

STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF TRAVIS §

**THE TEXAS JUVENILE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT
AND
MEADOWS MENTAL HEALTH POLICY INSTITUTE
Memorandum of Understanding
AMENDMENT #2**

The **Texas Juvenile Justice Department**, hereinafter **TJJD**, and the **Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute** (MMHPI), hereinafter (each a Party and collectively, Parties), acknowledge that they have previously entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with regard to the collaboration between the above-named Parties to develop the Texas Continuum of Care Project (Project) period of **June 25, 2024**, through **June 30, 2026**. This MOU is identified as **Contract Number CON0001646**.

Both parties wish to continue the relationship that exists without a lapse in services. MMHPI agrees to continue working on the project under the existing contract, and the TJJD agrees to continue working on the project during the term of this contract.

MMHPI represents and warrants that the individual signing this Amendment is authorized to sign this document on behalf of MMHPI and to bind MMHPI under this Amendment.

The parties hereto agree to be bound by the terms of the existing contract and any amendments, if any, and agree that the current provisions, terms, and conditions shall remain in full force and effect until the date of termination and that they shall remain bound by any terms or requirements that survive contract termination.

Pursuant to Section 11 Amendments, the MOU may be amended to reflect the following revisions. Therefore, the parties agree to amend **Contract Number CON0001646** as follows:

1. Pursuant to #12. Effective Date, the contract is being extended for an additional 60 days to August **31, 2026**, revised as follows:

“This contract is effective **June 25, 2024**, and shall remain in effect through **August 31, 2026**. Any renewals shall be at the same terms and conditions, including any approved changes.”

2. The work contemplated herein is separate from the prior federally funded agreement and is not supported by federal funds, and therefore, is not subject to Uniform Guidance.

Adding Attachment 1, Meadows Institute Proposal dated 4.02.26
“Strategic Plan Support & Continuum of Care Implementation Proposal”

3. Adding compensation: TJJD will compensate MMHPI with a monthly payment of \$10,000 per month.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have made and executed this Amendment as of the day and year last below written.

MMHPI

[Redacted Signature]

Andy Keller, PhD, President and CEO
Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute

[Redacted Signature]

Shandra Carter, Executive Director
Texas Juvenile Justice Department

Date: 05/13/2026

Date: 05/13/2026

Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute

Strategic Plan Support & Continuum of Care Implementation Proposal

Purpose & Context

In partnership with the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJJ), the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute (Meadows Institute) recently completed a comprehensive statewide assessment of the juvenile justice system and produced seven regional playbooks designed to help counties strengthen diversion pathways, expand community-based supports, and improve cross-system coordination for youth with complex needs. These findings are now informing TJJJ's strategic priorities, regionalization efforts, and ongoing cross-agency collaboration.

At the same time, TJJJ is developing a 10-year strategic plan, which will guide the agency's policy direction, resource alignment, and system development efforts in the coming decade.

This scope of work responds to a request from TJJJ leadership for the Meadows Institute to provide targeted, time-limited support to assist with final development of the strategic plan and support early implementation of the Continuum of Care (CoC) initiative.

Proposed Scope of Work

The Meadows Institute will provide support in two primary areas: Strategic Plan Development and Continuum of Care Implementation.

1. Strategic Plan Development Support

Meadows Institute will support TJJJ in refining and finalizing its strategic plan by:

- Reviewing the current strategic plan draft and providing editorial recommendations related to clarity, feasibility, and alignment with TJJJ authority and operations
- Assisting with synthesis of themes emerging from prior stakeholder engagement sessions
- Ensuring alignment between the strategic plan and key TJJJ initiatives, including: regionalization, CoC findings, Sunset-related priorities, and cross-agency collaboration efforts
- Assisting TJJJ leadership in sequencing and prioritizing initiatives across near-term, mid-term, and long-term planning horizons
- Incorporating feedback from TJJJ leadership, internal staff, Advisory Council members, and other stakeholders
- Assisting with the preparation of materials to support Board review and discussion of the plan

2. Continuum of Care Implementation Support

Meadows Institute will support TJJJ in launching early implementation of the statewide CoC initiative and assisting counties in using the regional playbooks to strengthen diversion and community-based services.

Key activities may include:

- Training TJJJ's regional CoC coordinators on using the content and data in the regional playbooks and statewide report to support counties
- Developing practical tools and materials for TJJJ staff and CoC coordinators to support counties, such as:
 - Data walk facilitation guides to help counties host cross-sector conversations using local juvenile justice and school discipline data
 - Implementation roadmaps that translate regional playbook recommendations into step-by-step action plans
 - Program design templates, including sample eligibility criteria, referral pathways, and partnership structures
 - Regional collaboration guides to support counties working together to share behavioral health services, specialty programming, or crisis response resources
 - School diversion partnership templates, including example MOUs and protocols between juvenile departments, school police, and school districts
 - Quick-reference briefs summarizing evidence-based programs and models highlighted in the playbooks
 - AI-assisted resource inventory tools that can help staff quickly compile and update lists of providers across a region
- Preparing TJJJ staff to facilitate regional juvenile justice and cross-sector meetings focused on CoC implementation
- Working with TJJJ staff to develop a webinar series highlighting high-impact diversion, behavioral health, and cross-system coordination strategies identified in the playbooks on topics such as:
 - Law Enforcement First Offender Programs
 - Alternative Referral Plans and Diversion Agreements
 - Juvenile Justice Grief Screening and Intervention
 - Assessment Center and Diversion Center Models
 - Youth Peer Support, Credible Messenger, and Family Partner Models
 - Accessing Crisis Services for Justice-Involved Youth (YCOT, respite)
 - Detention Diversion Through Paper Referrals and Pre-Intake Screening
 - School-Based Pre-Referral Diversion Strategies
 - Building Local Youth Services Collaboratives
- Providing targeted implementation support to specific counties or regions, upon request

- Supporting TJJD's participation in the High Complexity Youth initiative and related cross-system efforts

Estimated Level of Effort & Cost

The proposed engagement is structured as a monthly retainer to provide TJJD with dedicated strategic support during completion of the strategic plan and early implementation of the CoC initiative. The retainer structure allows TJJD flexibility to renew the engagement month-to-month based on agency needs.

Role	Estimated Hours	Description of Effort
Primary Lead (Layla Fry)	Approximately 1.5-2 days per week	Strategic plan development support, Continuum of Care implementation support, and coordination with TJJD leadership
Senior Leadership (Caitlin Thomas-Henkel)	Approximately 4 hours per month	Senior level review, strategic guidance, and oversight
Total Monthly Retainer	\$10,000 per month	

Contact Information

For questions regarding this proposal or to discuss next steps, please contact:

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