

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES (NON PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING) STANDARDS OF CARE

HRSA DEFINITION

The provision of support and counseling activities, child abuse and neglect counseling, HIV support groups, pastoral care, caregiver support, and bereavement counseling. Includes nutrition counseling provided by a non-registered dietitian but excludes the provision of nutritional supplements.

DSHS DEFINITION

The provision of support and counseling activities, including alternative services (e.g., visualization, massage, art, music, and play), child abuse and neglect counseling, HIV support groups, pastoral care, recreational outings, caregiver support, and bereavement counseling. Includes other services not included in mental health, substance abuse or nutritional counseling that are provided to clients, family and household members, and/or other caregivers, and focused on HIV-related problems.

LOCAL DEFINITION

The provision of support and counseling activities, including alternative services, child abuse and neglect counseling, HIV support groups, pastoral care, recreational outings, caregiver support, and bereavement counseling. Includes other services not included in mental health, substance abuse or nutritional counseling that are provided to clients, family and household members, and/or other caregivers, and focused on HIV-related problems.

Psychosocial Support Services in the north central Texas region are directed specifically to support Nutritional Assessment and/or Non-Professional Counseling.

GOAL

To provide peer counseling and peer support groups related to HIV health and wellness.

STANDARD OF CARE

- Require individuals who deliver non-professional counseling services to have a minimum of a four-year college degree or related work experience. A degree in psychiatry, psychology, family therapy, social work, counseling, or a related field is preferred.
- Require staff to complete standardized professional facilitation training.
- Require non-licensed staff or trainees who deliver non-professional counseling services be supervised by a licensed professional.