

Dr. Wright Lassiter, Jr. honored at February luncheon





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Steve Love

President/CEO
Dallas-Fort Worth
Hospital Council

We should renew the 1115 Medicaid Waiver

TEXAS ENJOYS A ROBUST ECONOMY, LOW UNEMPLOYMENT AND POPULATION GROWTH. But we should understand education, healthcare and poverty are intertwined. A hungry child is not going to learn in school. Thirty percent of the children in Dallas County live in poverty. Almost 12 percent of adults over age 65 live in poverty in Texas.

We have explained many times that Medicaid in Texas only covers pregnant women, children and disabled adults. Most able-bodied working adults cannot qualify for Medicaid even if they hover at the federal poverty level. That's right - many of the six million uninsured in Texas are the "working poor," who simply cannot afford healthcare and do not qualify for the health insurance marketplace.

In December 2011, Texas received federal approval of an 1115 Medicaid Waiver, worth almost \$30 billion over five years. This waiver helps fund uncompensated care. It provides Delivery System Reform Incentive Payments (DSRIP) to inspire providers to transform delivery practices and improve quality health, patient experiences and cost-effective treatments.

Many of the DSRIP projects have helped fill the gap in certain areas like primary care and behavioral health. This 1115 Medicaid Waiver has provided for the needs of the community while helping many of our fellow Texans receive healthcare treatment. The waiver expires on September 30, 2016. It is essential that the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (THHSC) work collaboratively with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to renew the 1115 Medicaid Waiver as many Texans rely on this for continued healthcare.

Thank you for your support of the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council. ■

30%
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Winter 2015 www.dfwhc.org

DFWHC INTERLOCUTOR

EDITORIAL

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INTERLOCUTOR

1: one who takes part in dialogue or conversation

2: one in the middle of a line who questions the end people and acts as a leader



DALLAS-FORT WORTH
HOSPITAL COUNCIL





Photos by Jerry McClure

Dr. Wright Lassiter, Jr. (previous page, clockwise) receives the Distinguished Health Service Award; Dani Decell is honored for her service as DFWHC's 2014 Chair; Matt Goodman (l to r), Amanda Ward and Glenn Hunter; Becky Tucker, the 2014 Young Healthcare Executive of the Year; Jim Young (l to r) and Kerney Laday, Sr. Trustee of the Year Carole Young. Arlington Mayor Robert Cluck (top, l to r), Steve Love and Dr. John Warner.

DFWHC hosts its Social and Awards Luncheon

THE DFW HOSPITAL COUNCIL (DFWHC) HOSTED its Social and Awards Luncheon February 19 at the Arlington Convention Center. More than 400 attendees turned out to honor **Dr. Wright Lassiter** with the Distinguished Health Service Award, **Carole Young** with the Kerney Laday, Sr. Trustee of the Year Award and **Becky Tucker** as the 2014 Young Healthcare Executive of the Year.

The luncheon was originally to take place in October but was rescheduled due to the Ebola crisis. Dr. Lassiter is the chancellor emeritus of **Dallas County Community College District**. Young is the long-time board member of **HCA's Medical City Dallas Hospital**. Tucker is the vice president of integrated health campuses at **Texas Health Resources**. **Dr. John Warner**, CEO of UT Southwestern University Hospitals and DFWHC chair, served as master of ceremonies. **Dani Decell**, CEO of Las Colinas Medical Center, was honored for her work as DFWHC chair in 2014.

Past recipients of the Distinguished Health Service Award in attendance included **Jud Cramer** (1991), **Ruben Esquivel** (1992), **Clinton Howard** (1993) and **Jerry Gilmore** (2007). Additional attendees included **Arlington Mayor Robert Cluck** and Young Healthcare Executive of the Year Nominee **Shara Lynn Smith** of Dallas Medical Center. **D Healthcare Daily** and **D CEO** Editor **Matt Goodman** served as guest speaker and discussed Dallas' heroic response to the Ebola crisis. ■

DFWHC announces 2015 Board of Trustees

THE DFW HOSPITAL COUNCIL (DFWHC) HAS ANNOUNCED its Board of Trustees for 2015. The Board of Trustees consists of the following individuals:

- Chair **Dr. John Warner**, VP/CEO, UT Southwestern University Hospitals
- Past Chair **Daniela “Dany” Decell**, CEO, HCA’s Las Colinas Medical Center
- Chair-Elect **Audra Early**, Division VP of Integrated Care, Kindred’s DFW Hospitals
- Trustee **Doug Hock**, President, COO, Children’s Health System of Texas
- Trustee **Lillie Biggins**, President, Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth
- Trustee **Brett Lee**, CEO, Tenet’s Lake Pointe Medical Center
- Trustee **Cindy Schamp**, President, Baylor Medical Center at Irving
- Trustee **E. Kenneth Hutchenrider**, President, Methodist Richardson Medical Center
- Trustee, **Debbie Paganelli**, President, Texas Health Harris Methodist HEB
- Trustee **Ashley McClellan**, CEO, HCA’s Medical Center of Lewisville
- Trustee **Bill Whitman**, EVP, Chief Operating Officer, JPS Health Network
- Trustee **Scott Peek**, President, Baylor Medical Center at McKinney
- Ex-Officio **Robert Walker**, President/CEO, Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children
- Ex-Officio **Dr. Frederick Cerise**, President/CEO, Parkland Health & Hospital System

Completing their terms are **Rick Merrill**, president/CEO, Cook Children’s Health Care System; and **Tom Trenary**, President, Baylor Medical Center at Garland. New DFWHC Board Members include Whitman and Peek. Walker and Dr. Cerise will serve as ex-officios.

