

F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health

FY 2021-2022
Annual Report



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™

F. Marie Hall Institute
Rural and Community Health

THE SLATON BAKERY





F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health

MISSION & VISION

The F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health exists to work in close collaboration with the people of West Texas for the advancement of health through innovative and scholarly research, the advanced use of technology, comprehensive education, and community outreach.

We thank you for allowing us to spend our time with purpose and to strive each and every day to make the world a better place.

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Letter from the Director



**BILLY U. PHILIPS, JR.,
PH.D., MPH**

Each year for the past 15, I have written a letter to accompany the annual report of the F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health. Every year, I have described the things that our team has done to improve rural health in West Texas. Many of the accomplishments of the Institute have been appreciated not only locally, but nationally by experts in the field of rural health. Our team has produced numerous publications in the peer-reviewed literature, applied for and received ongoing funding in increasingly competitive situations, and proved the concept of a program that transformed the mental health space for young people in Texas. We have lofty goals and a keen understanding that the way to reach them is by being open to the discomfort of undertaking complex programs with no guarantee of success. We have built a reputation of achievement and that reputation has resulted in funding, respect in the rural health space, and meaningful relationships with the communities we serve.

One avenue for achievement in the Institute is publication in peer-reviewed literature. An example is the national award-winning paper (Gong, G., Phillips, S. G., Hudson, C., Curti, D., & Philips, B. U. (2019). Higher US rural mortality rates linked to socioeconomic status, physician shortages, and lack of health insurance. *Health Affairs*, 38(12), 2003-2010.), now cited over sixty times with a rising research interest score. Another avenue for achievement here is grant funding. This year, the institute has brought in over \$6.5 million in external funds. We are very proud of the successful grant Dapplications that were submitted this year. Chief among them is the renewal of the West Texas Area Health Education Center, a HRSA funded program that aims to address provider shortages in West Texas. Also of note is the TCHAT program, which began in the Institute as TWITR. Since the FMHIRCH proved the concept, funding for the methodology of TWITR has increased 104-fold¹. TCHAT continues to carry out this important work through this year and we are grateful for their dedication to the mental health needs of Texas' youth.

In this annual report, we want to celebrate some of the work we do behind the scenes, out of the limelight, and without fanfare. The reason is simple: we couldn't accomplish what we do without people who work quietly to support our goals while living out the TTUHSC values. Three accomplishments of this kind stand out to me this fiscal year.

Perhaps the most challenging work has been the leadership that many of us have provided to the Julia Jones Matthews School of Population and Public Health. I have served as the Acting Dean while a search for the founding Dean is ongoing. Sarah Looten has served as the Assistant Dean for Operations and Jill Russell has crafted the Bylaws that will allow for organized administration of the business of the School. Many others have been involved in less intensive, but important ways.

Another area of quiet collaboration I'd like to recognize is the Institute's support of the Hispanic Center of Excellence Grant application. The collaborative effort resulted in a funded, five-year HRSA grant for the TTUHSC-PB campus. The program will bring in \$3,429,995.00 over the course of the funding period and will recruit underrepresented minorities to the TTUHSC-PB School of Medicine.

The third area I'd like to bring to the forefront is the Institute's work to advance legislative priorities, the Hispanic Serving Institution designation, and keeping our partners and communities abreast of current rural health issues and promising innovative solutions to those problems.

If God allows me to work until July 1, 2023, I will have worked continuously for the State of Texas for 50 years. It has been a good career, but not without its challenges. Over the course of the last 50 years, I have observed a universal truth: excellence is remembered and applauded. Though the road to reach it may be long and sometimes full of detours and a few pot holes, striving to reach excellence is a worthy endeavor because it holds the potential to make a true difference. In the end, what will be remembered the most is those with whom we served and the fact that we really were Visionary.

Sincerely,

~ *Dr. Billy U. Philips, Jr.*

Executive Vice President for Rural and Community Health, Director of the F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health, Professor of Family and Community Medicine (SOM), Professor of Public Health (GSBS)

¹In 2013, TTUHSC was awarded \$486,046.00 for the TWITR Project for a two-year period (2013-2015). In 2019, the 87th Texas Legislature appropriated \$50,547,130.00 to TCHAT for a two-year period (2022-2023).

Service Area Map



 TTUHSC F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health


★ TTUHSC Area Health Education Center Office


▲ Managed Care

● Community Telemedicine Sites


◆ Other Telemedicine

West Texas AHEC Regions

 AHEC of the Plains

 Big Country

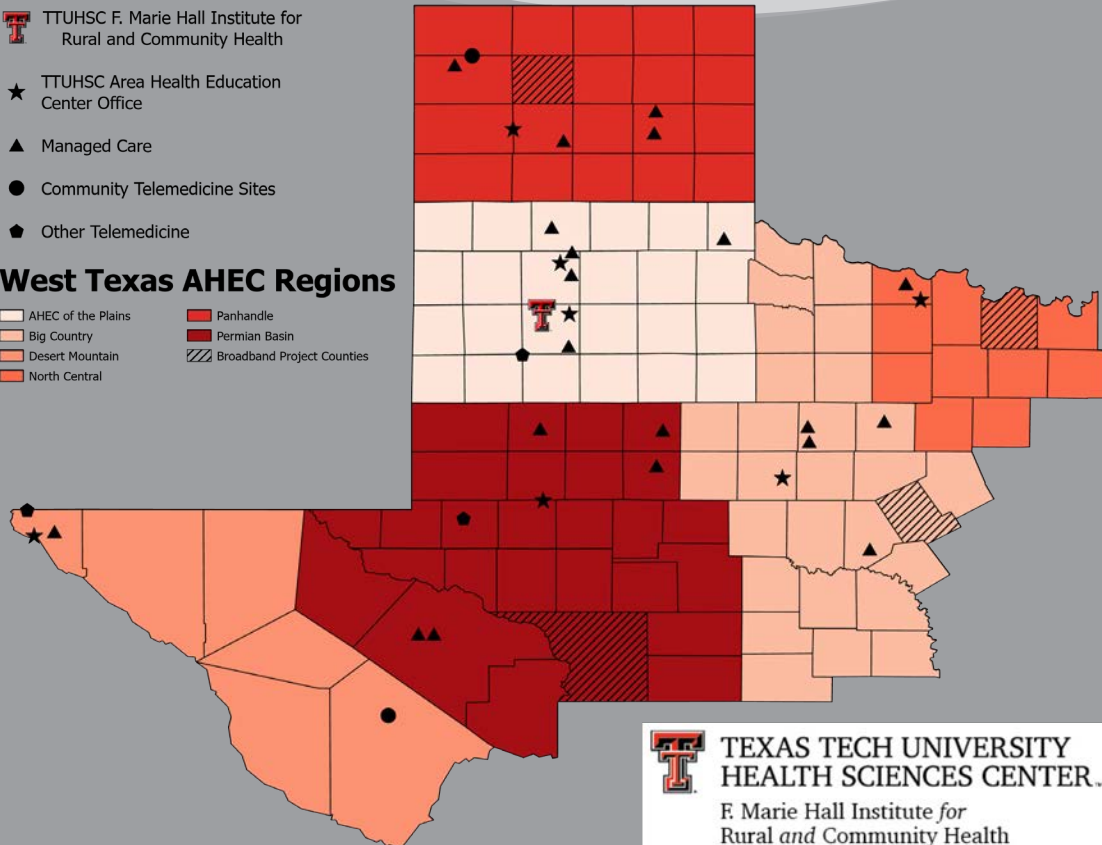
 Desert Mountain

 North Central

 Panhandle

 Permian Basin

 Broadband Project Counties



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER.

