

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Monday, June 30, 2014 4:45:20 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2014 4:44 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Monday, June 30, 2014 - 16:43

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Greg

Last Name: Hansch

Title: Assistant Executive Director

Organization you are affiliated with: Austin Clubhouse

Email: greg@austinclubhouse.org

City: Austin

State: Texas

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

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

A key component of mental health recovery is ongoing support in the community. Far too many Texans with mental health diagnoses do not receive the supports they need. A promising model that helps build community, wellness, and independence in the lives of adults with mental illness is the Clubhouse model.

Founded in the 1940s by a group of patients being discharged from a hospital, Clubhouses are an evidence-based program (on the SAMHSA National Registry) centered around the belief that recovery from mental illness is possible. The Austin Clubhouse has been in existence since 2010, while the Clubhouses in Houston and San Antonio are somewhat older. Other areas of the state do not have a Clubhouse, but would benefit from one.

Clubhouses follow a psychosocial rehabilitation model that is strengths-based and welcomes participants as members. The members are part of a community at the Clubhouse – they are encouraged to work as part of the Clubhouse daily routine and are encouraged to follow their goals, whether it's getting back into paid employment, continuing their education, and much more. The standards Clubhouses follow are based on meaningful work and meaningful relationships.

The Austin Clubhouse has over 400 members (with an average daily attendance of 25 members) and operates on an annual budget of approximately \$230,000.

According to available research, Clubhouses achieve the following tangible results for members and their communities:

- Better transitional employment results: longer on-the-job tenure is found to be highly correlated with Clubhouse attendance.
- Cost effectiveness: the cost of Clubhouses is estimated to be one-third of the cost of the IPS model; about one-half the annual costs of Community Mental Health Centers; and substantially less than the ACT model.
- Reduced hospital stays: membership in a Clubhouse has resulted in a significant decrease in the number of hospitalizations.
- Reduced incarcerations: criminal justice system involvement is substantially diminished during and after Clubhouse psychosocial program membership.
- Improved well-being:
 - o Compared with individuals receiving services as usual, Clubhouse members have been shown to be significantly more likely to report that they had close friendships and someone they could rely on when they needed help.

Clubhouses would be a beneficial mental health system investment for the State of Texas.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree