



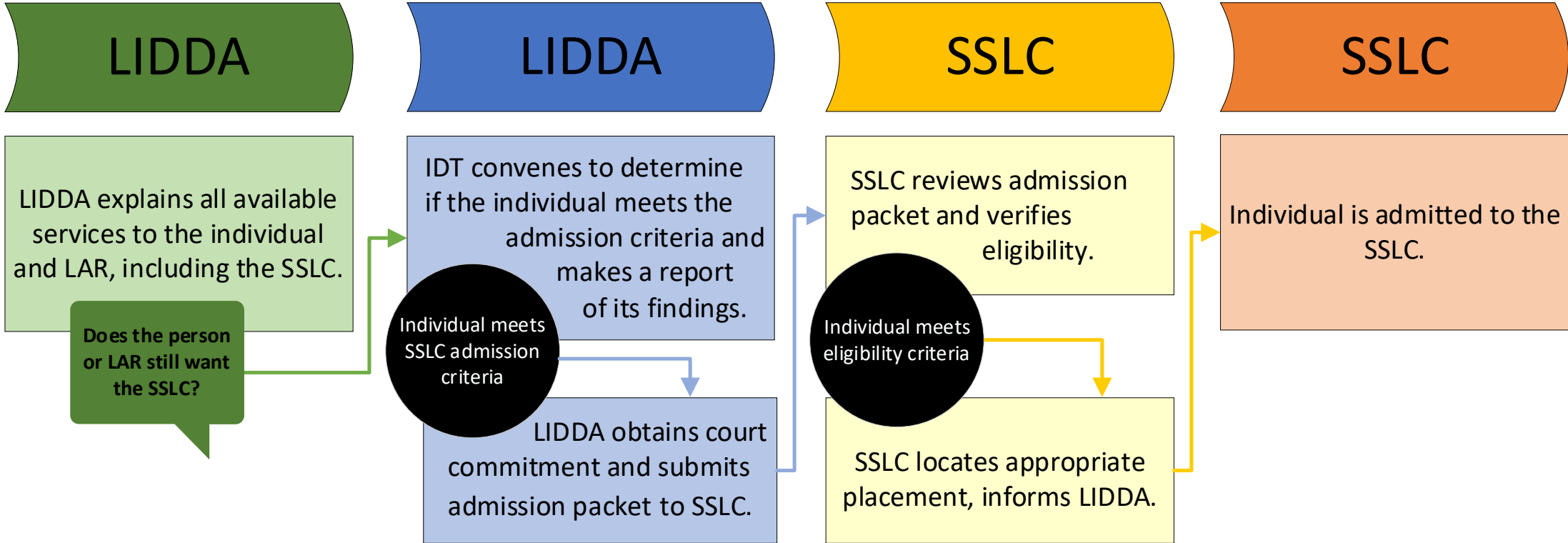
Senate Bill 944 Panel Discussion

PPAT Conference 2023



Current SSLC Admission Process

Upon notice of the individual's or legally authorized representative's (LAR's) desire for state supported living center (SSLC) placement:



Senate Bill 944

- Creates new Section 593.0511:
A court may commit a proposed resident to long-term placement in a residential care facility without an interdisciplinary team recommendation under Section 593.013 if the court determines beyond a reasonable doubt that the proposed resident meets the requirements for commitment to a residential care facility under Section 593.052.
- A person may be committed to an SSLC without the recommendation of an interdisciplinary team if the guardian petitions the court directly.