F. Marie Hall Institute for
Rural and Community Health



Serving West Texas

The mission of the F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health (FMHIRCH) is to work in close collaboration with the people of Texas for the advancement of health through innovative and scholarly research, the advanced use of technology, comprehensive education, and outreach. Through innovation and collaboration, the FMHIRCH strives to bring healthcare access, education, and resources to its rural, underserved service region – an area that spans slightly more than 131,000 square miles and is about the size of Germany.

Rural health access is essential to supporting the food, fuel, and fiber industries that are the backbone of the Texas economy. With a declining and aging workforce, a strained rural health care system, and far-reaching health disparities in West Texas, the existence of the FMHIRCH has never been more crucial. The FMHIRCH will continue to bridge the healthcare gap in the communities it serves in West Texas and beyond through technology, education, and research.

OUR TEAMS



HEALTH TECHNOLOGY

Innovative Healthcare Transformations (InHT) is a trusted advisor and resource for the adoption, implementation, and effective use of telehealth resources. InHT also promotes an innovative future for rural healthcare through its FIT Lab and the Telehealth Taskforce of the Clinical Council at TTUHSC.



HEALTH EDUCATION

Transforming Communities through Outreach, Recruitment & Education (T-CORE) coordinates educational activities to engage students who want to enter the healthcare workforce. Community health worker outreach, the AHEC Jr. Scholars program, and a telemedicine curriculum tailored to high school students are just a few of T-CORE's projects from the 2021-2022 fiscal year.



HEALTH RESEARCH

The FMHIRCH creates leading-edge research that focuses on rural health solutions in West Texas and the 108-county TTUHSC service area. That research is published in peer-reviewed journals and the Rural Health Quarterly, which is indexed on the Rural Health Information Hub.

Administrative Team

Five departments work together at the F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health to bring its mission to fruition. The Administrative Team supports the Institute as a whole through members' specialized knowledge of finance, human resources, and office support. The Administrative team also supports Executive Vice President and Institute Director, Dr. Billy U. Philips, Ph.D., in his many roles within the Institute and at TTUHSC.



SARAH LOOTEN
Director of Staff Relations



DENISE LOPEZ,
M.B.A., M.S.
Director of Finance



DOLORES PARRISH
Assistant for Staff Relations



DEBORAH MCCARTY
Senior
Administrative Assistant



SUE DAVIS
Senior Office Assistant



Innovative Healthcare Transformations (InHT)

The Innovative Healthcare Transformations (InHT) division works to provide telehealth access to West Texas. InHT provides technical support for telemedicine through the TexLa TRC and supports the adoption, implementation, and effective use of telehealth resources.

InHT began work on the Broadband Pilot Project this fiscal year, a three-year pilot that will assess available broadband capacity for rural health care providers and communities in six rural Texas counties with the ultimate goal of improving access to telehealth services. 617 patients accessed care through telemedicine clinics supported by InHT staff, furthering Institutional goals of innovation and collaboration. The state-of-the-art Frontiers in Medicine Training Laboratory (FIT Lab) continues to train West Texas providers in telemedicine technology, which helps reduce barriers to healthcare access related to distance.



DERRICK RAMSEY
*Director of Innovative
Healthcare Transformations*

InHT Team



KELLY MUNOZ
InHT Project Manager



**SHARON ROSE,
RN, MAM, BSOE**
EMS Project Manager



MAX RICHARDS
Technology Manager



YOGIS MAYOORAN
Financial Analyst



LAURA LAPPE
*Telemedicine Project
Manager*



FRANCES QUINTERO
FIT Program Manager



LISA WYNN
Senior Office Assistant



AARON COOK
IT Support Specialist



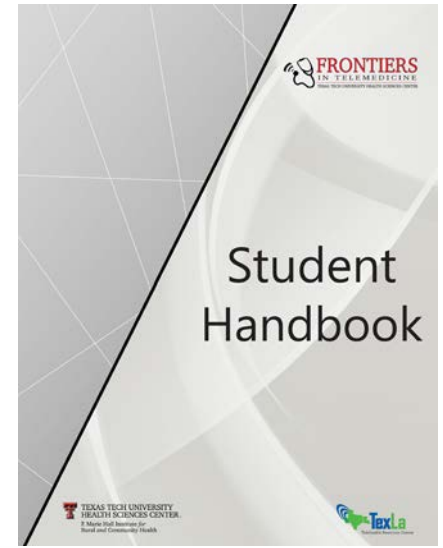
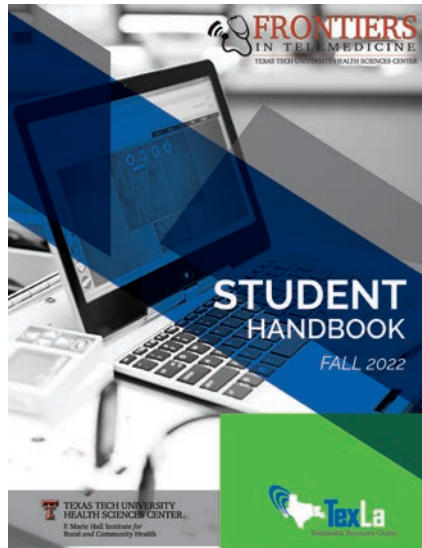
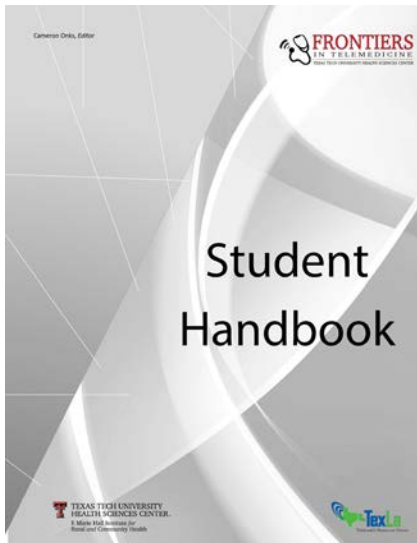
LAURA RAUWAULD
Section Coordinator

Frontiers in Telemedicine (FIT) Lab

The Frontiers in Telemedicine Course was launched in 2016 as a unique program to train clinical staff to effectively use telemedicine. Today, the program focuses on competency-based learning and requires students complete hands-on simulation center training, online modules, and objective structured clinical examinations (OSCEs) designed to educate and measure knowledge of telemedicine equipment, procedures, etiquette, and ethics. The program also trains licensed health care professionals who would like to gain a certificate of completion in telemedicine.

