



COUNTY OF RAINS

BRENT D. HILLIARD

COUNTY JUDGE



July 13, 2026

SAMHSA Division of Grant Review
Grant Committee
Office of Financial Resources
Division of Grants Management
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD. 20857

Re: CCBHC Behavioral Health Partnership
For Early Diversion of Adults and Youth Grant

Dear Grant Review Committee:

On behalf of Rains County, I am pleased to express our intent to fully participate as a Key Coalition Partner in the Early Diversion Coalition as part of Andrews Center's proposed Youth Crisis Outreach Team (YCOT) planning initiative.

Rains County is a local County Government of Rains County, Texas. Our organization services a population of more than 12,000 and geographic area of East Texas by providing Mental Health Services. Through our work interacting with members of our community, we recognize the importance of coordinated behavioral health and crisis response services.

Our organization strongly supports Andrews Center's proposal to establish an Early Diversion Coalition to assess community needs, strengthen cross-system collaboration and develop a coordinated Youth Crisis Outreach Team. We recognize the need for earlier identification and intervention for youth experiencing behavioral health crises and believe that improving coordination among community partners can reduce avoidable hospitalization and juvenile justice involvement while increasing access to timely, community-based behavioral health services.

Should the grant be awarded Brent D. Hilliard, County Judge, of Rains County, Texas who possesses decision-making authority on behalf of our organization, will serve as our representative on the Early Diversion Coalition. If necessary, an alternate representative with appropriate decision-making authority may also participate to ensure consistent engagement throughout the planning process.

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EMORY, TEXAS 75440

BRENT.D.HILLIARD@CO.RAINS.TX.US

Grant Review Committee

July 13, 2026

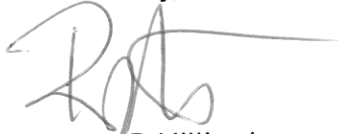
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As a Key Coalition Partner of the Early Diversion Coalition, our organization intends to:

- Actively participate in Coalition meetings and planning activities.
- Contribute expertise regarding our organization's services, resources, and community needs
- Assist in identifying service gaps and opportunities for improving early diversion of youth experiencing behavioral health crises.
- Collaborate in the development of a sustainable, community-based Youth Crisis Outreach Team model that reflects the needs of the region.
- Participate in implementation planning and other collaborative activities consistent with our organization's mission and available resources.

We appreciate the opportunity to be a valuable community partner in this important initiative and look forward to working collaboratively with Andrews Behavioral Health to improve outcomes for children, youth, and families in our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Brent D Hilliard", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brent D Hilliard
County Judge
Rains County

RESOLUTION #IV.B.10.073026

**A RESOLUTION OF RAINS COUNTY, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING APPROVAL
OF A LETTER OF INTENT FOR THE SAMHSA GRANT FOR EARLY
DIVERSION OF ADULTS AND YOUTH**

WHEREAS, Rains County recognizes the importance of early intervention and diversion programs to improve outcomes for adults and youth with behavioral health needs; and

WHEREAS, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) offers grant opportunities to support early diversion initiatives aimed at reducing involvement with the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, submission of a Letter of Intent is required to demonstrate the County's interest in pursuing such funding and to support the development of collaborative, community-based solutions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF RAINS COUNTY, TEXAS, THAT:

1. The Rains County Commissioners Court hereby approves the submission of a Letter of Intent for the SAMHSA Grant for Early Diversion of Adults and Youth.
2. The County Judge, is authorized to execute and submit all necessary documentation related to the Letter of Intent.
3. This approval does not obligate the County to accept or implement the grant but allows staff to pursue the opportunity and develop a full application if invited.

PASSED AND APPROVED on this 30th day of July, 2026.



Brent D. Hilliard
Rains County Judge



Jeremy Cook, Commissioner Precinct 1



Jim Jones, Commissioner Precinct 2



Korey Young, Commissioner Precinct 3



Lori Northcutt, Commissioner Precinct 4