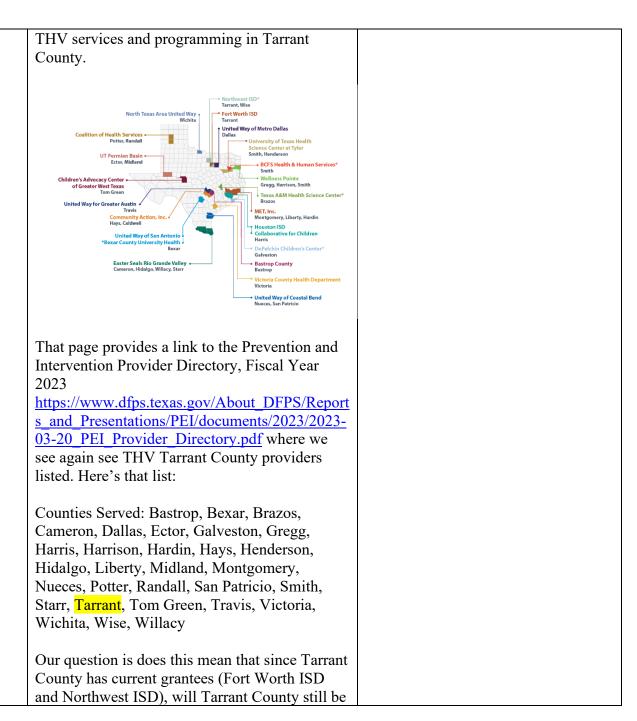
DFPS Texas Home Visiting RFA HHS0013406

Addendum 2 - Questions and Answers

#	RFA Reference	Question	Response
1	Section 3.1 Schedule of Events, Page 40	May I obtain the slides from the webinar please?	Refer to Section 3.4.5 Responses. Each Applicant is responsible for checking the HHS Grants website and Procurement Forecast for information and updates. All available information and materials will be posted there, including the Pre-Submittal Applicant Conference webinar slides.
2	Article II, Section 2.1, Paragraph 4, Page 12	Text of Passage being questioned: "PEI currently implements THV programming and services in the following 29 counties: Bastrop, Bexar, Brazos, Cameron, Dallas, Ector, Galveston, Gregg, Hardin, Harris, Harrison, Hays, Henderson, Hidalgo, Liberty, Midland, Montgomery, Nueces, Potter, Randall, San Patricio, Smith, Starr, Tom Green, Travis, Victoria, Wichita, Willacy and Wise." Question: We have a question about Tarrant County which isn't listed in the passage being questioned above as a county where PEI is currently implementing THV programming and services. When we look at DFPS' Texas Home Visiting website here https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Prevention_and_Early_Intervention/thv.asp we see this figure that shows	Refer to Section 2.2.3 Service Delivery Area. Tarrant County is an eligible county. PEI currently has one grantee serving a very small portion of Tarrant County. The DFPS THV website has not yet been updated to reflect this change.



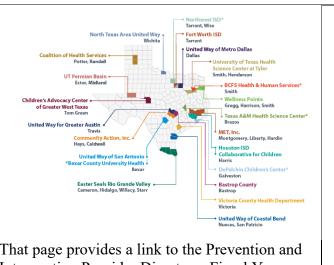
		an Eligible Qualifying County in this RFA?	
3	Section 2.2.3 Service Delivery Area, Paragraphs A, B, and C, Pages 13-14	Text of Passage being questioned: A. All communities served through the THV program must be within areas identified as at-risk for poor maternal and child health Outcomes in the 2020 Texas Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Needs Assessment (Exhibit D), as required under the MIECHV authorizing statute. B. Under this RFA, DFPS will award Grants to provide THV programming and services in eligible Qualifying Counties identified in the 2020 Texas Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Needs Assessment (Exhibit D) that do not currently have THV programming and services. C. Under this RFA, DFPS will award Grants to provide THV programming and services in one or more of the following eligible Qualifying Counties:	Refer to Section 2.2.3 Service Delivery Area. Tarrant County is an eligible county. PEI currently has one grantee serving a very small portion of Tarrant County. The DFPS THV website has not yet been updated to reflect this change.