“Our 14-member board represents a dedicated group of North Texas healthcare executives,” said W. Stephen Love, president/CEO of DFWHC. “They have an array of impressive talent and experience. We appreciate their commitment to helping lead North Texas healthcare in 2015. We would also want to thank Rick Merrill and Tom Trenary for their dedicated work over the past years.” ■



Bill Whitman



Scott Peek



Speed Networking

March 12, 2015

May 28, 2015

Sept. 3, 2015

Nov. 5, 2015



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8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

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Continental breakfast will be provided.
Please bring plenty of business cards!

Free to DFWHC members; \$40 for non-members

To register, go to:

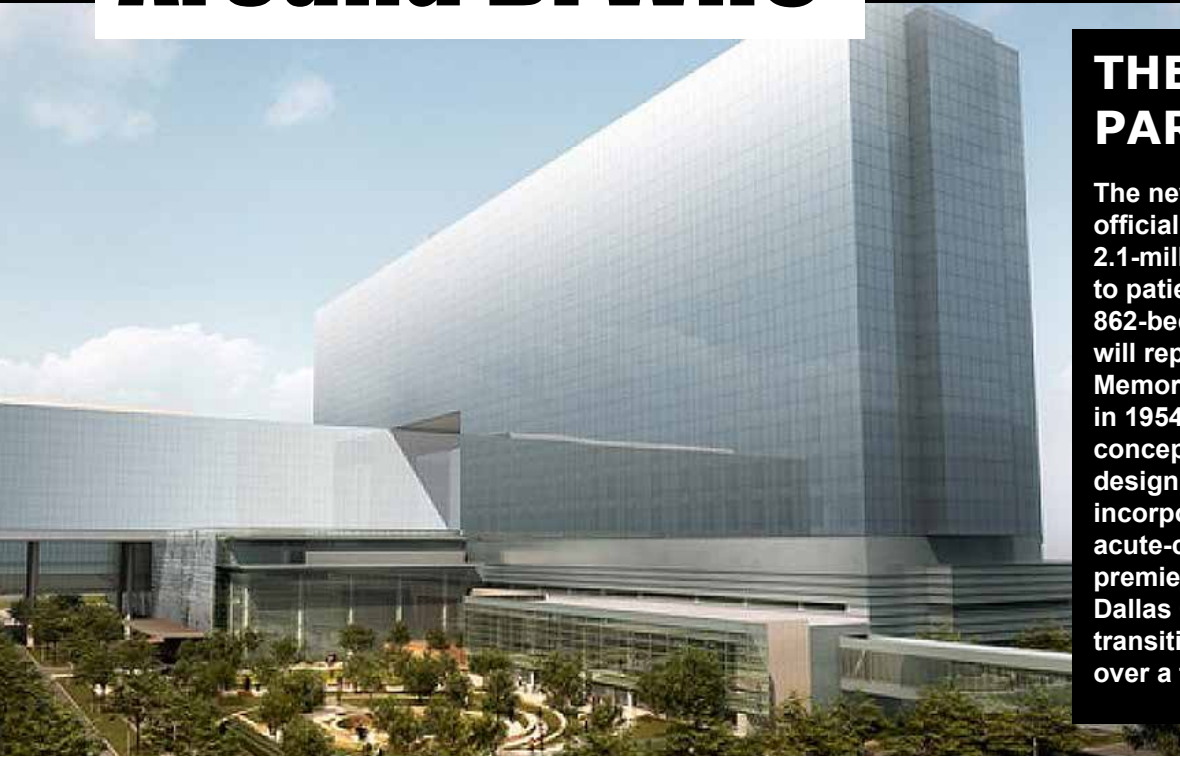
<http://dfwhcspeednet2015.eventbrite.com>



DALLAS-FORT WORTH
HOSPITAL COUNCIL

For information, contact Kristin Alexander
at kalexander@dfwhc.org or **469.648.5116**.

Around DFWHC



THE NEW PARKLAND

The new Parkland hospital will officially open its doors to the 2.1-million-square-foot facility to patients on August 20. The 862-bed, 17-story structure will replace the aging Parkland Memorial Hospital that opened in 1954. The latest healing concepts, quality and safety design features have been incorporated into the all-digital acute-care facility making it a premier health care setting for Dallas County residents. The transition of patients will occur over a three-day period.

Alecto acquires WNJ

ALECTO HEALTHCARE SERVICES announced in October it had acquired **Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital-WNJ**, previously owned by joint venture partners LHP Hospital Group and Texas Health Resources.



Alecto now owns and operates the 237-bed hospital, which has been renamed Wilson N. Jones Regional Medical Center. The acquisition brings the number of hospitals owned by Alecto in the U.S. to four including two hospitals in California and one in West Virginia. ■

Kretz named new Texas Health Arlington president

TEXAS HEALTH RESOURCES

ANNOUNCED in January the selection of **Blake Kretz, FACHE**, as the next president of **Texas Health Arlington Memorial Hospital**. Kretz, the former president of Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Cleburne, will continue his reporting relationship with leadership representing Texas Health Resources' Southwest Zone - a geographical area that encompasses portions of the Fort Worth, Arlington, Azle, Cleburne and Stephenville communities. ■



JANET ST. JAMES MOVES TO HCA

JANET ST. JAMES was named assistant vice president of strategic communications for **HCA's North Texas Division** in March. A 25-year veteran of television journalism, St. James was a familiar face as senior reporter for WFAA-TV in Dallas for the past 19 years. She was heavily involved in the station's coverage of last year's Ebola scare in Dallas. ■





Bob Walker (l to r), Steve Mansfield, Chris Durovich, Barclay Berdan, Joel Allison, Erol Akdamar and Steve Love during the North Dallas Chamber of Commerce healthcare conference in January.

