

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Cecelia Hartley](#)
Subject: FW: Sunset Staff Report on HHSC Issue 9:
Date: Thursday, November 20, 2014 3:12:04 PM

From: Daniela.Decell
Sent: Thursday, November 20, 2014 2:18 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Sunset Staff Report on HHSC Issue 9:

Dear Sunset Committee:

Las Colinas Medical Center and the patients we serve, reject the recommendation by the Sunset Staff Report on HHSC Issue 9:

- NorthSTAR works for our hospitals because patients who are in need of psychiatric crisis services have immediate access to a Psych ER which is appropriate care.
- Our hospital Emergency Rooms will have to accept all psychiatric patients including APPOWS (Apprehension by a Police Officer without a Warrant). For APPOWS, law enforcement will have to wait with the patient in our ERs until a transfer can be Arranged.
- With NorthSTAR the maximum throughput time is 4-5 hrs. In other parts of the state, it can be days. If the recommendation prevails, we will have no options for psych patients that come to our medical emergency rooms.

We strongly oppose the recommendation to eliminate the NorthSTAR model in the 7 County Region.

Daniela Decell, FACHE
Las Colinas Medical Center