After completion of training, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate the basic knowledge of telemedicine and telehealth and define who can benefit from the technology.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the originating/patient site and distant/provider site, as well as the clinician and staff roles at each location.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the operation of telemedicine technology.
- Demonstrate knowledge of a telemedicine encounter.
- Demonstrate the basic ability to assess a patient in the ambulatory telemedicine setting.
- Demonstrate the knowledge required to present and manage a patient with a specific problem.
- Demonstrate communication skills in patient and medical team communication.



FIT Certificate Course

The Frontiers in Telemedicine Certificate Course is a training program for clinical staff that covers telemedicine technology, clinical encounters, billing, and ethics. This fiscal year, the FIT Lab has remained closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but trainings were held over Zoom. The Fit Lab plans to reopen in the next fiscal year.



28 providers were trained in the FIT lab in FY 2021-2022

FIT Lab courses were conducted via Zoom and were 100% self-paced.



FIT Lab content was converted to accommodate online learning.



TRAINING CLINICAL STAFF

From February 1, 2016, the FIT Lab has trained 469 professionals in Emergency Medicine, Dermatology, Psychiatry, Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, and various Public Health specialties, as well as department chairs from multiple TTUHSC campuses.

FIT Summer Camp

The FIT Lab partnered with Shake Hands with Your Future Summer Camp to host the first ever Frontiers in Telemedicine Summer Camp. The camp was an educational experience designed to teach campers about the future of medicine and the innovative technology and techniques utilized in telemedicine. Five participants were hosted for four days from 9am-1pm. Guest speakers and students from the Telemedicine and Virtual Care student organization were invited to speak about how telemedicine impacts their work.

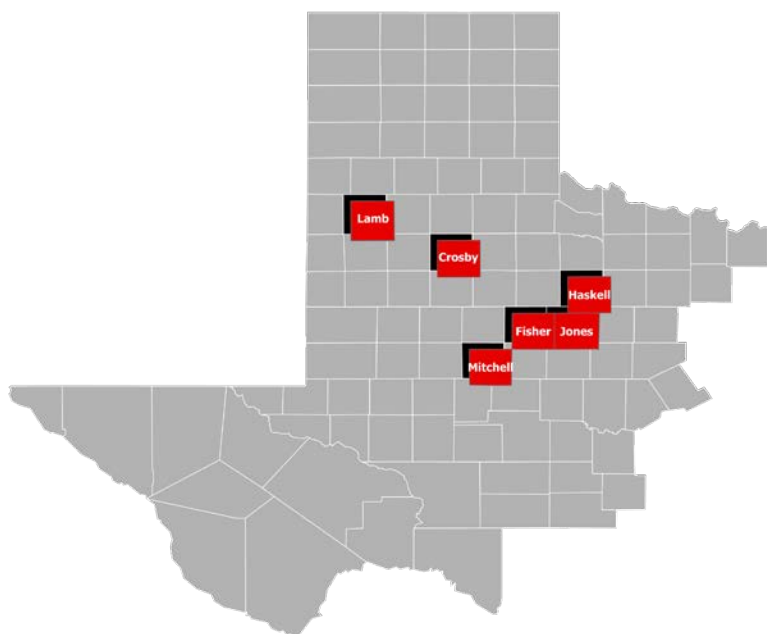


TELE**MEDICINE**
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER



Broadband Pilot Project

InHT is working on the Broadband Pilot Project, a project that seeks to link federal initiatives at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Federal Communications Commission to assess the broadband capacity of healthcare providers and patients in rural areas. Through a sub award from the Alaska Native Tribal Consortium, InHT is working in six rural West Texas counties to measure broadband speeds and collect data with the ultimate goal of improving broadband access to promote telehealth in rural areas of the state. This work will continue in fiscal year 2022-2023.



Beacon used in Broadband Pilot Project to measure broadband internet speed.

TexLa Telehealth Resources Center

The TexLa Telehealth Resource Center (TexLa TRC) is a program designed to provide technical assistance and resources to new and existing telehealth programs throughout Texas and Louisiana. Federally funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), TexLa TRC is one of 14 Telehealth Resource Centers in the country. TexLa TRC collaborates with external stakeholders and the other TRCs to promote best practices. The overarching goal of TexLa TRC is to make healthcare services easily accessible by expanding telehealth into rural and underserved communities and beyond.



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



129
CLIENTS ASSISTED
IN FY 2021-22

As part of its mission, TexLa TRC provides technical assistance to healthcare facilities and providers in Texas and Louisiana. This fiscal year, **129 clients** were provided tools, resources, and information regarding telehealth technology, policy, and reimbursement.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION



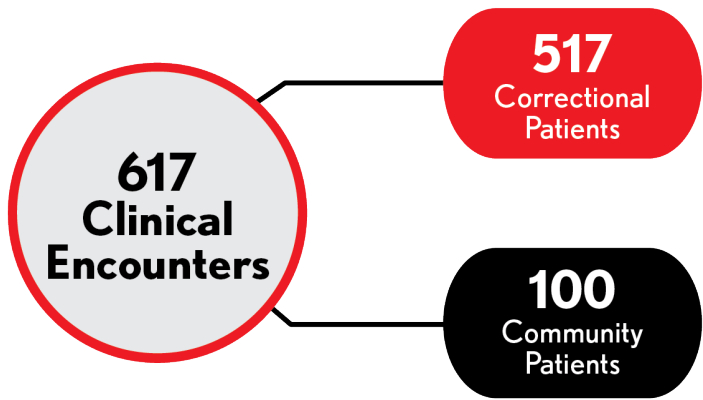
1K
OUTREACH CONTACTS
IN FY 2021-22

This fiscal year, TexLa TRC reached **1,115 people** through outreach and education initiatives. These include the 2022 Telehealth at the Crossroads Conference, workshops, and social media interactions.



Clinical Encounters

InHT continued providing support to telemedicine clinics this fiscal year, helping to connect **617 encounters**. Of those, **517** were **Correctional Patient encounters** through TTUHSC Managed Care, and **100** were **Community Patient encounters**. The clinics provide patient services such as rural-based specialty care and Hepatitis-B virus clinics for uninsured and underserved patients.



Project ECHO

The TexLa TRC-funded ECHO program is an infrastructure for knowledge sharing, designed to create virtual communities of learners by bringing together healthcare providers and subject-matter experts in a virtual space. Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits are issues for eligible participants and the sessions serve to educate and bring issues to the forefront in telemedicine practice for various providers. Providers are also given the opportunity to collaborate with external and internal partners in the pursuit of best practices.