Love moderates healthcare panel

A **ROUNDTABLE** made up of hospital CEOs discussed North Texas healthcare January 9 at the North Dallas Chamber of Commerce Annual Conference at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children. The panel was moderated by **Steve Love**, president/CEO of the DFW Hospital Council (DFWHC). Roundtable members included **Erol Akdamar**, president of HCA North Texas; **Joel Allison**, president/CEO of Baylor Scott

& White Health; **Barclay Berdan**, CEO of Texas Health Resources; **Chris Durovich**, president/CEO of Children's Health System of Texas; **Steve Mansfield**, president/CEO of Methodist Health System; and **Bob Walker**, president/CEO of Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children. The panel represented more than 60 area hospitals. The event was a sellout, with more than 250 attendees present. ■

Wilkie received the 2010 award



IT WAS WITH GREAT SADNESS the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council (DFWHC) learned of the death of **Val Wilkie, Jr.**, who died December 16, in Sunapee, N.H., at the age of 91. Wilkie was the leader of the **Sid W. Richardson Foundation** from 1973 until his retirement in 2011. He was presented DFWHC's Distinguished Health Service Award in 2010. In 1942, after his freshman year at Yale, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He soon became a 1st Lieutenant and co-pilot of a B-17, "the Flying Fortress," based in the 351st Bomb Group in England in World War II. On Jan. 11, 1944, on his third mission as his plane was being shot down over Holland, he bailed out and evaded capture for five months by living with the Dutch Underground. The Gestapo eventually caught and held him in solitary confinement for a month of interrogation. He was then imprisoned from 1944-1945 in Germany. He put that experience into words 56 years later in a book he modestly titled "Recollections 1942-1945." ■

Plaza Medical Center of FW earns nursing recognition

PLAZA MEDICAL CENTER OF FORT WORTH announced in February it had achieved Magnet designation for excellence in nursing services by the American Nurses Credential Center's (ANCC) Magnet Recognition Program. The designation is one of the highest levels of recognition a medical center can achieve. Plaza Medical Center previously

achieved Magnet designation in 2011. The program recognizes organizations that demonstrate excellence in nursing practice and adherence to national standards. Applicants undergo a rigorous evaluation that includes a review of nursing services. ANCC is the largest nursing credentialing organization in the United States. ■

Around DFWHC

March for Babies breakfast held in Dallas



Pam Stoyanoff (l to r) and Steve Love



Calvert Collins of FOX 4-KDFW

RAIN, SLEET OR SNOW DID NOT STOP a full house from attending the March of Dimes' March for Babies Kickoff Breakfast February 6 at the Omni Hotel in Dallas. Nearly 500 attendees turned out to honor top donors from 2014 while promoting the upcoming walks to be held in April.

The 2015 Co-Chairs **Dr. Paul Hain** of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas and **Steve Idoux** of Lockton Dunning Benefits were officially introduced by March of Dimes Dallas Division Chair **Bryan Crawford** of PwC.

Idoux's family, including wife Kathryn and children Mack, Betty Anne and Maggie, were this year's Ambassador Family, highlighted by a video detailing the premature birth of their twins. Betty Anne and Mack were born at four and two pounds, and the Idoux's described the life-changing event and their children's stay in the newborn intensive care unit.

"We can never express our gratitude to our health care team," said Kathryn. "Four and a half years later, our children continue to thrive. We would not be so fortunate without the work of the March of Dimes."

W. Stephen Love, president/CEO of the DFW Hospital Council who served as the March for Babies chair in 2014, and Co-Chair **Pam Stoyanoff** of Methodist Health System, presented the awards to the top donors to close the program.

The money raised in the March for Babies walks funds research and programs that help babies begin healthy lives. More than 500 local programs were supported to help educate women and reduce risks during pregnancy. Information was offered to 90,000 families while the U.S. premature birth rate dropped for the 7th year in a row.

Calvert Collins of FOX 4-KDFW served as master of ceremonies. Cigna was a platinum sponsor while Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas and Texas Health Resources served as gold sponsors. ■

Love hosts UT Arlington Luncheon

DFW HOSPITAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT/CEO STEVE LOVE served as master of ceremonies of the 14th Annual Dream Makers Scholarship Luncheon March 2 at the University of Texas at Arlington. The event honored donors who support the scholarships of students in the **College of Nursing and Health Innovation**. The nursing college has 12,000 students, making it the largest producer of nurses in Texas. Special guests included University President **Dr. Vistasp M. Karbhari**, Dean **Anne Bavier** and students **Megan Peterson** and **Peter Deng**. ■



Dr. Vistasp Karbhari

Is it CLOSE ENOUGH?

DFWHC fights for smoke-free Irving

DFW HOSPITAL COUNCIL (DFWHC) PRESIDENT/CEO W. STEPHEN LOVE has joined Irving Mayor **Beth Van Duyne** in speaking out against present smoking ordinances in Irving restaurants. His comments were detailed in a segment broadcast February 6 on WFAA Ch. 8 TV News. Smoking is presently allowed in Irving restaurants, and Love believes there should be a ban identical to the one enacted in Dallas five years ago.

“Many of our cities including Irving, Richardson, Fort Worth, Denton and Addison have not enacted a comprehensive ‘smoke free’ ordinance in all public places,” Love said. “This is disturbing, especially when you compare similar ordinances in other regions. Just last month, New Orleans enacted a complete smoke-free ordinance. Now here is a city internationally known for its tourism, festivals, restaurants and drinking establishments. If they can enact this ordinance on Bourbon Street, we should easily be able to do so in every North Texas city.”

The DFWHC headquarters is located in Irving. It has been a smoke-free facility since 2012, following the lead of all of its member hospitals and inspired by an ordinance enacted at Baylor Health Care System (today **Baylor Scott & White Health**) as it became the first major employer in North Texas to stop hiring nicotine users.