Eligible	Qualifying Counties		
County	Texas MIECHV Needs Assessment Risk Rank	County	Texas MIECHV Needs Assessmen Risk Rank
Tarrant	2	Kaufman	32
El Paso	6	Anderson	33
Jefferson	7	Parker	34
Lubbock	12	Navarro	36
Bell	13	Howard	37
Orange	14	Jim Wells	38
McLennan	15	Ellis	39
Taylor	17	Lamar	42
Johnson	19	Jasper	43
Webb	21	Atascosa	44
Grayson	22	Nacogdoches	47
Hunt	26	Angelina	48
Bowie	27	Walker	50
Hood	30	Caldwell	51
Cherokee	31	Maverick	53

Question:

We have a question about Tarrant County, which is listed in the 2020 Texas Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Needs Assessment (Revised August 2021) as not having any THV funds which seems to be the criteria for to be a Qualifying County (no THV programming and services).

But when we look at DFPS' Texas Home
Visiting website here
https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Prevention and Early
y Intervention/About Prevention and Early Intervention/thv.asp we see this figure that shows
THV services and programming in Tarrant
County.



That page provides a link to the Prevention and Intervention Provider Directory, Fiscal Year 2023

https://www.dfps.texas.gov/About_DFPS/Reports_and_Presentations/PEI/documents/2023/2023-03-20_PEI_Provider_Directory.pdf where we see again see THV Tarrant County providers listed. Here's that list:

Counties Served: Bastrop, Bexar, Brazos, Cameron, Dallas, Ector, Galveston, Gregg, Harris, Harrison, Hardin, Hays, Henderson, Hidalgo, Liberty, Midland, Montgomery, Nueces, Potter, Randall, San Patricio, Smith, Starr, Tarrant, Tom Green, Travis, Victoria, Wichita, Wise, Willacy

Our question is does this mean that since Tarrant County has current grantees (Fort Worth ISD and Northwest ISD), will Tarrant County will still an Eligible Qualifying County in this RFA?

4	Exhibit B, DFPS Uniform Terms and Conditions	Question: When we downloaded the zip folder containing the exhibits, Exhibit B downloaded as only the cover page. Is it possible to have access to the full document?	Exhibit B is a saved as a Portfolio. If it does not open with both files shown on the left, it can be opened by going to View, Portfolio, Details from the PDF toolbar menu.
5	Section 2.5.9, Program Director Responsibilities and Requirements, Pages 22-23	Question: Is it required that the Program Director reside in the State of Texas?	Refer to Section 2.5.8 Staffing Requirements. Given the responsibilities of the Program Director and to adequately meet the requirements of the role, it is advisable that the Program Director both reside in Texas, and moreover, in or within easy traveling distance of the identified service County. Please also see Pages 21-23, in Section 2.5.8 Staffing Requirements: "B. The Applicant must describe plans to do the following in Exhibit G, Project Work Plan: B.2. Strategically hire organizational leadership representative of the community and prepared to support quality THV services. Organizational leadership should have relevant backgrounds, demographic characteristics, and experience. Organizational leadership should be reflective of the community served and have breadth and depth of experience to successfully support and

			implement THV programming."
6	Section 2.5.8, Staffing Requirements, Beginning on Page 21	Question: Is our Chief Program Office/Vice President able to charge the portion of their time spent directly supervising the Program Director and/or completing activities directly related to the program to the grant? Or would this have to be charged to indirect?	Refer to 2.5.8 Staffing Requirements, Exhibit G, Project Work Plan, Exhibit H and H-1 Expenditure Proposal. Staffing budget is at the discretion of the Applicant organization. Please indicate plans for any staff performing activity directly related to the proposed program in Exhibit G, Project Work Plan as well as account for staff time and/or FTE portions in Exhibit H and H-1, Expenditure Proposal in the manner the organization chooses. Please provide clear methodology in the Expenditure Proposals.
7	Section 2.5.21 Financial Requirements, Page 33	Text of Passage being questioned: "B. Records must include at a minimum but are not limited to the following: 1. Copies of all signed Form 4116 State of Texas Purchase Vouchers;" Question: Are you able to provide additional information on the required use of this form? How does this process work?	Refer to Section 2.5.21 Financial Requirements and Section 2.5.22 Billing Requirements. DFPS provides training regarding forms and invoicing to awarded Applicants after grant agreement is executed.