TOPICS COVERED

Your Role in Accessible Telehealth • Remote Patient Monitoring and the UVA Health System, Population Health Perspective • Inequity, Unconscious and Conscious Bias and Impact on Critical Care Workforce: Its Implication to Patient Safety • Care After Covid • TelePharmacy in Modern Healthcare • TeleNephrology – Evolving Telehealth Platform Delivery for Patient-Centered Kidney Care • Telehealth & Related Technologies to Help Patients Quit Smoking, Vaping, and Other Tobacco • Telemedicine in Behavioral Health • Telemedicine in Speech, Language Pathology: A Bright Virtual Future • Telemedicine in Pediatrics • Trauma-Informed Care

11

ECHO Sessions

742

Participants



Data & Analytics Team

The **Data & Analytics (D & A)** team is the health research department at the FMHIRCH. The team is working on a new Rural Health Atlas and data validations for NextGen 9-1-1 and the Telemedicine Pilot Program. The team also works to answer ad-hoc data requests, compile health data reports, and completes geomapping via Tableau and ArcGIS.

D & A was also part of the collaborative effort led by TTUHSC Provost Dr. Darrin D'Agostino to support the Hispanic-Serving Institution application for TTUHSC. D & A is still part of the project as they created and now manage the dashboards to measure enrollment metrics in West Texas for the HSI Committee.

The team is currently working on a project that centers around the Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) and how SDoH impacts health outcomes.



**DR. GIPSY
BOCANEGRA**
Director of Data and Analytics



RHONDA ISOME
Senior Office Assistant



GRACE FOSU, M.S.
Research Associate



**DR. DIANA
VARGAS-GUTIERREZ**
Research Associate

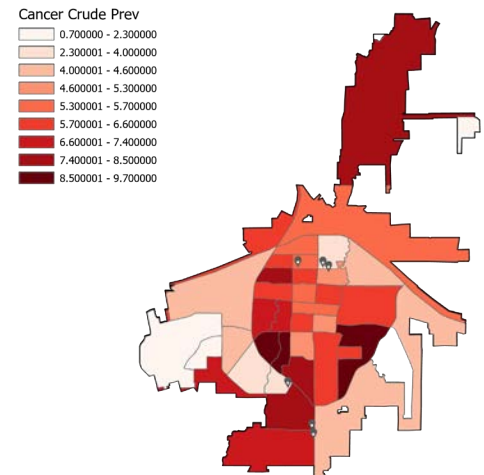
Social Determinants of Health Project

According to the Centers for Disease control^[1], the Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) are conditions in the places that affect people where they live, learn, work, and play and contribute to health outcomes because they are risk factors for many disease conditions. Some estimate these SDoH factors account for between 30 to 55% of disease outcomes which can be more impactful than health care or life-style choices.^[2] A critical appraisal of SDoH published in August of 2020^[3] based on an international conference of noted scholars in 2019, focuses on this age-old conceptual framework of public health and recently of progressive policies by governments around the world. The U.S. health care system is responding in two important ways – through accreditation of hospitals and related facilities that have a criterion related to how well the facilities engage their communities and actually manage population health with preventive and other programs that focus on reducing the burden of diseases. Upcoming changes in payment mechanisms are going to reward health care providers, mostly hospitals, that attend to SDoH. By keeping the communities healthy and managing risk factor of expensive-to-care-for diseases, the cost of care can be reduced and refocused to provide a better value and healthier outcomes. We think studying how SDoH specifically effect health and wellbeing will lead to more prevention care and health promotion programs. The idea is to understand the interplay of factors so that precision medicine can be achieved that is meant for a particular population in a particular community. In other words, one-size-fits all options should become a thing of the past. Moreover, we want to help our providers avoid the penalties that will be levied through what will be reimbursed and to avoid the suffering that goes with disease burden. We think that prevention is better than cure, access to care is better than deferring needed services, and that providers and consumers will be more satisfied with the system.

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH



CANCER PREVALENCE IN ABILENE



Source: 500 Cities Project, Census Tract-Level Data, 2019 Release

[1] Social Determinants of Health | CDC

[2] www.who.int/health-topics/social-determinants-of-health

[3] Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2020 Aug; 17(16): 5856.



Transforming Communities through Outreach, Recruitment & Education (T-CORE)

Education, outreach, youth recruitment, and community health worker training.

The Transforming Communities through Outreach Recruitment and Education (T-CORE) division provides continuing education and career development opportunities to rural West Texas through the West Texas AHEC. The six regional offices in Abilene (Big Country AHEC), Canyon (Panhandle AHEC), El Paso (Desert Mountain AHEC), Midland (Permian Basin AHEC), Plainview (AHEC of the Plains), and Wichita Falls (North Central AHEC) coordinate pipeline activities to recruit students and job seekers to enter the healthcare workforce. West Texas AHEC also creates and distributes H.O.T. Jobs, a publication that highlights healthcare career opportunities throughout West Texas and the state.

West Texas AHEC's mission is to increase healthcare professions training capacity, provide community-based clinical training, and support retention of healthcare professionals in high-need areas throughout West Texas.



