



tcmhcc
Texas Child Mental
Health Care Consortium

Youth Aware of Mental Health (YAM) Program Recommendations

TCMHCC Executive Committee Meeting

October 12, 2026

Why Develop Program Recommendations?

ARPA-Funded Activities

- Expanded implementation through TCHATT school partnerships
- Established statewide hub-and-spoke infrastructure
- Reached more than 85,000 students across Texas
- Demonstrated statewide implementation capacity

Transition Point

- When using GR/state funds, increased expectations for accountability, sustainability, efficiency, and demonstrated outcomes
- Need for clear operational expectations
- Preserve program fidelity while improving efficiency and strengthening oversight

YAM Strategic Vision

The YAM Program would serve as TCMHCC's primary statewide mental health education initiative, functioning as an early engagement point within the Consortium's behavioral health continuum.

Goals

- Maintain to the evidence -based YAM model
- Increase student mental health awareness and literacy
- Promote help-seeking and awareness of available supports
- Expand access to schools across Texas
- Improve implementation efficiency and sustainability
- Align YAM with the Consortium's broader behavioral health mission

Key Program Recommendations

Project Scope

- Must maintain fidelity to the internationally recognized YAM model and any approved Texas adaptations
- Eligible for implementation in any Texas public middle and high school setting

Program Implementation

- Continue to be voluntary for HRI participation
- Establish a process for the ongoing identification and evaluation of opportunities to improve YAM implementation efficiency, accessibility, sustainability, and student reach.

Key Program Recommendations, cont.

Funding

- Subject to legislative appropriations and direction, funding decisions are guided by a list of principles

Governance

- Retain the existing statewide hub -and- spoke structure

Data & Evaluation

- YAM Hub will maintain the primary operational data repository
- YAM Hub may resume student outcome measurement
- Continue cost efficiency analyses to inform future funding, scaling decisions

Timeline