The Irving debate has been ongoing for over a year. On February 19, Irving council members passed a 6 to 3 vote approving an ordinance that would ban smoking in all public places in the city except for eight restaurants and one bingo parlor. But the decision was greeted with controversy. The chairman

of the city’s Board of Health **Dr. Michael Chiu**, along with two other colleagues, resigned immediately as a result of the vote.

Dr. Chiu said the board as well as the medical community had recommended a 100 percent ban on smoking. No exceptions. He questioned the exception for the eight businesses. “The city council still won’t say why they are exempt,” he said.

Love immediately distributed an editorial following the vote.

“The Irving City Council claimed the city was ‘close enough’ to smoke-free ordinances, grandfathering in existing establishments with ventilation systems,” wrote Love. “But is this really protecting the public? Remember that thought next time a pharmacist fills your prescription and says, ‘It’s close enough.’ We would be outraged.”

Representatives of the businesses granted exceptions including Cool River Café were present during the vote, but refused to answer questions following the results.

The ordinance went into effect immediately and will allow businesses except for the exempted businesses, six months to become compliant.

“Allowing smoking in public places and exposing others to a known health risk should come to an end,” said Love. “More than 41,000 Americans die annually from exposure to second-hand smoke. North Texas hospitals understand the concerns regarding costs and are working conscientiously towards moving from volume to value-based healthcare. This is one indisputably simple solution to move the needle towards continued improvement.” ■

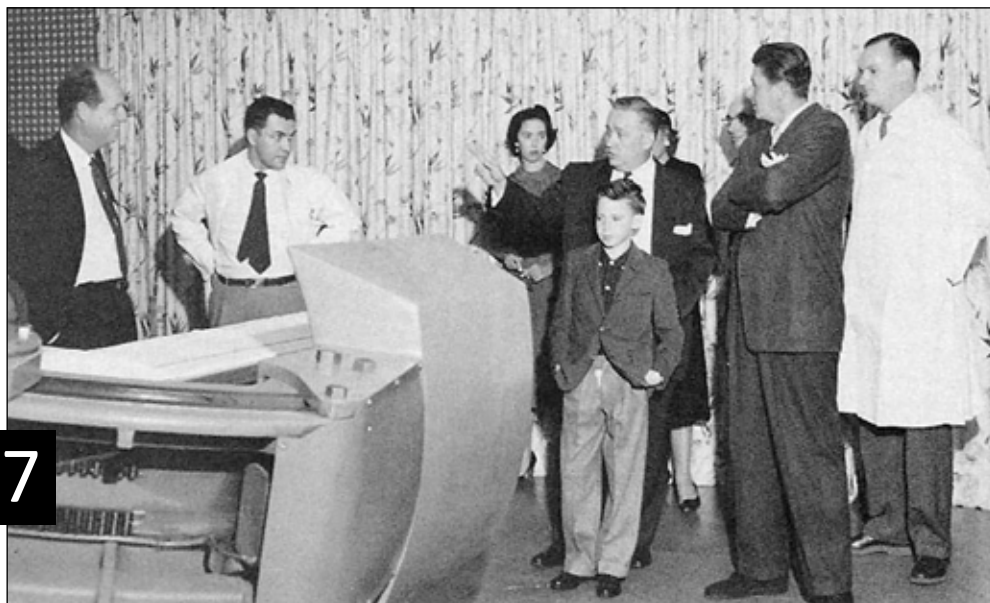


DFWHC HISTORY

Over the past few months, the DFW Hospital Council has been posting historical photographs through its social media. We wanted to share a few "Throwback" moments below.



On Jan. 9, 1978, the Dallas Hospital Council officially became the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council. The press conference to announce the new collaboration was held at the old Fort Worth Press Club. Shown in the photo are (l to r) Ron Smith, Harris Hospital Methodist; Bill Poteet and Claude Rainey, Fort Worth Osteopathic Hospital; Stan Hupfield, All Saints Episcopal Hospital; Rex McRae, Arlington Memorial Hospital; C. Jack Price, Parkland Hospital; John Gavras, DFWHC; Gene Deutcher, JPS Hospital; and Charles Cooper, Gaston Episcopal Hospital.

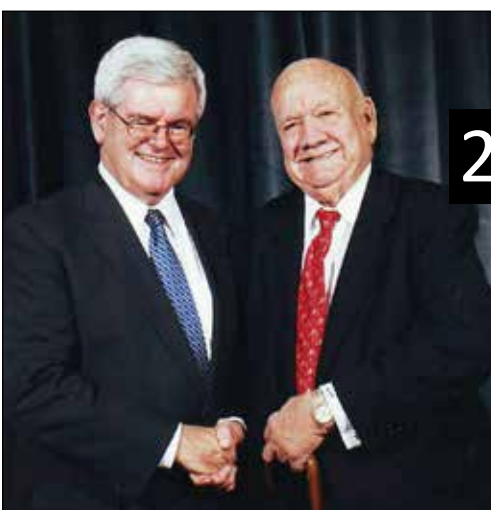


This 1957 photo from the DFW Hospital Council archives was taken at Baylor University Hospital when its long-time president Boone Powell, Sr. (middle, pointing) was giving Ronald Reagan (second from right) a tour of Baylor's supervoltage unit. At the time, before serving as Governor of California and U.S. President, Reagan was a spokesman for General Electric. Powell would serve as Chair of the Dallas Hospital Council in 1949. DFWHC's Boone Powell, Sr. Award of Excellence, presented to extraordinary healthcare executives (including most recently Joel Allison), was named in his honor.