CATHERINE HUDSON, MPH
Director of T-CORE

T-CORE Team



WENDY BRYAN, MBA
T-CORE Project Manager



MICHELLE CRUMP
Senior Office Assistant



CELESTE HOFFMAN
*Health Career Promotions
Coordinator*



JESSE JENKINS, CHW
*Database and Reporting
Specialist*



**OLUGBENGA OLOKEDE,
MD, MPH**
*Health Career Promotion/
Outreach Coordinator*



MADISON DELEON, CHW
Specialist IV



EVA GARZA
Specialist IV



**REBECA LLANAS,
MSW, CHW**
Specialist IV

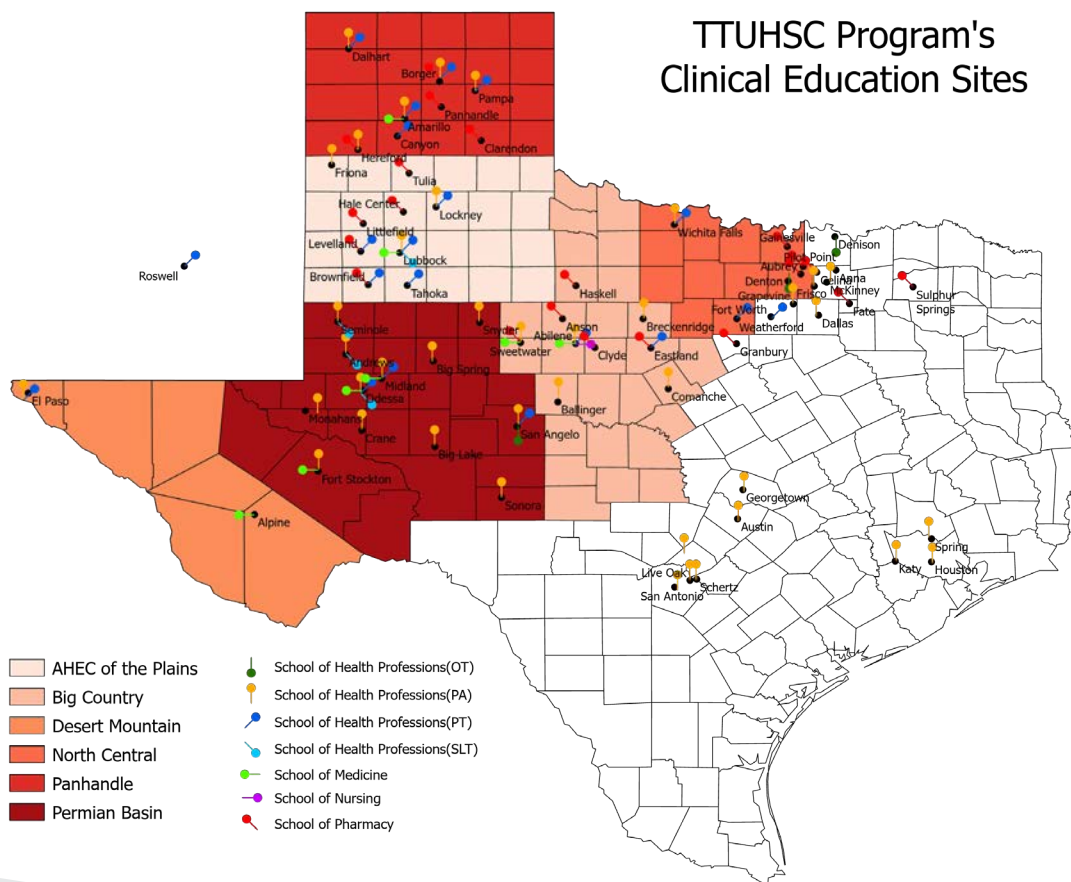


TONI CAMPBELL
*Specialist IV
Wichita Falls*

T-CORE Research Project

This fiscal year, T-CORE initiated a research study to identify socio-cognitive and environmental factors that determine a student's choice of healthcare profession. The study includes a questionnaire to survey various healthcare professions students across TTUHSC campuses and West Texas. The goal is to understand the factors that influence the student's decision of whether to practice in a rural area following completion of their programs of study. Dr. Billy Philips, Ph.D., MPH, is the Principal Investigator with Co-Investigators Olugbenga Olokede, MD, MPH, Cathy Hudson, MPH, and Dr. Gipsy Bocanegra, Ph.D.

The study is currently in progress.



T-CORE Research Project

PROJECT TITLE

Understanding Choice of Health Career by College Student in Rural West Texas Using the Socio-cognitive Framework.

SELECTED POPULATION

First year college students in various healthcare professions across four Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center campuses in West Texas.

SURVEY PURPOSE

The purpose of this study is to collect information on the socio-cognitive and environmental factors that influence the choice of students with rural background in West Texas of various healthcare care professions. The survey will inquire about their career motivation, supports, barriers and career planning, goals, self-efficacy, personality, and outcome expectation. Information obtained will be used to assess the current impact of West Texas AHEC activities and can also be used to guide future West Texas AHEC activities.



West Texas AHEC

Area Health Education Centers

The West Texas AHEC program supports six regional centers in Canyon, Plainview, Midland, Abilene, El Paso, and Wichita Falls. Goals for the West Texas AHEC program include coordination of pipeline activities to recruit and engagement with students to encourage them to enter the health care workforce.

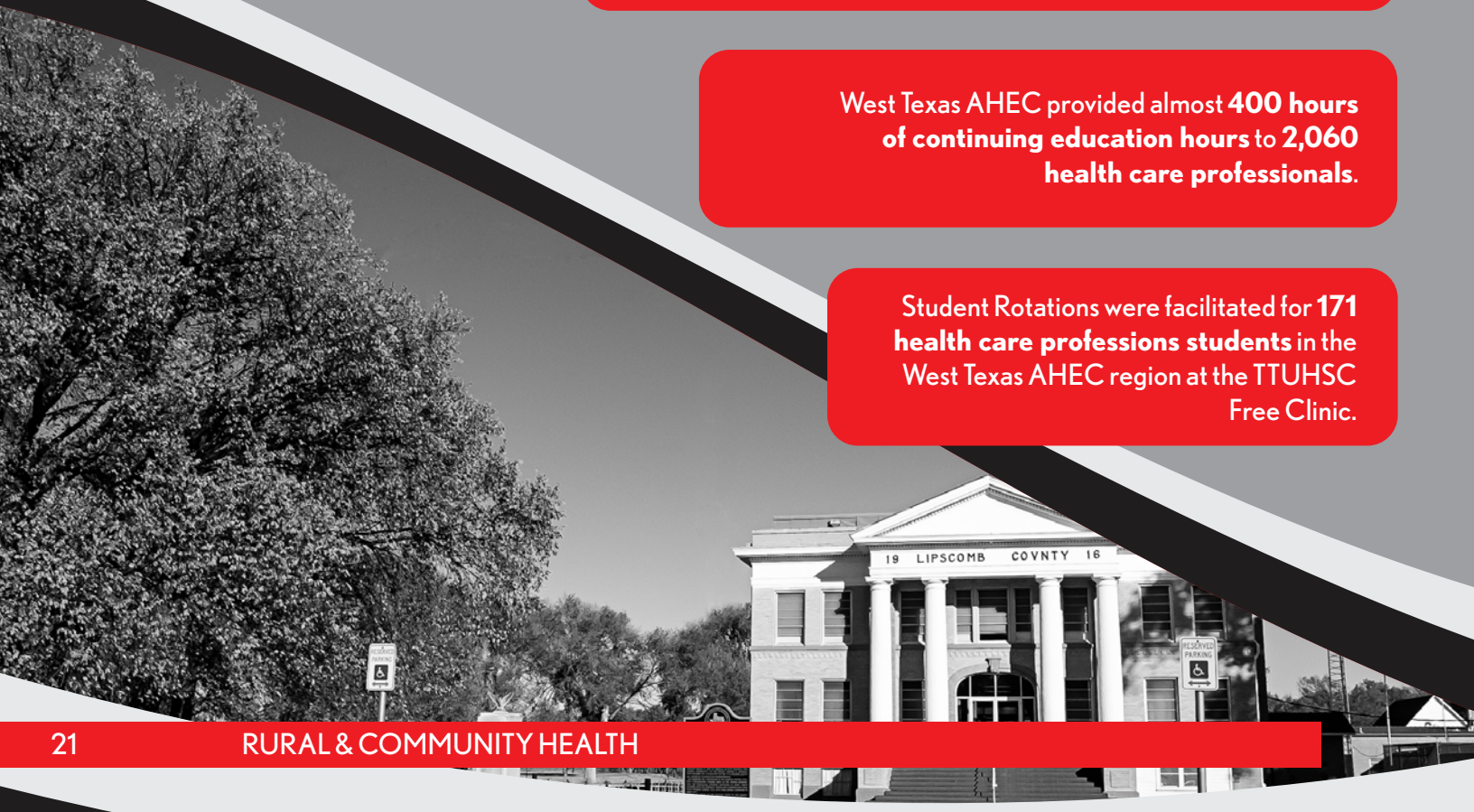
Additionally, the West Texas AHEC Program expands community-based opportunities to increase health professions training capacity, provides community-based clinical training for health professions students through the AHEC Scholars Program, provides practice entry support, introduces youth to health careers through AHEC Jr Scholars programs, and supports placement and retention of health professionals in high-need areas.

