



Quarterly Report

Office of Community-Based Care Transition Implementation Status

March 2024

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Introduction and Background

As required by Texas Family Code, Subchapter B-1, Chapter 264, Section 264.172 (f), 87th Texas Legislature, the Office of Community-Based Care Transition (OCBCT) “shall report to the legislature at least once each calendar quarter regarding the implementation of Community-Based Care in the state.” Status reports shall be provided on September 30th, December 30th, March 31st, and June 30th of each year to the Texas Legislature.

Community-Based Care (CBC) changes the way the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) procures, contracts, and pays for foster care services. Under a performance-based grant agreement, a single contractor provides services to children and families within a designated community (also known as “catchments” or “community areas”).

In Stage I, this Single Source Continuum Contractor (SSCC) is responsible for ensuring the full continuum of paid foster care placements and other services for children in the state’s legal conservatorship. SSCCs also support adoption recruitment, matching, and home studies. In Stage II, the SSCC expands services to include unverified relative or “kinship” placements, services to parents, and the SSCC has sole responsibility for the legal case management function. In Stage III, the SSCC continues the provision of all Stage I and II services and is awarded with financial incentives and disincentives for permanency outcomes, and additional performance measures for child safety and well-being. For information and data on the performance of SSCC contractors, see the [DFPS Rider 15 Report](#).

Update on Community-Based Care Expansion

OCBCT and CBC Operations Division within DFPS work in partnership to ensure sound contract management and implementation processes to support the expansion of CBC in Texas. Over the last quarter, there have been readiness process improvements, including refining the readiness tool to be more robust and comprehensive of the activities and actions necessary to progress implementation in each designated community area. These changes will allow for a predictable and seamless transition to CBC for the SSCCs and DFPS.

OCBCT and DFPS have been focused on maturing the monitoring process for the SSCC contracts to inform and improve the CBC model as implementation progresses statewide. The DFPS CBC Operations team will be structured to allow for dedicated resources to obtain feedback from SSCCs, providers, stakeholders, and the public to support and recommend changes to existing processes where applicable.

OCBCT, DFPS, and the SSCCs have also spent time over the last quarter to plan and prepare for



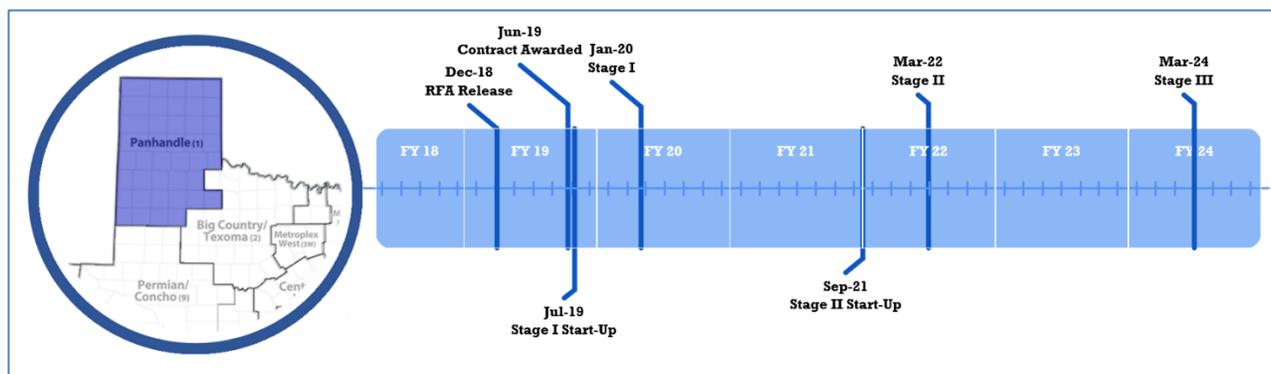
the implementation of Stage III. All SSCCs were provided with an informational session hosted by DFPS, OCBCT, and Chapin Hall to discuss the operational plan for Stage III. Additionally, each SSCC that is eligible to begin Stage III in FY2024 was provided with an individualized meeting to review their specific Stage III data. The SSCCs that will be eligible for Stage III after FY2024 will be given the opportunity for individualized data meetings as their Stage III start date approaches.

As CBC implementation moves forward, OCBCT and DFPS remain committed to educating and supporting community stakeholders. The [CBC Outreach Request](#) form can be utilized by stakeholders, community members, staff, or any interested party to request information and presentations on CBC. This form can be found on the external [CBC website](#).

The last quarter has brought exciting updates and advancements to the CBC system, and below is a point in time implementation update for each SSCC.