This is from DFWHC's 1983 Annual Awards Luncheon when Doug Hawthorne (right), the chair of the DFWHC Board of Trustees (and eventually long-time president of Texas Health Resources), served as master of ceremonies. He is seated with Gib Lewis (middle), the Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, and Perry R. Bass (left), the Distinguished Health Service Award recipient.

In 1989, the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council (DFWHC) hosted its Annual Awards Luncheon at the Hyatt Regency Reunion. David Brinkley (middle) was the keynote speaker. Scott Pelley (right), at that time a reporter for Ch. 8 WFAA-TV, received the Distinguished Media Award for his story "The Price of Mercy" detailing medical care for the poor. Today, Pelley is the anchor of *CBS Evening News* and a correspondent for *60 Minutes*.



Just who are these handsome gentlemen from the DFW Hospital Council's 2003 Annual Awards Luncheon? The man on the left is Newt Gingrich, keynote speaker. On the right is William "Bill" Mays, the first executive director to ever lead the original Dallas Hospital Council. As the Council began to grow, the Board of Trustees hired Bill in 1967 as the first paid executive. He would lead the organization until stepping down in 1976. Bill was a gregarious and enjoyable presence at the Council's luncheons. He passed away in December of 2004.

WHAT DID THE LAWYER SAY TO THE DOCTOR?

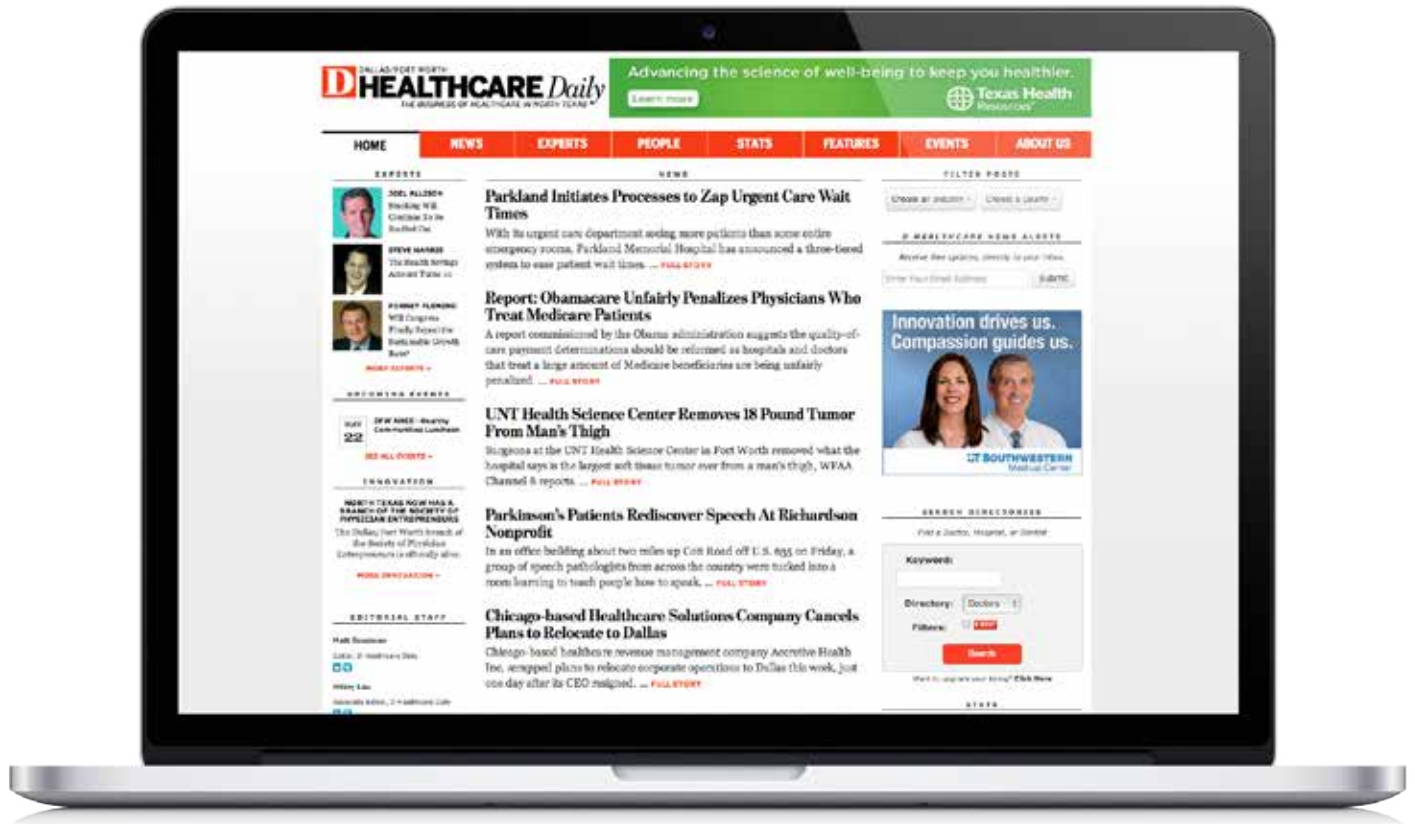
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Kristin Jenkins

JD, FACHE

President, DFWHC Foundation
Senior Vice President, DFWHC



How to contact us

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info@dfwhcfoundation.org

Advance Care Planning in North Texas

AT THE INTERSECTION OF care coordination, patient-centeredness and healthcare cost lies the topic of **Advance Care Planning**. Basically, Advance Care Planning (ACP) is the process of a patient making informed decisions concerning the care they wish to receive during their life. ACP requires caregivers to honor the patient’s plan as well as be part of the team that assists in education. The patient’s plan can reflect their intentions for dignified care at the end of their life. ACP is the last and best opportunity caregivers have to respect their patients’ wishes. It can be difficult to demonstrate respect while minimizing stress to patients and families during the ACP process. Should healthcare providers even be in the middle of this planning or is this a family and faith activity?

