



Providing support and information for families of children with disabilities, chronic illness and other special health care needs

Texas Provides Help to Find Medicaid Providers and Information on Child Care Providers

Do you ever dread finding a new doctor or service because they might not take Medicaid? There's a new resource to help: Online Provider Look-Up is now available to locate providers participating in Traditional Medicaid, PCCM, Star or Star+PLUS. Go to the Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership's (TMHP) at www.tmhp.com and select "Looking for a Provider?" on the left side of the page with a photograph of a lady doctor on it or the words "Look for a Provider" on the right side. I suggest using the Advanced Search because it allows you to put in more information about what you are looking for.

Another dreaded topic - child care! Earlier this fall, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) set out to increase awareness of the dangers of unregulated childcare by kicking off the "Don't be in the Dark about Child Care" campaign. DFPS staff have developed several resources for parents and family members to use in selecting the safest option for young Texans. All information can be found at the following Internet address:

http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Care/dontbeinthedark/promo.asp.

5 Steps to Child Care Solutions

1. Search online for day care providers, 24-hour residential facilities, and adoption agencies and foster care at www.txchildcaresearch.org
2. Enter your requirements. The search will return a list of providers who report services meeting your specifications, including their locations and phone numbers.
3. Select specific providers you'd like to research. www.txchildcaresearch.org reveals each provider's licensing history and compliance with minimum health and safety standards.
4. Call 1-866-TX-CHILD toll-free or use www.txchildcaresearch.org to locate the child care resource and referral agency nearest you. These local resource and referral agencies can provide additional information on the programs, costs, availability, and accessibility of the individual providers.
5. Visit the day care or residential facilities you are considering. Interview the caregivers and watch the interaction between the staff and the children. Talk to parents whose children attend. Make sure the provider's care meets your standards. Once your child is in care, stay involved and keep asking questions.

Texas Parent to Parent

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