

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 25, 2014 4:44:22 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2014 9:50 AM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Wednesday, June 25, 2014 - 09:49

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Amy

Last Name: Granberry

Title: CEO

Organization you are affiliated with: Charlie's Place Recovery Center

City: Corpus Christi

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed:

As a provider of substance use disorder services in Texas, we appreciate the recommendations to improve the contracting processes with DSHS. The process is cumbersome and delayed on a regular basis with anticipated contracts and notice of contracts occurring months after originally planned not allowing contractors to successfully plan for future staffing and patient needs.

In addition we wholeheartedly support the development of meaningful, objective outcome and performance measures that will better allow providers to demonstrate the successes that our services and patients experience. According to the report, we are subjected to 261 measures, however, it remains difficult to provide clear cut meaningful measures based on those measures. We completely support and desire to be able to report measures that allow the public to recognize progress and support best practices while allowing for flexibility and changes in the field.

Finally, we support the retention of the Drug Demand and Reduction Advisory Committee. Substance Use Disorders is a cross-cutting issue impacting a multitude of state services and expenditures not only within the HHSC enterprise but external agencies as well from TEA to TDCJ to DPS and others.

The DDRAC was designed to bring key agency leaders together to identify and address problems and solutions that are unique to substance use disorders, share information and resources, and implement comprehensive coordinated strategies to reduce costs. We urge sunset to reconsider its recommendation to abolish the Drug Demand Reduction Advisory Committee and, instead, recommend it be strengthened. Without a coordinated cross-agency approach that extends beyond the HHSC enterprise, the state will lack a common understanding and coordinated response to the unique feature of substance use disorders as both a health condition and illegal activity.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: NA

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree