



SOUTH SAN ANTONIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Agenda Item Summary

Meeting Date: November 17, 2025

Agenda Section: Consent Agenda

Agenda Item Title: The Center for Health Care Services (CHCS)-Community Health Awareness of Adolescents and Teens (CHAAT)

From/Presenters: Dr. Jennifer Gutierrez, Deputy Superintendent

Additional Presenters if Applicable: Rosemary Morales, Director of Guidance and Counseling

Description: The Center for Health Care Services, Community of Health Awareness of Adolescents and Teens (CHAAT) program will promote the mental health and well-being of the community by providing services to students, staff, and the community of South San Antonio ISD. The services provided will be delivered through a combination of group sessions, individual sessions, and workshops/presentations.

Historical Data: SSAISD has partnered with the CHCS since the 23-24 school year.

Recommendation: Approve MOU between SSAISD and CHCS

Purchasing Director and Approval Date: Rosemary Morales, Director of Guidance and Counseling, November 17, 2025

Funding Budget Code and Amount: None

Goal 4: SSAISD will ensure all students are provided a learning environment centered on their well-being that impacts their learning and success.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding ("Agreement" or "MOU") is made and entered into by and between **South San Antonio Independent School District (SSAISD)** and the Bexar County Board of Trustees for Mental Health Mental Retardation Services dba **The Center for Health Care Services (CHCS)**, a political subdivision of the state of Texas and the Bexar County local mental health authority authorized under Section 531.001 of the Texas Health and Safety Code which provides quality integrated care to improve the lives of children and adults with mental health conditions, substance use challenges and intellectual or developmental disabilities.

R E C I T A L S

South San Antonio Independent School District and **The Center for Health Care Services** desire to enter a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to establish a framework of cooperation and a close working relationship.

South San Antonio Independent School District finds that entering in to such a MOU with **The Center for Health Care Services** serves a public purpose and can enhance education and healthcare capabilities in San Antonio.

NOW, THEREFORE, South San Antonio Independent School District and The Center for Health Care Services in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, do mutually agree as follows:

T E R M S

I. Organization

South San Antonio Independent School District (SSAISD): The South San Antonio Independent School District opened its doors to students in 1922 and was housed in a single building on Fleming Street. The district comprises approximately 21 square miles in the South and Southwest portions of San Antonio and is home to 1300 teachers, administrators, and staff. South San Antonio ISD proudly offers 12 schools to students, including eight elementary, three middle, and one high school. SSAISD provides a variety of programs, such as early college, dual credit, several career and technical education opportunities, dual language, and Pre-K programs. SSAISD is also an open-enrollment district and therefore welcomes all Bexar County students.

The Center for Health Care Services (CHCS): CHCS is the Bexar County local mental health authority authorized under Section 531.001 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, dedicated to improving the health outcomes of underprivileged communities. CHCS provides comprehensive healthcare services, including primary care, mental health services, and community-based health education programs. Through its network of clinics and outreach initiatives, CHCS works to eliminate health disparities by offering accessible, high-quality health care to all individuals, regardless of their ability to pay, while also focusing on preventive care and wellness to foster a healthier community.

II. Recognition

South San Antonio Independent School District (SSAISD) and The Center for Health Care Services (CHCS) recognize that collaborative efforts between educational and healthcare organizations are crucial for fostering holistic community well-being. This MOU embodies the commitment of both organizations to work together in ways that leverage each party's strengths for mutual benefit. SSAISD acknowledges that CHCS' expertise in health and social services significantly enhances the support systems available to students and their families,

addressing crucial socio-emotional and health-related needs that extend beyond the traditional educational framework. Conversely, CHCS recognizes that collaborating with SSAISD provides a unique opportunity to reach families and youth in educational settings, facilitating earlier and more proactive health interventions.

Both organizations affirm that this partnership will lead to enhanced outcomes for students, families, and the broader community by:

- Integrating educational and healthcare services to provide a comprehensive support network that is more accessible and effective.
- Promoting the well-being of students, which is essential for academic and personal success, thereby fostering a healthier, more educated community.
- Facilitating community engagement and empowerment through joint initiatives, thereby strengthening community ties and resilience.

The collaboration outlined in this MOU is thus recognized as not only beneficial to both SSAISD and CHCS but as a pivotal enhancement to the community's overall health and educational infrastructure. Through this partnership, both organizations commit to a shared vision of improving lives and nurturing the future leaders of the community.

This MOU shall take effect upon its signing by authorized representatives of **South San Antonio Independent School District (SSAISD)** and representatives of **The Center for Health Care Services (CHCS)** and be valid for a period of one year.

This MOU may be amended by mutual written agreement of both parties, and it is understood by both parties that at any time this Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by thirty (30) days written notification from either party to the other.

Six months prior to termination, the parties shall meet to review the progress and success of the Memorandum of Understanding and determine whether it shall be extended for an additional one year. In no event shall any single extension of this Memorandum of Understanding be for a term exceeding one year.