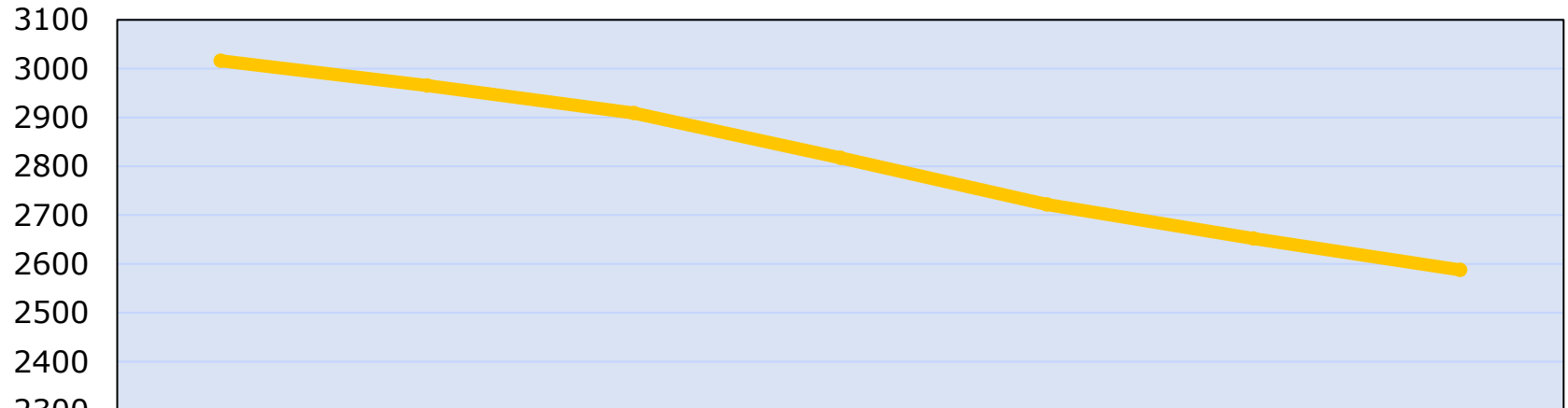
Senate Bill 944

- Amends Section 593.052:
 - (a) A proposed resident may not be committed to a residential care facility unless:*
 - (2) a petition to the court to issue a commitment order by the guardian [or parent] of the proposed resident...show that because of the proposed resident's intellectual disability, the proposed resident:*
 - (A) represents a substantial risk of physical impairment or injury to the proposed resident or others; or*
 - (B) is unable to provide for and is not providing for the proposed resident's most basic personal physical needs.*
- The commitment criteria is unchanged.

SSLC Enrollment – FY2017 to FY2023

Events that impact enrollment:

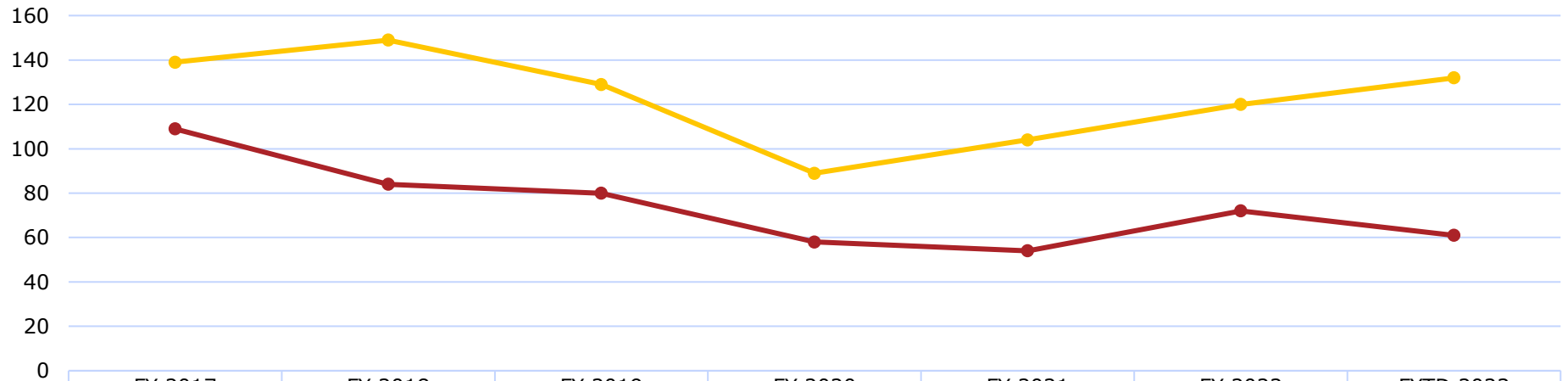
- Community Transitions
- Orders for restoration services (return to jail)
- Deaths
- Discharges to other services (hospice, nursing facility, etc.)



— SSLCs Enrollment - Last Day of Each Fiscal Year

FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
3016	2965	2909	2817	2722	2652	2588

SSLCs – New Admissions and Community Transitions FY2017 to FY2023



	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FYTD 2023
New Admissions	139	149	129	89	104	120	132
Community Transitions	109	84	80	58	54	72	61

Total Enrollment on 9/1/23	2588
Funded (biennium)	2412
Capacity	2747

SSLCs - Community Transitions / Returns within 365 Days

Year	Community Transitions	# Return within 180 days	# Return within 181-365 days	% Returned within 365 days
FY 2017	109	6	4	9.1%
FY 2018	84	5	5	11.9%
FY 2019	80	5	1	7.5%
FY 2020	58	1	1	3.4%
FY 2021	54	1	1	3.7%
FY 2022	72	7	2	12.5%
FY 2023	61	4	2	9.8%
Total	518	29	16	8.6%

Reasons for Return

- Law enforcement involvement
- Unauthorized Departure
- Hospitalization
- Aggression/Property destruction

Legal Perspectives: SSLC Admission Process

Erin Lawler, Esq.