8	Section 2.6 Performance	Text of Passage being questioned:	THV grantee requirements and
	Measures, Page 34		performance measures align with
		"A. THV Grantees will be required to collect and	Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood
		report data regarding Participant demographics,	Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program
		service utilization, select clinical indicators, and	requirements and performance
		the six statutorily defined MIECHV benchmark	measures. As the MIECHV awardee,
		areas"	Texas DFPS is required to collect and
			report aggregate data regarding
		Question:	program implementation and program
			participants in the state. State MIECHV
		Are you able to provide any specific information	awardees submit annual and quarterly
		regarding the required demographics and select	performance reports, develop and
		clinical indicators?	implement plans for continuous quality
			improvement, and submit
			documentation to meet certain statutory
			requirements related to demonstrating
			improvement. Texas DFPS will provide
			details and training regarding required
			surveys, assessments, and data
			collection to THV grantees. Examples
			of demographic information collected
			include participant age and
			employment status. Examples of select
			clinical indicators include an index
			child's health insurance coverage status
			and usual source of medical care.
9	Section 2.1, Program	Text of Passage being questioned:	Please see Section 2.2.3, A., Service
	Background, Paragraph 2, Page		Delivery Area:
	12	"PEI intends for the THV Program to enhance	"All communities served through the
		maternal and child health, child development,	THV program must be within areas
		children's school readiness, and family well-	identified as at-risk for poor maternal
		being. The THV Program supports expecting	and child health Outcomes in the 2020
		parents and families with young Children"	Texas Maternal, Infant, and Early
			Childhood Home Visiting Needs
		Question:	Assessment (Exhibit D), as required
			under the MIECHV authorizing
		What is/are main difference(s) between THV	statute."

		and HOPES programs according to HHSC/DFPS?	Please also see, Section 2.5.2 Required Use of Eligible Program Models and Exhibit E, Eligible Program Models.
			Texas Home Visiting requirements and performance measures are aligned with the federal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program statute, requirements, and performance measures. The Texas Home Visiting program uses MIECHV funding to support evidence-based home visiting programs in local communities across the state.
10	Section 2.2.3, Service Delivery Area, Paragraph D, #3, Page 14	Text of Passage being questioned: "Families served under this Grant must have valid addresses within one of the Primary Counties." Question: If Applicants submit applications that identifies a Primary County with Contiguous Counties, would we be able to serve these Families who have valid addresses in the proposed identified Primary County and Contiguous Counties as well?	Refer to Section 2.2.3 Service Delivery Area (D) DFPS considers the Applicant's proposed Qualifying County a Primary County. 1. Primary Counties are the focus of the Grantee's program outreach, Family recruitment, program services, and any planned initiatives under the Grant. 2. Awarded Applicant must serve Primary Counties under the Grant. 3. Families served under this Grant must have valid addresses within one of the Primary Counties. DFPS will award Grants to provide THV programming and services in one or more of the eligible Qualifying

			Counties listed in Section 2.2.3, Table 1. Eligible Qualifying Counties. Per Section 2.2.3, E., "Applicants may submit one application to serve multiple Qualifying Counties if those counties are contiguous to each other." Please note that DFPS considers the Applicant's proposed Qualifying County or Counties a Primary County or Primary Counties. Therefore, if the Applicant is selected to provide THV services in proposed Eligible Qualifying Counties, they may serve Families with valid addresses in any of the Applicant's identified Primary Counties.
11	Section 2.2.3, Service Delivery Area, Paragraph E, Page 14	Text of Passage being questioned: "Applicants may submit one application to serve multiple Qualifying Counties if those counties are contiguous to each other." Question: How is HHSC/DFPS defining "contiguous", does this refer to counties that border each other surrounding a primary Qualifying County or counties that only borders (boundaries physically touch) the primary Qualifying Counties? For example, if an applicant was interested in pursuing Tarrant County as the Primary County, the Contiguous Counties would be possibly Parker, Hood, Johnson, Ellis, and Kaufman? Kaufman does not physically border	Refer to Section 2.2.3 Service Delivery Area, D. DFPS considers the Applicant's proposed Qualifying County a Primary County. 1. Primary Counties are the focus of the Grantee's program outreach, Family recruitment, program services, and any planned initiatives under the Grant. 2. Awarded Applicant must serve Primary Counties under the Grant. 3. Families served under this Grant must have valid addresses within one of the Primary Counties.