Panhandle- Saint Francis Community Services, Inc (SFCS) and their SSCC division, Saint Francis Community Services in Texas, Inc

The Panhandle community, previously known as Region 1, is comprised of [41 counties](#) in the Texas Panhandle. The visual below depicts the timeline of this community’s CBC progress. SFCS is currently in Stage II and will move into Stage III for all 41 counties on March 1, 2024.

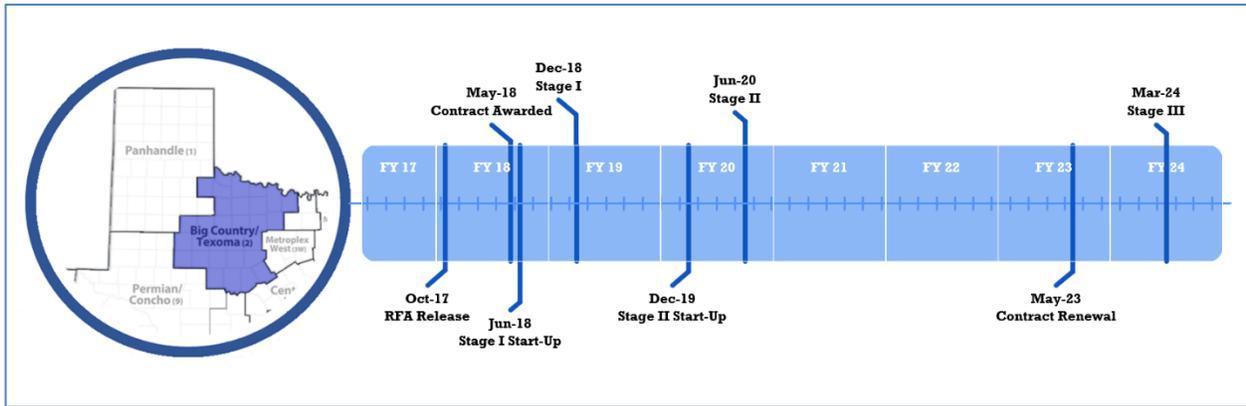


Big Country & Texoma- Texas Family Initiative and their SSCC Division, 2INgage

The Big Country & Texoma community, previously known as Region 2, is comprised of [30 counties](#) in northwest Texas. The visual below depicts the timeline of this community’s CBC



progress. 2INgage will move into Stage III for all 30 counties on March 1, 2024.



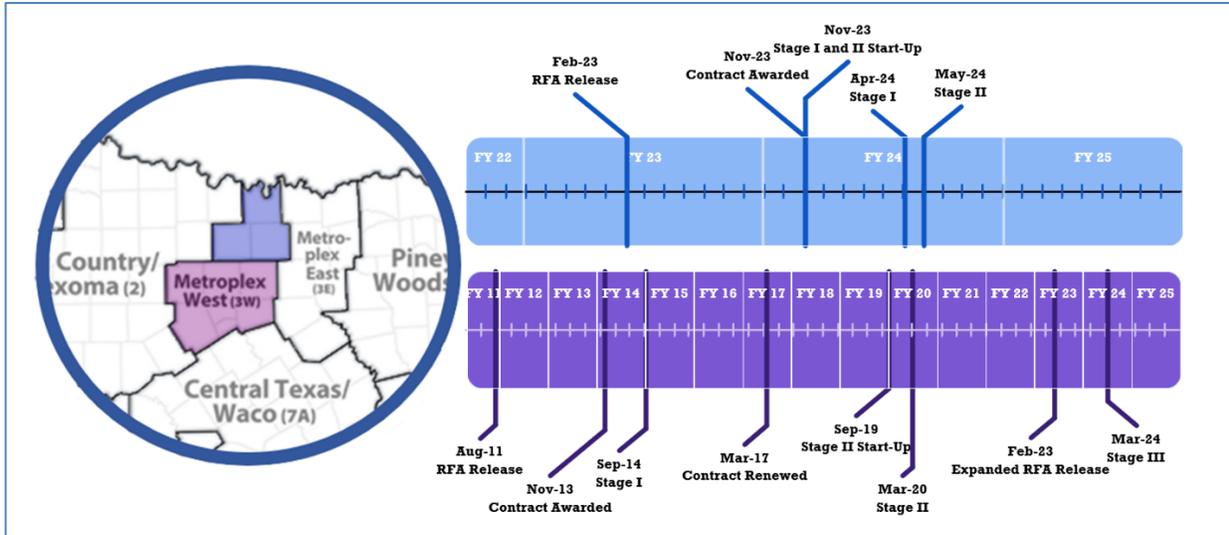
Metroplex West- ACH Child and Family Services and their SSCC Division, Our Community Our Kids (OCOK)

The Metroplex West community, previously known as Region 3W, is comprised of Cooke, Denton, Erath, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Tarrant, and Wise counties. The visual below depicts the timeline of this community’s CBC progress, from the most recent RFA release in February 2023 to today. OCOK has been the SSCC in the Metroplex West community since 2014, at which time they served the southern seven of the ten counties in the area.