Texas Council of Community Centers

State Supported Living Centers are

- Part of a continuum of care
- Intended to serve individuals with intellectual disabilities:
 - whose ID is severe or profound
 - with accompanying medical fragility
 - with accompanying behavior support needs
- Governed by Texas state law



Senate Bill 944

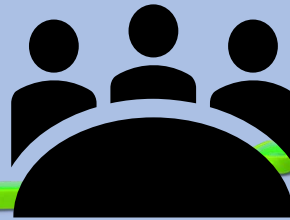
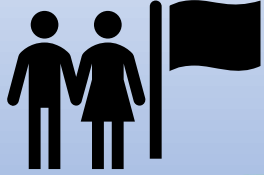
- Effective September 1, 2023
- Modified how a parent or guardian can begin the SSLC admissions process
- Did not:
 - change eligibility criteria for admissions
 - fund additional capacity





New law creates an alternate path
Both paths lead through the courthouse

A parent or guardian may petition the court directly



Any interested person may seek a recommendation for an SSLC admission through the Local IDD Authority

The Local IDD Authority convenes a team meeting

The team submits recommendation to the court

Team Meeting

Who?

- The person
- The person's parent, guardian, or other Legally Authorized Representative
- People who are professionally qualified with special training and experience in ID
- Other people requested by the person
- People directly involved in the person's service delivery
- School district personnel (if person is school eligible)

What?

- Interview the person and the person's parent/guardian
- Review:
 - medical and social history
 - medical assessment (audiological, neurological, vision)
 - psychological and social assessment
 - adaptive behavior levels
- Determine and obtain any needed additional assessments (education, vocational)
- Identify the person's service preferences and needs
- Recommend services that meet the person's needs and consider the person's preferences
- Prepare and distribute written report of findings and recommendations, signed by all team members



Court must determine beyond a reasonable doubt, the person



has an intellectual disability



poses substantial risk of harm *or* cannot meet basic needs



cannot be supported in an available, less restrictive setting, and



the SSLC can provide services to meet the person's needs



Local IDD Authority Role in SSLC Admissions

Jenny Goode, CEO

Betty Hardwick Center



dedicated to people | committed to care

Understanding Options



LIDDA staff review the Residential Options brochure with families and record preferences on Form 8648



The LIDDA's IDD Crisis Team reviews the case and staffs the case with the Transition Support Team (TST) for additional recommendations



The LIDDA's Continuity of Care Liaison compiles the history of services and supports the individual has received.

Includes documentation of any unsuccessful community placements, and any behavioral and/or medical needs that describe why a lesser restrictive setting may not meet the person's needs.

Before the Application Begins

1

A Determination of Intellectual Disability may be required or may need to be updated.

2

For individuals 22 years of age and younger, a recommendation for SSLC placement must be obtained from the Community Resource Coordination Group (CRCG)

3

An Inter-disciplinary Team (IDT) meeting occurs with all involved parties and the psychologist to agree on recommendations.

4

Form 8515- Guidelines for Determining Least Restrictive Setting is completed.

Application and Court Commitment

LIDDAs work closely with SSLC Teams

The Application is completed and submitted to the SSLC for consideration.

Long-term placements into an SSLC require a court commitment.

SSLC Application

- Form 8654
- Applicant is the individual's Guardian or involved family member/advocate
- Requires a physician's signature

Court Commitment Forms

- Application for Long Term Placement
- Motion to Waive Fees
- Determination of Intellectual Disabilities
- IDT Recommendations
- Civil Case Information Sheet

Completed Packet

The SSLC Application, Court Commitment Forms and all supporting documentation is compiled into a packet and submitted to local Court.

Court Commitment and Move Timelines

Hearing:

- The Court will take 30-60 days to review the application packet.
- Some judges want the placement to be determined before holding a hearing.
- Once the case is filed, the court hearing will be scheduled within 30 days.
- At the hearing the individual, guardian, psychologist, LIDDA staff and any other applicable parties will testify.

Committed:

- If the commitment is ordered (in areas where the judge does this before a bed is secured), the SSLC application packet will be distributed to identify an appropriate opening.
- Many SSLCs have a waiting period which can be several months before the individual is able to be admitted into a SSLC after the court order is completed.

After Admission

- The individual may be referred back/transition back into the community after stabilization has occurred.
- Community Living Options is presented to the individual at least annually.
- Individuals have the possibility of later reintegrating back into the community.