West Texas AHEC's accomplishments for FY 2021-22 include:

West Texas AHEC's Bridge to Excellence CHW Program provided **certification training for 7 new CHWs on the core CHW track.**

West Texas AHEC provided almost **400 hours of continuing education hours to 2,060 health care professionals.**

Student Rotations were facilitated for **171 health care professions students** in the West Texas AHEC region at the TTUHSC Free Clinic.



West Texas AHEC

In fiscal year 2021-2022, West Texas AHEC placed **171 students** in rotations, initiated **1,125 students** into their new youth health service corps (also known as AHEC Jr. Scholar programs), provided health career pipeline education to a total of **1,585 students**, and supported **151 students** in the two Double T Health Service Corps.

AHEC Jr. Scholars

In September of 2018, West Texas AHEC implemented a Jr. Scholar program, targeted at rural high school students. The goal is to recruit students who would like to pursue a career in health care, regardless of the field of study. Each year, each regional AHEC center is charged with recruiting new schools to participate in this program. To date, the centers have recruited a total of **4,358 active participants in more than 30 health service corps**. This approach yields a greater impact due to the ability to provide resources such as shadowing opportunities, tours of the different health career programs, and a curriculum created for future health care professionals.

Continuing Education Programs and Health Careers

During the 2021-2022 fiscal year, **2,060 healthcare professionals participated in almost 400 hours** of Continuing Education Units (CEUs), training courses designed for certified Community Health Workers (CHWs) and provided by West Texas AHEC. The CHW Bridge to Excellence Program also offers intermediate-level CHW training and a certification course. This year, the Bridge to Excellence Program provided certification training for seven new CHWs, with **33 Behavioral Health students completing 372 CEU hours**.

West Texas AHEC Renewed

The West Texas AHEC submitted a competitive renewal application which was funded. This **five-year award** will allow West Texas AHEC to continue its health workforce development program for West Texas and keep our **six partnering centers funded**.



WEST TEXAS
AHEC

High School Telemedicine Certificate Curriculum

Powered by T-CORE

The High School Telemedicine Technical Certificate Curriculum is the first telemedicine certificate program targeted to high school students in rural West Texas. The curriculum provides students with competency-based training on telemedicine clinical procedures, technology, and business.

The High School Telemedicine Technical Certificate Curriculum provides students with the information and experience necessary to build and demonstrate their telemedicine competencies. Students who complete the curriculum and obtain a passing score from their instructor(s) will receive a technical certificate of completion from TTUHSC which shows they have demonstrated competency in telemedicine.

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS



5

**PARTICIPATING
SCHOOLS IN
FY 2021-22**

STUDENTS TRAINED



78

**PARTICIPATING
STUDENTS IN
FY 2021-22**

- City View High School - Wichita Falls, TX
- Bel Air High School - El Paso, TX
- Comanche High School - Comanche, TX
- San Saba High School - San Saba, TX
- Midland ISD - Midland, TX



DSHS Health Equity Grant Funded By CDC

Community Conversations on Health

The T-CORE team is working on a project funded by the Texas Department of State Health Services to understand the impact of COVID-19 and other health disparities among rural communities in hopes of reducing the impact of future public health emergencies.

As part of the project, T-CORE will conduct a community health needs assessment, which will include input from the community. Some of the planned activities include:

- Participating in community events to provide health related information.
- Conducting key informant surveys with leaders and stakeholders from different community sectors (healthcare, education, etc.).
- Conducting focus group meetings to get input from county residents/community members.
- Presenting findings from the community health needs assessment at a community meeting.

PLANNING AND PREPARATION | June-August 2022

Secure Community Support

- Conduct Community Meetings
- Community Outreach

NEEDS ASSESSMENT | September-December 2022

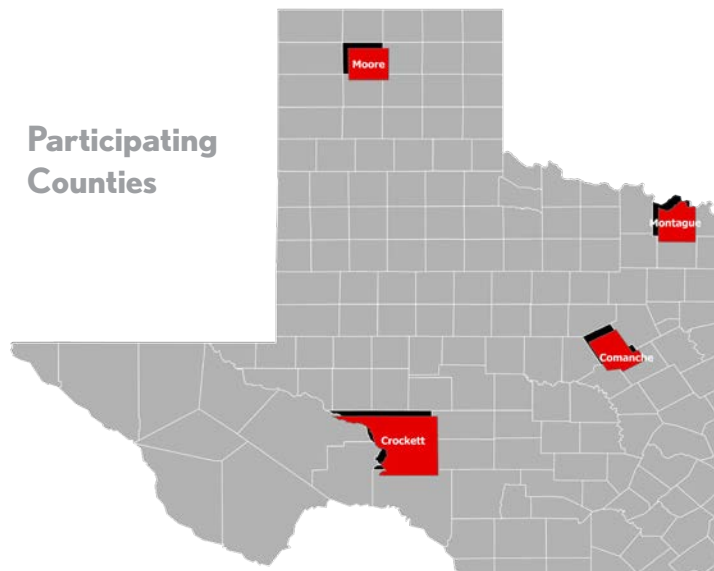
Assess Healthcare Challenges/Needs

- Data Collection
- Develop and Conduct Survey(s)
- Focus Groups

EVALUATION/REVIEW | January-May 2023

- Analyze Community Assessment Data
- Determine Connections/Evaluate Needs
- Intervention Recommendations
- Regional Meeting (Share findings)
- Final Report to DSHS

Participating Counties





Contracts, Grants, and Publishing Team

The Contracts, Grants, and Publishing (CGaP) team supports the contracting, grant writing, publication development, and editing needs of the Institute. CGaP negotiates, drafts, and manages the contractual agreements of all divisions of the FMHIRCH. It also contributes to and guides the grant writing process, which led to two successful grant applications this fiscal year, including the AHEC competitive continuation and the Hispanic Center of Excellence grant at TTUHSC-Permian Basin. The group also publishes a quarterly magazine, the *Rural Health Quarterly*, which seeks to shed light on rural health matters and ranks states' rural healthcare each year in the Report Card issue. The RHQ is a free publication and is indexed on the Rural Health Information Hub.



