individuals must contact their local mental health authority to be added to the YES Waiver inquiry list. Only a parent, guardian or managing conservator can request a youth be added to the inquiry list and assessed for the YES Waiver, unless the youth is legally emancipated. You can search for your local mental health authority by visiting [apps.hhs.texas.gov/contact/search.cfm](https://apps.hhs.texas.gov/contact/search.cfm).



# YES Waiver

## Information for Families, Youth and Community Members

### What Are the Goals of the YES Waiver?

- Reduce the amount of time youth are out of their home and community because of a mental health need.
- Prevent entry into the foster care system and relinquishment of parental custody.
- Expand available mental health services and supports.
- Ensure families have access to nontraditional support services as determined in a family-centered planning process.
- Improve the lives of youth and families.

### Who Is Eligible for YES Waiver Services?

To participate in the YES Waiver, youth must:

- Be 3 through 18 years old.
- Have serious mental, emotional and behavioral difficulties.
- Have a qualifying mental health diagnosis.
- Be at risk of being placed outside of their home due to their mental health needs.
- Meet the criteria to be in a psychiatric hospital.
- Be eligible for Medicaid — parent’s income does not apply.
- Currently live in a home setting with a legal guardian, or on their own if they are legally emancipated.

### YES Waiver Service Array

The Child and Family Team decides which services best meet the youth’s needs. The types, locations and availability of YES services may vary.

#### **SPECIALIZED THERAPIES:**

Nontraditional services that provide alternative and creative forms of therapy to help improve the youth’s health, welfare and functioning in their community.

- Animal-assisted therapy
- Art therapy
- Music therapy
- Recreational therapy
- Nutritional counseling

#### **COMMUNITY LIVING SUPPORTS:**

Help families adjust to special challenges related to the youth’s mental health needs by using proven practices and strategies.

#### **FAMILY SUPPORTS:**

Connect family members with others who can support them by sharing similar lived experiences.

#### **EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT:**

Help youth find a job and be successful in it.

#### **PARAPROFESSIONAL SERVICES:**

Help with stressful situations through coaching and mentoring.

#### **RESPIRE SERVICES:**

Allow families and caretakers to take a temporary break from caring for youth enrolled in YES.

#### **NONMEDICAL TRANSPORTATION:**

Take youth to YES Waiver services when no other transportation is available.

#### **SUPPORTIVE FAMILY-BASED ALTERNATIVES:**

Provide support and model healthy interactions for the whole family while the youth temporarily lives in a therapeutic home.

#### **ADAPTIVE AIDS AND SUPPORTS:**

Supplement YES services with medically necessary supports to prevent out-of-home placement.

#### **MINOR HOME MODIFICATIONS:**

Support the youth’s ability to function independently at home and in the community.

#### **TRANSITION SERVICES:**

Help with the costs associated with a youth moving into their own home.

### How Long Does the Program Last?

The average length of time in the YES Waiver is 11–18 months. However, each youth’s needs will determine duration of care.

### How Do Youth Get YES Waiver Services?

Individuals must contact their local mental health authority to be added to the YES Waiver inquiry list. Only a parent, guardian or managing conservator can request a youth be added to the inquiry list and assessed for the YES Waiver, unless the youth is legally emancipated. You can search for your local mental health authority by visiting [apps.hhs.texas.gov/contact/search.cfm](https://apps.hhs.texas.gov/contact/search.cfm).

### What Is Wraparound?

Wraparound is a strengths-based, family-centered planning process that is a central part of YES Waiver services.

A Wraparound facilitator works with the youth and family to create a Child and Family Team, which meets monthly and may include family, friends, neighbors, professionals and others who are important to the youth and family.

Together, the Child and Family Team helps families achieve their vision of success and build a foundation of support that will be there even after youth have graduated from YES.

### What Is the YES Waiver?

The Youth Empowerment Services Waiver is a 1915(c) Medicaid program that partners with families and the community to ensure qualifying Texas youth have access to a wide range of community-based services and supports.

The YES Waiver provides intensive services delivered within a strengths-based team planning process called Wraparound.

YES Waiver services promote lifelong independence and self-defined success and are:

- Family centered.
- Coordinated.
- Effective at preventing out-of-home placement.

### YES Waiver

Information for Families, Youth and Community Members

Promoting lifelong independence and self-defined success.

To learn more about the YES Waiver program, visit [hhs.texas.gov/YES-waiver](https://hhs.texas.gov/YES-waiver).

Texas Health and Human Services.