House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Criminal Justice and
Subcommittee on Health and Human Services

Department of Aging and Disability Services
Telemedicine Pilot Project
June 28, 2006
State School Telemedicine Pilot Project

• Goals and Desired Outcomes
  ➢ Improve access to medical specialties not readily available in the local community
  ➢ Evaluate the benefits and risks of telemedicine
  ➢ Determine the effectiveness of using telemedicine with consumers at the state schools
  ➢ Reduce risk and stress for consumers who have medical challenges that are complicated by traveling off-campus to appointments

Note: Off-campus medical appointments are preferred (active treatment, community inclusion)
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- **Locations**
  - Brenham State School (520 consumers)
  - Richmond State School (402 consumers)

- **Timeline**
  - Mid-January through mid-April, 2006

- **Evaluation Process**
  - Consultation evaluation forms
    - Completed by State School and UTMB staff
  - Meetings and conference calls
    - UTMB, State School, and DADS state office staff
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- Consultations
  - 49 provided (12 at Brenham, 37 at Richmond)
  - Specialty areas
    - Psychiatry (26)
    - Dermatology (9)
    - Wound care (7)
    - Internal medicine (4)
    - Urology (3)
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• Outcomes
  ➢ Evaluation still in progress
  ➢ Preliminary outcomes
    • Positives
      – Travel avoided for consumers who do not tolerate travel well
      – Families able to be present for consultation
      – Physician-to-physician interaction
    • Challenges
      – Technology
      – Scheduling
    • Still in Progress
      – Funding issues