	Tarrant County, but it does border one of the Contiguous counties around this area?	For this RFA, all proposed Counties must be Eligible Qualifying Counties, as listed in Section 2.2.3, Table 1. Eligible Qualifying Counties. Please note that DFPS considers the Applicant's proposed Qualifying County or Qualifying Counties a Primary County or Primary Counties.
		Per Section 2.2.3, E., "Applicants may submit one application to serve multiple Qualifying Counties if those counties are contiguous to each other."
Section 2.4, Program Objective Paragraph C, Page 15 "The TH Program will use evidence-base voluntary parent education and support programs in which early Childhood and health professionals visit the homes of and support expecting parents a Families with a Child under 6 years of age."	d, "The THV Program will use evidence-based, voluntary parent education and support programs in which early Childhood and health professionals visit the homes of and support expecting parents and Families with a Child	Please see Section 2.5.2 Required Use of Eligible Program Models and Exhibit E, Eligible Program Models. Some Eligible Program Models require the model to be delivered by a health professional such as a registered nurse. Other Eligible Program Models do not have specific staffing requirements and utilize model training to prepare home visitors to implement the selected model according to fidelity. Please also see: https://homvee.acf.hhs.gov/HRSA-Models-Eligible-MIECHV-Grantees for more information about Models eligible for Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) funding and their staffing requirements. It is also advisable to contact any model developers or model support

			directly to learn more about specific model and staffing requirements prior to proposing for THV implementation.
13	Page 19, Section 2.5.4, Community Strengths and Needs Assessment Summary, Paragraph D., Page 19	Text of Passage being questioned: "Applicants must provide a brief summary of the CSNA as part of the Exhibit F, Program Narrative." Question: Is there additional requirements or guidance around how Applicants should conduct their CSNA(s)? Confirming that we do not need to provide a copy of the full CSNA when submitting our proposals and only need to provide a brief summary (no more than 3 pages) as part of Exhibit F?	Refer to Section 2.5.4 Community Strengths and Needs Assessment and Summary. There are no specific requirements regarding how Applicants should conduct their Community Strengths and Needs Assessment other that those provided in the RFA and in Exhibit F, Program Narrative. Applicants do not need to provide the full CSNA with their Application. Applicants must only provide the brief CSNA summary, limited to three pages.
14	Section 2.5.4, Community Strengths and Needs Assessment Summary, Paragraph D, Page 19	Text of Passage being questioned: "Applicants must provide a brief summary of the CSNA as part of the Exhibit F, Program Narrative." Question: If Applicants are considering submitting for a Primary County plus contiguous counties should those findings and results should be included in the brief summary on Exhibit F?	Refer to Section 2.2.3 Service Delivery Area. For this RFA, all proposed Counties must be Eligible Qualifying Counties, as listed in Section 2.2.3, Table 1. Eligible Qualifying Counties. DFPS considers any of the Applicant's proposed Qualifying Counties to be Primary Counties. Applicants may submit one application to serve multiple Qualifying Counties if those counties are contiguous to each other. If the Applicant is submitting one

			application to serve multiple contiguous Qualifying Counties, the Community Strengths and Needs Assessment should address all the proposed counties and should include that information in the brief CSNA summary as required in the RFA and in Exhibit F, Program Narrative.
15	Section 2.5.4, Community Strengths and Needs Assessment Summary, Paragraph D, Page 19	"Applicants must provide a brief summary of the CSNA as part of the Exhibit F, Program Narrative." Question: Why is HHSC/DFPS giving us approximately two months to conduct a CSNA and submit proposals based on the findings of the CSNA when it is best practice for these to be conducted within a 6 months – 1 year timeframe to obtain qualitative and quantitative results to assist in identifying needs and strengths within a community to aid in the development of THV programming under the scope of work for this RFA?	Refer to Section 2.5.4 Community Strengths and Needs Assessment and Summary. There are no specific requirements regarding how Applicants should conduct their Community Strengths and Needs Assessment other that those provided in the RFA and in Exhibit F, Program Narrative. Many communities will have resources to draw from in compiling their CSNA (e.g., community level sources of information, stakeholder and provider input, a previous CSNA), if they have not already completed a CSNA to determine that the community would benefit from home visiting programs. As Texas Home Visiting supports early childhood home visiting specifically, DFPS anticipates that Applicants have or will be able to compile information that supports home visiting implementation in the identified local community. Please also see Exhibit D, 2020 Texas Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Needs Assessment for information supporting each Eligible