OCOK is presently in Stage I start-up for the northern three counties of Cooke, Denton, and Wise. OCOK is planning to begin Stage I in these three counties in April 2024. Additionally, after Stage I goes live in these three counties, OCOK will immediately begin Stage II readiness. It is projected that OCOK will move these three counties into Stage II in May 2024, dependent upon readiness certification.

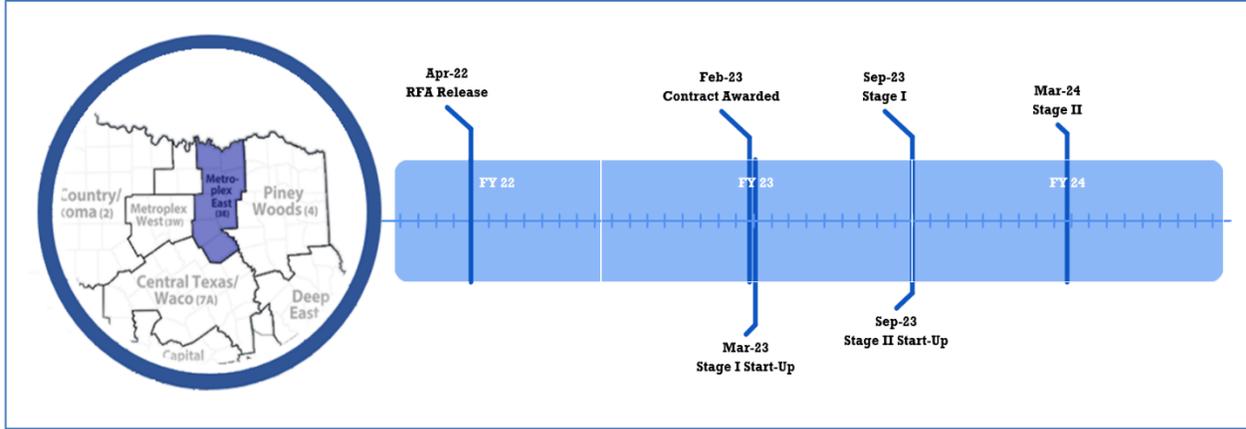
OCOK remains in Stage II for the counties of Erath, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, and Tarrant, and will move these counties into Stage III on March 1, 2024.





Metroplex East- Texas Family Initiative and their SSCC Division, EMPOWER

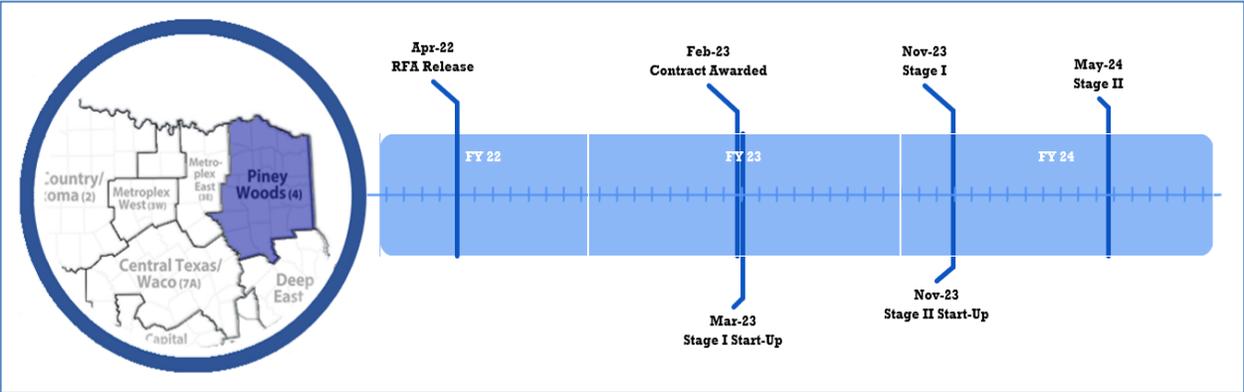
The Metroplex East community, previously known as Region 3E, is comprised of the following 9 counties in and around Dallas: Collin, Dallas, Ellis, Fannin, Grayson, Hunt, Kaufman, Navarro, and Rockwall. The visual below depicts the timeline of this community’s CBC progress. EMPOWER is currently in Stage II start-up and will move into Stage II on March 1, 2024.