JILLIAN RUSSELL, J.D.
*Director of Contracts, Grants,
and Publishing*



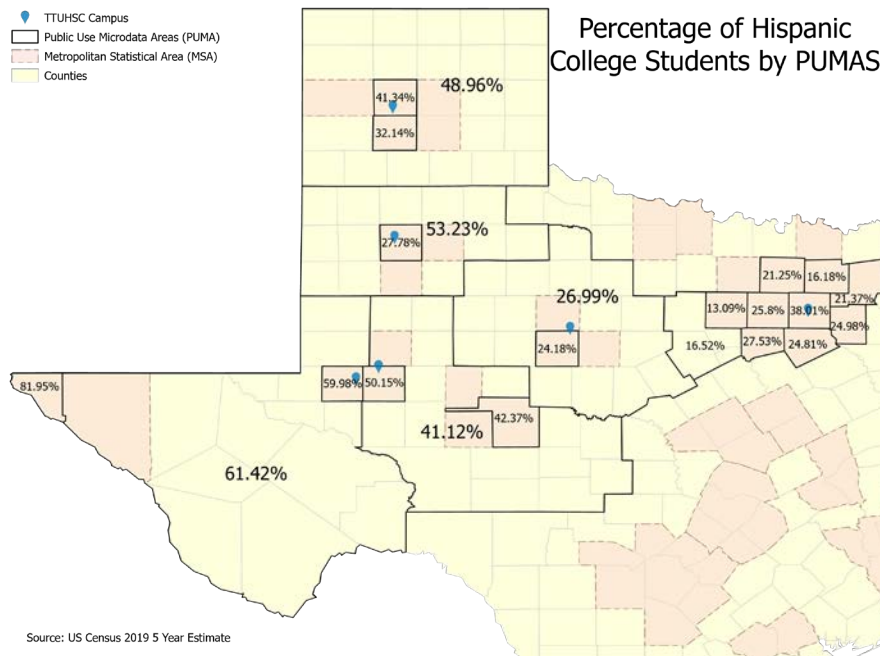
CANDICE CLARK, MA
Senior Editor



AMBER C. PARKER
Lead Writer

Hispanic Center of Excellence Grant

The F. Marie Hall Institute collaborated with TTUHSC-PB to bring increased healthcare access to the Permian Basin area. Working with TTUHSC-PB School of Medicine Regional Dean Dr. Timothy Benton, the FMHIRCH helped to write a successful HRSA grant to bring a Hispanic Center of Excellence (COE) to TTUHSC-PB. The purpose of the COE is to engage with students in the Permian Basin and West Texas area who are interested in medical careers and support them as they seek acceptance into medical school. Under the COE grant, students from underrepresented groups will be recruited and trained as healthcare providers, with the goal of establishing their practice in the Permian Basin to fill the region's need for family medicine providers. The **\$3.4 million grant** is for five years and is currently underway at TTUHSC-PB's School of Medicine.



Rural Health Quarterly

The *Rural Health Quarterly* is a scholarly publication that is administered, written, and published by the Institute. With articles covering rural communities, healthcare challenges, and rural health happenings around TTUHSC and West Texas, the RHQ is indexed on the Rural Health Information Hub and enjoys local as well as national prominence.



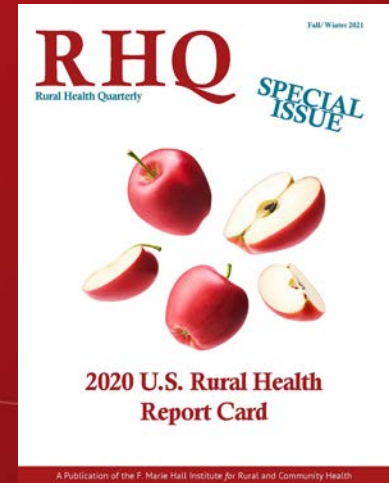
SPRING 2022

The Case for Community: Exploring Solutions for Mental Health Care Inequity in Rural Georgia • Treating Obesity in Rural Children • Rural Health Care Crisis: Immersing Future Doctors in Rural Life with Hands-on Programs



SUMMER 2022

Maternity Health Care Deserts • A Look Inside the Rural Residency Program at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center • Hopes for Drones Fly High to Improve Rural Healthcare Access



FALL/WINTER 2022

A yearly report on the state of rural health in America that provides policymakers, practitioners, and the public with a snapshot of each state's rural health status, relative to other states across the nation.

Web and Information Technology Team (WIT)

Web and Information Technology (WIT) supports the Institute by developing interactive maps, designing layouts for publications, and providing technical assistance. WIT is also working to support the Institute's social media pages with new content and design.



JESSICA ALEXANDER
Senior Designer



- F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health
- Texas HOT Jobs
- TexLa Telehealth Resource Center
- Rural Health Quarterly
- West Texas Area Health Education Center



MIGUEL CARRASCO
Director of Web and Information Technology



Grants, Applications, and Awards

The F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health's (FMHIRCH) numerous strategic partnerships present a wide range of contractual needs. Over the course of fiscal year 2021-2022, FMHIRCH managed a total of **27 contracts** to support its numerous **strategic partnerships**.

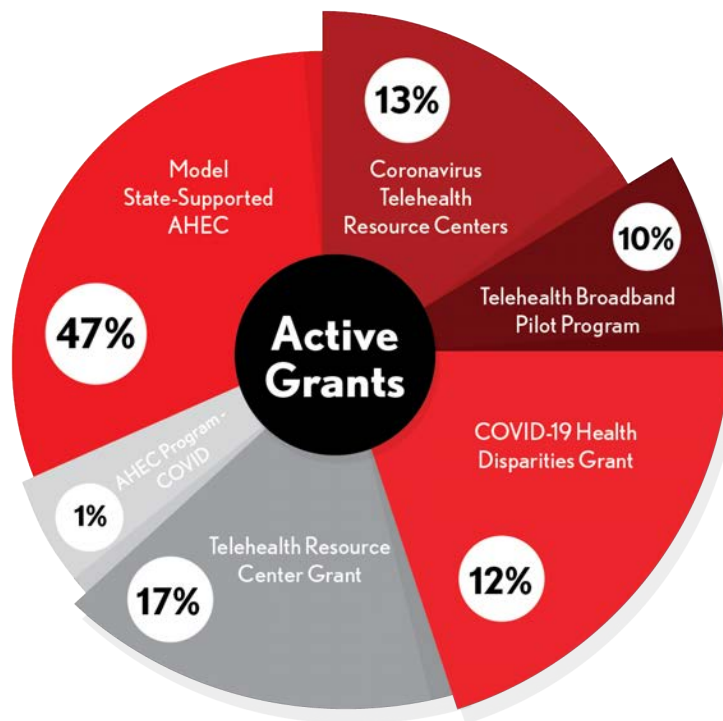
The Institute also developed and maintained internal partnerships with other departments throughout TTUHSC such as the School of Medicine, the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, the Julia Jones Matthews School of Population and Public Health, and the Department of Internal Medicine.

Through these strategic partnerships and the contracts that helped to form them, FMHIRCH furthered its mission to collaborate with the people of Texas for the advancement of health through innovative and scholarly research, the advanced use of technology, comprehensive education, and outreach.

Through its contract management and strategic partnerships, FMHIRCH embodies the Institutional vision of transforming health care through innovation and collaboration.