Section 2.5.14, Coordinating time? Can you provide a specific example of THV services in proposed Eligible	16	procedures to avoid dual enrollment of Participants in more than one home visiting program at the same time" Section 2.5.14, Coordinating with PEI Grantees and Other Organization, Paragraph D, Page 30 "Through partnership with and awareness of other PEI Grantees' service arrays, Grantee will avoid duplication of services and further a continuum of services in the community. Applicants should try to avoid duplication of any existing State	apply for the THV program? Or does this mean we can have all of these programs in the same area offering different service arrays as well as ensuring participants are not enrolled in more than one home visiting program at the same time? Can you provide a specific example of what this could look like to help us develop	programs in the same identified Eligible Qualifying County. If the Applicant is selected to provide THV services in proposed Eligible Qualifying Counties, they must ensure there is no dual enrollment in home visiting programs for individual
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17	Section 2.5.7, Organizational Competencies, Requirements, and Qualifications, Paragraph D, 1., Page 21	"1. Applicant must have at least three years of experience working with expecting parents and Families with young Children overseeing services to this population;" Question: We are asking for clarification if this means we must have at least three years of experience working this population in general possibly through other programs (i.e. HOPES, Foster Care and Adoption, Family Resource Centers, and other similar non-funded programs, etc.)? Or must we have this amount of experience working with this population as described under this RFA?	Refer to Section 2.5.7 Organizational Competencies, Requirements, and Qualifications. Applicant must have three (3) years of experience working with this population in general.
18	Section 2.5.7, Organizational Competencies, Requirements, and Qualifications, Paragraph D, 2., Page 21	Text of Passage being questioned: "2. Applicant must have provided services in the identified Qualifying County for a minimum of three years immediately preceding the submission of its Application;" Question: We are asking for clarification if this means we only must have at least three years of providing services in the identified Qualifying Primary County? Or does this mean we must have a physical office and address for at least 3 years within the Primary County we are submitting an application, or would this requirement include a presence providing services in the proposed Contiguous counties as well?	Refer to Section 2.5.7 Organizational Competencies, Requirements, and Qualifications and Section 2.2.3 Service Delivery Area Applicant must have three years of experience providing services in any proposed county as each proposed county is considered a Primary County under this RFA.

19	Section 2.5.12, Programming Requirements, Paragraph C #3, Page 27 "Grantees and any Subawardee will partner with mental health providers or the Local Mental Health Authority (LMHA) to address mental health needs of participating Families;" and Section 2.7, Prohibitions, Paragraph 1., N., Page 37 "Grant funds may not be used to support the following services, activities, and costs: N. The delivery or costs of direct medical, dental, mental health, or legal services; and"	Question: We are asking for clarification on what this prohibition means? Are basic, counseling services included in "mental health services" that could not be supported by grant funds such as implementing Counseling for the families we serve as a Program Component by partnering with Mental Health Providers through subcontractor agreements? Or because of the prohibition statement we are not allowed to provide this direct service, but through this partnership we can refer them to these mental health resources for any identified needs?	Texas Home Visiting grant funds cannot be used to pay for counseling or treatment. It is recommended that THV grantees establish partnerships with other providers in the community in order to refer Participants to mental health resources for any counseling or treatment needs.
20	Section 2.5.12, Programming Requirements, Paragraph 2, Page 25	Text of passage being questioned: "The following are required of Grantees under this RFA. Applicants must indicate plans to meet the following requirements in Exhibit G, Project Work Plan." Question: In the Exhibit G, Project Work Plan, it has Section II. Core Service Summary Program Models, Section III., Supplemental Service Summary, and Section IV. Additional Service Summary, can you provide more clarification or a list of what would fall under Section III and	Under the THV RFA, Core Services are any Eligible Program Models (see Exhibit E, Eligible Program Models). Supplemental services under a THV grant are services provided to families who are also participating in an Eligible Program Model; an example might be a depression prevention support group or additional fatherhood support for home visiting participants. All families served through Supplemental services are duplicated families.