The hospital industry believes it should play a key role. According to the **American Hospital Association**, 94 percent of the CEOs surveyed expects their staff will assist patients with ACP. Ninety eight percent also state there will be systems in place that will ensure compliance with a patient’s ACP. According to 83 percent of the same group, they predict physicians at their facilities will also be involved in the ACP process.

For many years our industry has honored advance directives - when available. The Joint Commission requires hospital patients to be asked about the existence of advance directives. For many years, this function has been perfunctory – mainly checking a “no” or “yes” box. Perhaps staff even obtains a copy for a patient’s chart. Perhaps end-of-life discussions occur in the ICU. This is not Advance Care Planning. There is no “plan” except one executed during an emergency. Failure to offer our expertise early on concerning these important decisions about a patient’s treatment seems less than “caring.” There is growing interest within the industry to do more to honor patients’ by assisting them in planning – not just honoring a directive in which they have little discussion.

As we develop coordinated care systems, it is imperative we include a discussion of how to provide ACP support to our aging population. Health systems can play a role in this journey by stressing the importance and the humanity of promoting ACP.

I encourage readers to obtain a copy of Dr. Jeffrey E. Thompson’s article in **FutureScan 2015** to learn about ACP. The work will benefit our patients and the community. ■



www.dfwhcfoundation.org

Foundation Mission

To serve as a catalyst for continual improvement in community health and healthcare delivery through education, research, communication, collaboration and coordination.

Foundation Vision

Act as a trusted community resource to expand knowledge and develop new insight for the continuous improvement of health and healthcare.

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The “Stop C-Diff Now!” public awareness campaign is brought to you by the DFWHC Foundation Hospital Engagement Network, under contract with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Contract #HHS-500-2012-0025.

Around DFWHC Foundation



AND THE TROPHY GOES TO...

The campaign received two 2014 MarCom Platinum Awards and three 2014 Davey Awards.

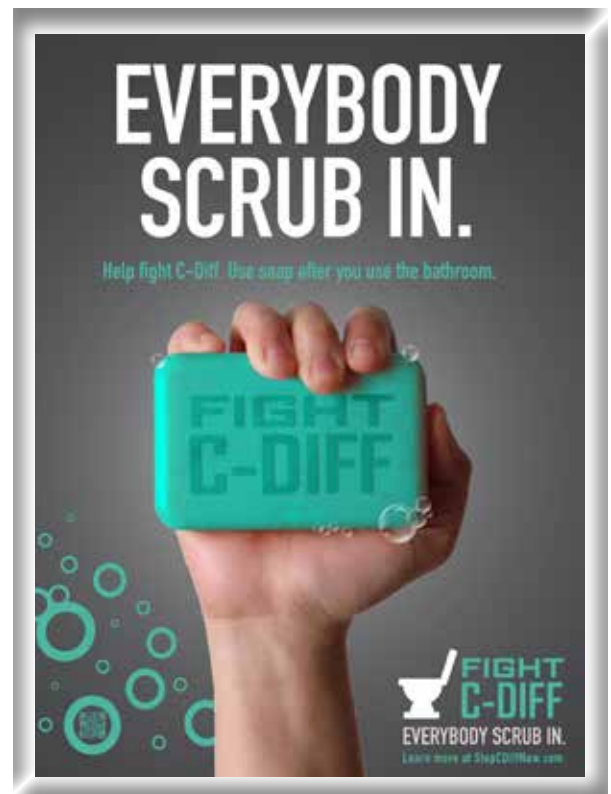
Foundation campaign receives five awards

THE DFW HOSPITAL COUNCIL (DFWHC) FOUNDATION'S fall public awareness campaign "Stop C-diff Now!" has received five awards from national organizations for its video, commercial and website. The campaign began in August to raise awareness on the dangers of the acute diarrhea caused by the Clostridium difficile bacteria. The infection is linked to 20,000 deaths in the U.S. each year. The campaign urged citizens to wash their hands with soap after going to the restroom.

The campaign received two 2014 **MarCom Platinum Awards**, the highest honor in the competition, for video and commercial. It also received three 2014 **Davey Awards** for website, print commercial and video commercial.

The MarCom Award is a competition for companies involved in media concepts including writing, design and video. The Davey Award is an international competition honoring the achievements of smaller campaigns.

The "Stop C-Diff Now!" website can be found at stopcdiffnow.org. Working with the DFWHC Foundation, the campaign was launched by Agency Creative. ■



Around DFWHC Foundation



Those present during the announcement at El Centro College include (l to r):

- **Laura Larrea**, Workforce Solutions Dallas;
- **Kristin Jenkins**, DFWHC Foundation;
- **Sally Williams**, DFWHC Foundation;
- **Joe May**, DCCCD;
- **Hope Andrade**, TX Workforce Commission;
- **Candy Baptist**, Texas Health Resources;
- **Dana Cates**, Texas Health Resources;
- **Gena Welch**, Texas Health Resources;
- **Nancy Quelland**, HCA Medical City Dallas;
- **Tricia Scott**, HCA North Texas;
- **Marlo Cooper**, HCA Medical City Dallas;
- **Stephanie Holden**, Texas Health Resources.

Attention Nurses!

DFWHC Foundation, HCA North Texas and Texas Health Resources partner with El Centro College for \$1.4 Million Job-Training Grant

WORKING WITH TEXAS HEALTH RESOURCES and **HCA North Texas**, the DFW Hospital Council Foundation has partnered with **El Centro Community College** to provide job training using a \$1,351,442 Skills Development Fund grant from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). The announcement was made during a check presentation at El Centro College November 19.