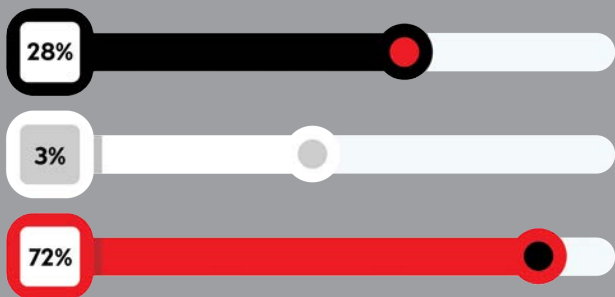
| GRANT | START DATE | END DATE | TOTAL |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Model State-Supported AHEC (HRSA) | September 1, 2017 | August 31, 2022 | \$ 3,089,864 |
| Telehealth Resource Center Grant Program | September 1, 2019 | August 31, 2022 | \$ 755,768 |
| Coronavirus Telehealth Resource Centers | April 1, 2020 | June 30, 2022 | \$ 828,571 |
| Telehealth Resource Center Grant Program | September 1, 2021 | August 31, 2022 | \$ 325,000 |
| Telehealth Broadband Pilot Program | June 1, 2022 | December 31, 2023 | \$ 650,000 |
| AHEC Program - COVID | May 1, 2020 | April 30, 2022 | \$ 95,455 |
| COVID-19 Health Disparities Grant | November 1, 2021 | May 31, 2023 | \$ 818,986 |
| TOTAL | | | \$6,563,644 |

FY 2021-2022 Grant Funding



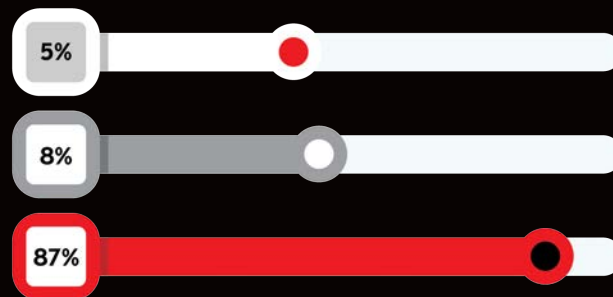
State Approved Line Item Funding/Allocated Funding

- Rural Health Care
- Correctional Managed Care Contract/Billed Clinic Services/Community Telemedicine Network
- West Texas AHEC Program



Endowments

- Marie Hall Chair in Rural Health
- Smith/Vela/Patterson Senior Fellowship for Rural Health Research
- F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health



Funding for FY 2021-2022

ENDOWMENTS

| | |
|---|-------------|
| The Marie Hall Chair in Rural Health | \$ 140,362 |
| Smith/Vela/Patterson Senior Fellowship for Rural Health Research | \$ 207,785 |
| F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health | \$2,244,557 |

STATE APPROPRIATED LINE ITEM FUNDING

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Rural Health Care | \$ 673,058 |
| West Texas AHEC Program | \$1,732,800 |

ALLOCATED FUNDING TO SUPPORT TELEMEDICINE SERVICES

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Community Telemedicine Network | \$ 335,018 |
|--------------------------------|------------|

Endowment Commitments

Endowment funds are used to support the mission of the F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health. These funds support the TTUHSC institutional goal of a four month reserve, fund faculty fellowships and TTUHSC student scholarships, are used for grant matching in the event other sources of funding fall through, and support the Institute staffing plan.

| Institute Endowment Commitments¹ | |
|--|-------------------|
| 4 Month Reserve | \$ 981,095 |
| Faculty Fellowships | \$ 750,000 |
| HRSA AHEC Match | \$ 888,000 |
| Staffing Plan | \$ 592,137 |
| TTUHSC Student Scholarships (5 Years) | \$ 500,000 |

¹The institute endowment is 165 % committed.

Offices/Boards/Committees

- Billy Philips**
2022-Present
Acting Dean-Julia Jones Matthews School of Population & Public Health
July 2019-2022
Member, Clinical Integration Task Force
March 2020-June 2021
Member, West Texas 3D COVID-19 Relief Consortium
2021
Member, Emergency Medical Taskforce-Chartis, Permian Basin, NextGen 9-1-1
2014-Present
Member, Telemedicine Stakeholders Committee, Texas Medical Board
2016-Present
Member, Texas Health Improvement Network (THIN) Board
2017-Present
Member, Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council
- Catherine Hudson**
2001-Present
Member, Association of Clinical Research Professionals
Member, SOCRA (Board of Directors since 2019)
2016-Present
Member, National Rural Health Association
2017-Present
Member, American Evaluation Association
Member, American Public Health Association
Member, Texas Public Health Association
Member, Texas Rural Health Association
March 2020-June 2021
Member, West Texas 3D COVID-19 Relief Consortium
June 2022-Present
Member, Hispanic Serving Institute Committee
Co-chair, Institutional Foundation Work Group
- Sarah Looten**
2022-Present
Acting Dean of Operations-Julia Jones Matthews School of Population & Public Health
July 2019-Present
Member, Clinical Integration Task Force Committee
March 2020-June 2021
Member, West Texas 3D COVID-19 Relief Consortium
- Dolores Parrish**
2010-Present
Member, Latin/Hispanic Faculty Staff Association
2016-Present
Member, Society of Human Resource Management
- Derrick Ramsey**
September 2022-Present
Board Member, Plainview Foundation for Rural Health Advancement
Member, Telehealth Taskforce TTUHSC Clinical Council
- Wendy Bryan**
August 2019-Present
Member, National Council of University Research Administrators
- Candice Clark**
2021-Present
Member, Association of Health Care Journalists
Member, American Public Health Association
- Lisa Wynn**
2021-Present
Member, International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP)
- Kelly Munoz**
2017-Present
Member, National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA)
Member, Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS)
Member, National Consortium of Telehealth Resource Centers (NCTRC), Governance Committee
2021-Present
Member, National Consortium of Telehealth Resource Centers (NCTRC), Vision and Impact Committee
- Frances Quintero**
2018-Present
Member, Health Science Industry Leadership Council-LISD
- Denise Lopez**
March 2015-Present
Member, National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA)
March 2020-Present
Member, People and Operations Taskforce-TTUHSC

Scholarly Activity

PUBLICATIONS

Penuliar, M., Clark, C., Curti, D., Hudson, C., & Philips, B. (2022). COVID-19 Per Capita Fatality Rate: A Path Analysis Model. *Texas Public Health Journal*, 74(3)

COMMUNITY & STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Jillian Russell
Institute Liaison to the Legal Aid Society of Lubbock

Namratha Mohan
Penuliar, M. (2022)
COVID-19 Per Capita Fatality Rate: A Path Analysis Model

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Philips, B. (2021). Impact of COVID on West Texas Healthcare. AHEC Economic and Health Issues Affecting West Texas. Odessa, TX.

Philips, B. (2021). 9-1-1 EMS in Texas. Testimony to State of Texas House of Representatives, Committee on Public Health. Austin, TX.

Garcia, A., Penuliar, M., Hudson, C., Philips, B. (2021). Chronic Depression and Prescription Likelihood as a Function of Race and Sex in a Low-Income Clinic Sample. Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Student Research Week Conference. Lubbock, TX.

Garcia, A., Penuliar, M., Hudson, C., Philips, B. (2021). Chronic Depression and Prescription Likelihood as a Function of Race and Sex in a Low-Income Clinic Sample. Texas Public Health Association Annual Education Conference. Virtual.

Penuliar, M., Clark, C., Curti, D., Hudson, C., Philips, B. (2021). Covid-19 Growth in Rural versus Urban Counties with Major Universities at the Start of the 2020 Academic Year. Texas Public Health Association Annual Education Conference. Virtual.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
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*F. Marie Hall Institute for
Rural and Community Health*

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We focus our imagination, our talents and our energy to improve the health and well-being of the people and communities of Texas and beyond.

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