A Note to Mental Health Professionals regarding CE Accreditation in the State of Texas

In January of 2021, The Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council (TBHEC) made significant changes to the sections of the Texas Administrative Code pertaining to the obtaining of Continuing Education (CE) credits for its licensees. As part of those changes, educational institutions in Texas are no longer "pre-approved" to offer CE credits.

In the past, "pre-approval" meant that:

- Educational institutions like The Jung Center verified and ensured that programs with accompanying CE credits met all state requirements for acceptable Continuing Education, and that...
- The paper or electronic certificate you received from us (and submitted during your annual license renewal process) attested that you had been issued your CE credits directly by The Jung Center.

With the new rule changes, although no nonprofit organizations are now "pre-approved" to offer CE credits, you are still able to receive CE credit by attending many of our programs. And though it is now the legal responsibility of you, the licensee, to verify that a particular program and instructor meet the requirements for acceptable Continuing Education (according to the Texas Administrative Codes for your license), The Jung Center hopes to help you with identifying CE-appropriate programs by listing them as "potentially appropriate for CEs" (according to the current Administrative Codes) on our website and in other promotional materials.

What this means for you now:

- The paper or electronic certificate you receive from us now attests that you have attended a particular program, signed-in and signed-out using the forms we provide, and completed an evaluation of the program. It no longer represents a direct issuing of your CE credit.
- During your annual license renewal process, you will be asked if you have completed your CE requirements for the year. You no longer need to upload your certificates of attendance as part of the renewal process. You will only need to submit your certificates of attendance if you are audited (randomly or otherwise) by TBHEC or your specific licensing board.
- The annual CE requirements for your license are considered met only upon approval of your license renewal by your licensing board. The Jung Center cannot be held responsible if the results of an audit indicate that CEs claimed for a particular program are not approved by your licensing board.

We understand that these changes at the state level represent a significant shift in the burden onto you, the caregiver, to be accountable for the eligibility of programs for CE credits. Please review the specific codes for your particular license by clicking on the link above, and <u>reach out to the staff at TBHEC</u> or your respective licensing board if you have any questions.

As we are able, The Jung Center is happy to take your questions as well. Please contact Michael Craig, Director of Curriculum, at mcraig@junghouston.org, with any questions you may have. Though there is much uncertainty as to how this legislation will change in the near-to-distant future, we will answer as best we can.