The grant is part of TWC's new Healthcare Innovation Project designed to meet the high demand for nurses in medically underserved areas. The grant will be used to custom train 540 new and incumbent workers. The training will help retain existing employees by upgrading their skills and train new hires in the practical application of their newly acquired skills.

These healthcare professionals will maintain or earn the needed certifications to provide quality patient care. Those trained will include registered nurses, licensed vocational nurses

and certified nursing assistants. Upon completion of training, the workers will earn an average hourly wage of \$32.22.

"We are excited to award this grant from the Skills Development Fund to help meet identified job training needs for the healthcare industry here in the Dallas area," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers **Hope Andrade**. "Today's grant is one piece of our larger Healthcare Innovation Program. This capacity building project is designed to meet the high demand for registered nurses all across Texas."

From the program's inception in 1996 through 2013, Skills Development Fund grants have created more than 300,456 jobs throughout Texas. The grants have assisted 3,971 employers with their training needs. The Legislature allocated nearly \$48 million to the Skills Development Fund for 2014-15. Employers seeking more information about the Skills Development Fund may visit the TWC website at skills.texasworkforce.org. ■



Community Health Needs Assessments

IS YOUR ORGANIZATION READY for its next Community Health Needs Assessment? Let the DFW Hospital Council (DFWHC) Foundation get you there.

If you have not taken steps towards fulfilling this Affordable Care Act requirement, wait no longer. Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNAs) are mandated every three years and require considerable time and resources. The DFWHC Foundation stands ready to help you now.

On Dec. 31, 2014, the IRS released final regulations regarding CHNAs for charitable hospitals removing temporary regulations. This means you may need to make changes to remain compliant. The DFWHC Foundation's team of experts

will work with you to determine the best approach, with skilled staff and resources available to assist you from planning to implementation.

The DFWHC Foundation is a North Texas leader in data collection, analysis and community health assessment. Our experienced staff will provide you with uncompromised service backed by 15 years of assessment experience and unique data assets. Partner with the experts.

For information, please contact **Crystee Cooper, PhD**, director of health services research at the DFWHC Foundation at CCooper@dfwhcfoundation.org. You can also call her at **469-648-5110**. ■

*Former Foundation intern to manage **JPS Research Day***

THE DFW HOSPITAL COUNCIL (DFWHC) FOUNDATION would like to congratulate **Fadeke Ogunyankin** for serving as the new manager of this year's **JPS Health Network Research Day**. The event takes place for the ninth annual year on June 5 at the Riley Center in Fort Worth. Fadeke is a former intern at the DFWHC Foundation whose research received the third-place prize at the event in 2014. Her project identified disparities associated with hospital readmissions in North Texas.

For more than five years, the DFWHC Foundation has provided internships to students from the **University of North Texas Health Science Center**. For information on the DFWHC Foundation's intern program, please contact **Sushma Sharma** at ssharma@dfwhcfoundation.org. ■



Fadeke Ogunyankin (right) receives her award at **JPS Research Day** in 2014.

Around DFWHC Foundation

Mark your *Calendar*



MAY 1, 2015

The DFW Hospital Council Foundation's **19th Annual Employee of the Year Luncheon** has been set for Friday, May 1, 2015 in the main ballroom of the Irving Convention Center. A celebration of North Texas hospital employees, the luncheon is an opportunity to salute the North Texas hospital workforce, a crucial group of employees making a difference in the health of our residents. Details will be forthcoming over the next several weeks. For more information, please contact **Sally Williams** at swilliams@dfwhcfoundation.org. You can also call **972-717-4279**. ■



AUGUST 5, 2015

The DFW Hospital Council Foundation will be hosting its annual **Patient Safety Summit**, August 5 at the Marriott Las Colinas Hotel. The event is designed to foster a collaborative environment among North Texas healthcare providers when addressing patient safety and quality issues. For more information, please contact **Patti Taylor** at ptaylor@dfwhcfoundation.org. You can also call **972-717-4279**. ■

Diabetes Disparities

Foundation publishes in peer-reviewed journal

IN THE WINTER 2014 EDITION of the *Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice*, the DFW Hospital Council (DFWHC) Foundation published "Environmental Disparities Present a Challenge for Diabetes Prevention and Management Efforts in Dallas County." The paper rendered Dallas County transparent and exposed specific zip codes displaying unusually high prevalence of diabetes.

Authors included **Sushma Sharma, Theresa Mendoza, Crystee Cooper, Kristin Jenkins, Pamela Doughty** and **Carol Young** of the DFWHC Foundation and **Larry Tubb** of **Cook Children's Health Care System**.

As noted in the paper, Texas is home to nearly two million men, women and children with diabetes, with more than 500,000

residing in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Recognizing the need to implement diabetes prevention efforts while providing education to crisis areas in Dallas, the DFWHC

Foundation utilized the Geographic Information System (GIS) to analyze regional zip codes.

Utilizing the DFWHC Foundation's extensive database, the report revealed zip codes with the highest prevalence of diabetes and the disparities influencing the high numbers. Results showed zip codes with high numbers of diabetics had limited access to fresh food and supermarkets. Food banks, parks, sidewalks, hospitals and medical clinics were also limited, providing promising clues for reducing diabetes in Dallas County.

"With identification of the disparities in the high diabetes zip codes in Dallas County, public health efforts and resources can be more efficiently targeted for prevention and management," said Dr. Sushma Sharma of the DFWHC Foundation and lead author of the study.

You can read the full study at <http://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/jhdrp/vol7/iss5/10/>. ■





Foundation partners with UT Arlington on nurse study

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH INNOVATION announced in January it had been awarded a \$1.8 million grant from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to lead a study of clinical experience requirements for nursing school graduates.