		Section IV of this document? What is the definition of Supplemental Services and the definition of additional services that are PEI-funded programs or services?	Additional services under a THV grant are services provided to families that do not require enrollment; an example might be a parenting workshop or parent engagement event. Families participating in additional services may be duplicated or unduplicated families.
			Please note that Texas Home Visiting programs <i>must</i> include home visiting, (see Section 2.5.2, Required Use of Eligible Program Models and Exhibit E, Eligible Program Models) and <i>may also</i> include Supplemental and/or Additional services to further address unique needs of the eligible population in the local community. Any proposed Supplemental and/or Additional services should be identified in Exhibit G, Project Work Plan. Rationale to support use of any Supplemental or Additional services can be addressed in Exhibit F, Program Narrative.
21	Section 2.5.5 Eligible Service Populations, A., 2-3, Page 19	Text of Passage being questioned: A. PEI defines Families eligible for THV services as follows: 1. An expecting parent or expecting	Refer to Section 2.5.5 Eligible Service Populations. Families may receive services under Texas Home Visiting <i>through</i> the
		parents/Caregivers; or 2. A parent or Primary Caregiver of a Child up to age five. Primary Caregivers can include a grandparent or other relative of the Child, or a foster parent or noncustodial parent who has an ongoing	child's fifth year – until the child's sixth birthday or kindergarten entry, whichever occurs first. Please note the updated language in Addendum 2 for 2.5.5 Eligible Service

		relationship with and provides physical care for the Child. 3. Families are eligible for services if the parent or Primary Caregiver is expecting or parenting a young Child, from birth until the Child's sixth birthday or kindergarten entry, whichever occurs first. Question: Can you please clarify the eligible age range? 2. above lists up to age 5, 3. lists up to the 6th birthday.	Populations, A., 2. It is also referenced below: "A parent or Primary Caregiver of a Child up through age five. Primary Caregivers can include a grandparent or other relative of the Child, or a foster parent or noncustodial parent who has an ongoing relationship with and provides physical care for the Child."
22	Section 2.5.12, Programming Requirements, C., 4., Page 27: "Grantees must incorporate intentional, ongoing efforts to support and make resources available to Participants and their Families." Exhibit G Section III and Exhibit G Section IV, and Exhibit G, Page 2	 Is it in these sections of Exhibit G that the referenced RFA paragraph is to be addressed by applicants? Can PEI expand on allowable "Supplemental" and "Additional" services? Are either/both of these categories required? 	These types of efforts and activities – (referred to in Section 2.5.12 Programming Requirements, Section C. Addressing Participant Needs, Item 4) – may be identified in the service tables in Exhibit G, Project Work Plan if the grantee will be implementing these services or conducting these activities. Please note that Supplemental and Additional Services are not required. Applicants may also include these types of supports in Section J. Use of Basic Needs Support in Exhibit G, Project Work Plan as relevant. In other cases, Applicants may intend to partner with other organizations or providers to support families and address needs; those partnerships would be identified in Section N.

			Service & Resource Referrals in Exhibit G, Project Work Plan.
23	Section 2.5.16, D., Page 31 "origin of referral"	Question: The agency groups referrals by type and/or major entities (e.g., school districts are by name, but each community organization is not listed by name). Is this sufficient or will PEI be asking for data that would require names of the exact entities from which the agency received referrals?	Referrals may be identified by type or general descriptor rather than specific organization names. Please also note that many agencies find it helpful for their own information and planning to record specific referral sources to identify where additional efforts may be needed, plan outreach and recruitment efforts, partnerships, and centralized intake development.
24	Exhibit G, Paragraph N, Page 5 "Include how referrals to other services or providers would be documented, tracked, and supported."	What is meant by "supported" in this prompt?	With respect to referrals to other services or providers, "supported" could mean an active connection or linkage, follow up to ensure service or resource connection, or ongoing provider staffing or consultation.