A. Topics of Presentations:

- a. Positives and Negatives of Social Media**
- b. Online Grooming**
- c. Online Gaming**
- d. Sleep Hygiene**
- e. Suicide Prevention**
- f. Online Dating Violence**
- g. Tailored presentation requested by district available***

CHCS's Community Health Awareness of Adolescents and Teens (CHAAT) program will provide mentoring groups at designated schools. These groups will consist of cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), dialectical behavioral therapy (DBT) and life skills groups that will help mitigate mental health issues and decrease crisis episodes.

B. Service Delivery Model

- Services will be delivered through a combination of:

- **Group Sessions:** CHCS will conduct group sessions with students, according to the approved curriculum-based program with an emphasis on non-instructional time being interrupted, with a target group size of 3 to 8 students. The sessions will be held at the students' campus of enrollment, Monday through Friday during "mascot" time.
- **Individual Sessions:** CHCS will provide individual sessions to students who require more intensive support or who are identified as needing specific interventions. The frequency and duration of individual sessions will be determined in collaboration with the campus administrative staff, to include the school counselor and/or school social worker, considering the student's needs and available resources.
- **Workshops/Presentations:** CHCS will conduct workshops or presentations for parents/guardians, school staff, or the wider school community, as agreed upon by both parties.

III. SSAISD Access and Clearance Requirements

To ensure the safety and security of SSAISD students and staff, and to facilitate effective service delivery, CHCS Care Managers providing services under this MOU shall comply with the following requirements:

- **SSAISD Non-Employee Partner Application:** All CHCS Care Managers who will be providing services on SSAISD campuses or interacting directly with SSAISD students must complete the SSAISD Non-Employee Partner Application. This application process includes, but is not limited to, providing necessary personal information, and acknowledging adherence to SSAISD policies and procedures.
- **Background Check:** As part of the Non-Employee Partner Application process, CHCS Care Managers will undergo a background check, as required by SSAISD policy. CHCS will cooperate fully with SSAISD in the completion of said background checks. SSAISD will accept CHCS thorough background checks with proper documentation provided.
- **Encrypted Email:** All official communication related to the services provided under this MOU will be done via encrypted email, including but not limited to:
 - Scheduling appointments with students and/or school staff.
 - Exchanging confidential student information (in accordance with FERPA and other applicable laws and regulations).
 - Coordinating service delivery with school personnel.
- **Compliance:** CHCS shall ensure that all its Care Managers providing services under this MOU are aware of and comply with the requirements outlined in this section. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in the suspension or termination of service provision and/or this MOU.

IV. Miscellaneous

1. **Term.** This MOU shall be in effect beginning on the Execution Date and terminating one (1) year from that date. The Parties may continue this MOU for an additional period of one (1) year at the end of each one (1) year term unless previously terminated. This MOU may be terminated by either party, without cause, at any time, by giving the other party written notice at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of termination.
2. **Powers.** This Memorandum of Understanding does not create a partnership or a joint venture, and neither Party has the authority to bind the other.
3. **Modifications.** This MOU constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and no oral understanding not incorporated herein shall be binding on any of the parties hereto. This MOU may be modified, altered, or revised, as necessary, by mutual consent of the parties, by the issuance of a

written amendment, signed and dated by the parties.

4. **Indemnification.** To the extent authorized by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Texas, each party shall indemnify and hold harmless the other party, its officers, directors, employees, members and agents and each of them from any claims, actions, demands or liabilities whatsoever that may arise out of any act or omission, breach of this MOU, or other activity conducted by the other in connection with the Agreement.

5. **Venue.** This Agreement will be construed under and in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. Mandatory and exclusive venue of any dispute between the Parties to this Agreement shall be in Bexar County, Texas.

6. **Governmental Entity.** The Parties acknowledge that both SSAISD and CHCS are political subdivisions of the State of Texas and under the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, possesses certain rights and privileges, is subject to certain limitations and restrictions, and only has such authority as is granted to it under the Constitution and the laws of the State of Texas. Notwithstanding any provision of this MOU, nothing in this MOU is intended to be, nor will it be construed to be, a waiver of SSAISD's or CHCS' sovereign immunity of the State of Texas or a prospective waiver of restriction of any of the rights, remedies, claims and privilege.

7. **Assignment.** Neither party shall not transfer, pledge or otherwise assign this MOU, any interest in and to same, or any claim arising thereunder, without first procuring the written approval of the other party. Any attempt at transfer, pledge or other assignment shall be void and shall confer no rights upon any third person.

8. **Severability.** The parties intend for the various provisions of this MOU to be severable so that the invalidity, if any, of any one section (or more) shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions or sections.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this instrument has been executed by an authorized representative on behalf of South San Antonio Independent School District, and on behalf of The Center for Health Care Services.

South San Antonio Independent School District

By: Dr. Saul Hinojosa
Print Name

Superintendent
Title

Signature

Date Signed

The Center for Health Care Services

By: Jelynn LeBlanc Jamison
Print Name

President / CEO
Title

J. Jamison
Signature

10/29/2025
Date Signed