Research will involve more than 1,700 students over 30 months. The results will lead to a better understanding of the amount and nature of clinical experiences, or “clinical hours,” needed for competency upon graduation. Partners include the **DFW Hospital Council (DFWHC) Foundation, Tarleton State University, El Centro College, Brookhaven College** and six North Texas healthcare systems.

There is no state requirement addressing clinical experience for nursing students. School standards vary from less than 500 to more than 1,100 hours, according to Beth Mancini, associate dean for undergraduate studies in the UT Arlington College of Nursing and a lead investigator on the new grant.

“The College of Nursing at UT Arlington is particularly qualified to lead this research project because of our history of successful student outcomes, our emphasis on health research and our groundbreaking work in simulation technology,” said **Anne Bavier**, UT Arlington College of Nursing and Health Innovation Dean. “The results of this study will influence education and health care in Texas far into the future.”

The new clinical model is expected to maximize the use of simulated clinical experiences, such as those UT Arlington students experience in the campus’ 13,000-square-foot Smart

Hospital, in addition to real-world experiences. The Smart Hospital contains hospital rooms equipped with high-tech patient simulators and medical equipment.

Daisha Cipher, a clinical associate professor at UT Arlington, is another principal investigator on the new research project. Judy LeFlore, associate dean for simulation and technology, will be the project manager.

Health systems involved in the grant program include **HCA North Texas Division, Baylor Scott & White Health, JPS Health Network, Kindred Healthcare, Methodist Health System** and **Texas Health Resources**.

Sally Williams, DFWHC Foundation Workforce Center Director, said the Foundation is pleased to work with UT Arlington to address clinical experiences critical to nursing education.

“Hospital employers are interested in making the clinical portion of nursing education more efficient and effective when preparing graduates to be ‘practice ready.’ This collaboration will make a significant impact on the preparation of future graduates entering the healthcare workforce,” she said.

The project will begin by identifying skills, behaviors and knowledge, or “competencies,” students should be taught in several medical areas, such as pediatrics and adult care. Then, data will be collected on study and control groups of nursing students as they move through their clinical experiences, including an initial simulation experience.

Researchers will gather more than one million data points before making recommendations based on their findings. ■

Danny Davila becomes new GroupOne Executive Director

DANNY DAVILA was officially named the new executive director for GroupOne HR Solutions in February. Davila brings more than 17 years of hospital system administration and leadership experience to GroupOne. In addition to his extensive management skills, he has led large-scale projects involving talent management and organizational changes. Previously, Davila worked for the **HCA North Texas Division** and **Parkland Health & Hospital System**.

"We are excited that Mr. Davila is joining our team," said **W. Stephen Love**, president of GroupOne. "He will be instrumental in implementing our new robust software rollout so we can continue to serve our customers in a cost-effective and efficient manner."

GroupOne announced in December that **Accio Data** had been chosen as its new screening platform provider. Under the multi-year agreement, GroupOne will utilize the Accio Enterprise platform for background checks, screening solutions, student screening, faculty screening, volunteer screening, drug screenings and home service screenings for hospitals across the nation.

The announcement was the culmination of an exhaustive review process in which Accio bested its competitors by earning the highest number of points for functionality, technical strength and pricing. The rollout for the new software is

expected to begin in April.

"Working with Accio Data allows GroupOne to fulfill the needs of its clients by providing them with a seamless and fast-ordering process," Love said. "Researchers and providers can now work in an even more efficient manner. Mr. Davila's tenure could not have begun at a more crucial time in GroupOne's



Danny Davila began his new duties March 2.

history. We are looking forward to working with him and our clients will benefit greatly from his experience."

Davila, who replaces former GroupOne Vice President Eric Scott, began his new duties March 2. ■

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Around GroupOne



Jim Sobotik (right), shown here grilling hamburgers during a Friday afternoon Texas/OU celebration, worked for GroupOne from 1996 until his retirement in 2013.

Jim Sobotik was a long-time GroupOne employee

GROUPONE HR SOLUTIONS WAS SAD to learn of the death of **Jim Sobotik**, the long-time technical services manager who retired in 2013. Jim, 68, of Alleyton, Texas passed away November 27. He worked in GroupOne from 1996-2013. Jim was born November 21, 1946 to Louis and Lillian Sobotik in Baytown, Texas. He honorably served his country as a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force for 28 years. He is survived by his wife, Frances; three sons, Joshua and his wife Katelyn; Jeremiah and his wife Shawnda; and Isaiah and his wife McKenna; two daughters, Tammy and Mary Ruth; ten grandchildren, Priscilla, Amanda, Ilena, Cash, Tristen, Maylynn, Ava, Lainey, Jesse and Melanie; and one great-granddaughter, Madison. He will be missed. ■



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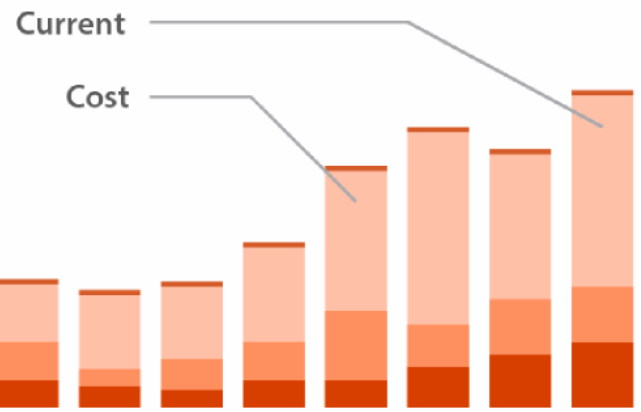
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