Piney Woods- Arrow Child & Family Ministries and their SSCC Division, 4Kids4Families

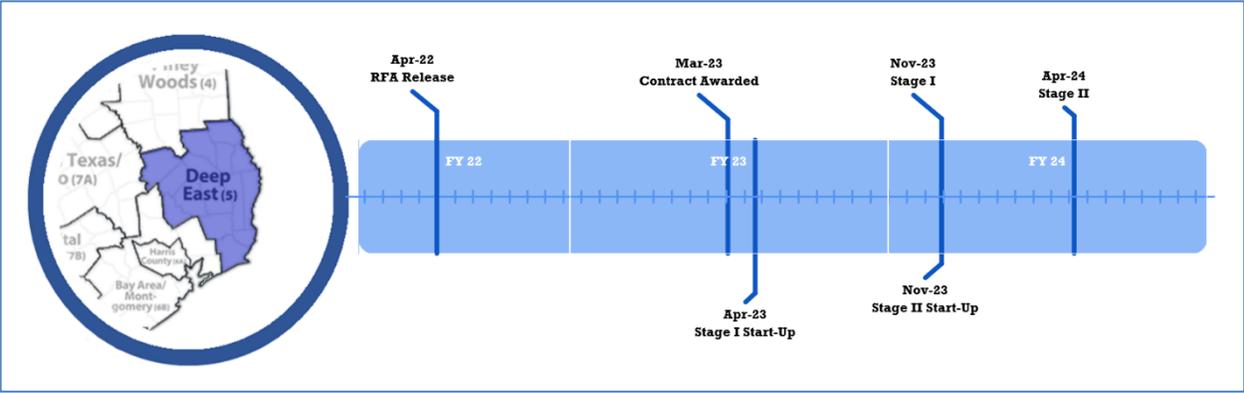
The Piney Woods community, previously known as Region 4, is comprised of [23 counties](#). The

visual below depicts the timeline of this community’s CBC progress. 4Kids4Families is currently in Stage II start-up and is projected to go live on May 1, 2024, dependent upon readiness certification.



Deep East- Pressley Ridge and their SSCC Division, Texas Family Care Network

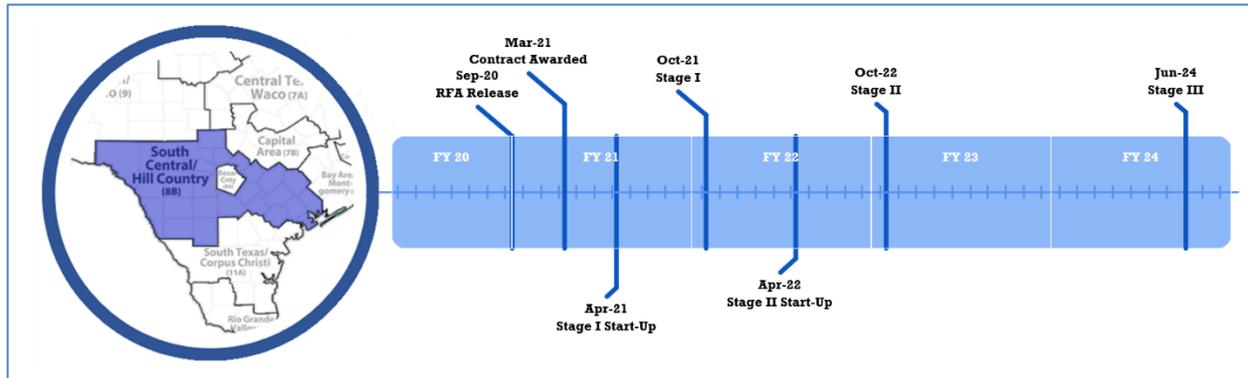
The Deep East community, previously known as Region 5, is comprised of [15 counties](#). The visual below depicts the timeline of this community’s CBC progress. TFCN is currently in Stage II start-up and is preparing to move into Stage II on April 1, 2024, given readiness certification.



South Central & Hill Country- SJRC Texas and their Division, Belong

The South Central & Hill Country community, previously known as Region 8b, is comprised of [27 counties](#), excluding Bexar County. The visual below depicts the timeline of this community’s CBC

progress. Belong is currently in Stage II for all 27 counties and will move into Stage III on June 1, 2024.



Conclusion

DFPS and OCBCT remain committed to supporting and sustaining the implementation of CBC across the state. This vast sea change in the Texas foster care system would not be possible without the support of stakeholders from all facets of the child welfare system. At this time, of the children in paid foster care, 47.5% are in SSCC community areas (as of March 11, 2024). View the latest [CBC Implementation Plan](#) for additional information on the expansion of CBC.



Appendix A: Current Community-Based Care Communities

