

DFWHC  
FOUNDATION



COMMUNITY  
WORKFORCE  
RESEARCH  
DATA  
QUALITY

Spring 2012

[www.dfwhcfoundation.org](http://www.dfwhcfoundation.org)

# Healthcare Champions

Jaime Ball, registered nurse at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Azle, accepts her award April 19.

Employee of the  
Year Luncheon

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#### Foundation Mission

Continually improve the community's health by promoting safe, high quality, cost effective, accessible, and equitable healthcare and by strengthening the healthcare workforce through education, research and collaboration.

#### Foundation Vision

Become *the* community resource to create new knowledge, insight and wisdom for the continuous improvement of healthcare.

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foundation president's column

# Journey towards meaningful use



## Kristin Jenkins

JD, FACHE  
President, DFWHC Foundation  
Senior Vice President, DFWHC

THE DALLAS FORT WORTH HOSPITAL COUNCIL FOUNDATION (FOUNDATION) received a grant award from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT in April, 2010 to assist 1,498 providers on their Electronic Health Record journey towards meaningful use.

The North Texas Regional Extension Center (NTREC) was established as a grant program of the Foundation at that time and a grant review board, whose chairman also serves on the Foundation board, was formed. The Grant Review Board has representatives from the Texas Medical Association, the Tarrant County Medical Society, Dallas County Medical Society, the Smith County Medical Society,

the University of Texas at Dallas and UT Southwestern Medical Center.

On behalf of the Foundation and NTREC Board, I am pleased to report the success of the NTREC program for practitioners of North Texas. At the two year mark, NTREC has reached its enrollment targets. Fifty percent of enrolled providers have implemented electronic health records while 13 percent have achieved stage one of meaningful use (one of the highest measures nationally). Furthermore, NTREC has successfully received a two year extension of their grant funding from the Office of National Coordinator through April 2014.

Thanks goes out to our many partners around the state assisting in the achievement of this goal. We should also applaud Mike Alverson, NTREC's executive director, and his dependable team of Wendy Wacasey, Patrick Casey and Sherry Lumpkin. Without our great partners and staff, we would never have been able to provide the assistance to providers this program offers.

We will keep you informed about our progress over the next two years. We expect physicians will continue for many years to require assistance in achieving meaningful use stages two and three and support of electronic health record service needs.

Thank you for your continued support of NTREC and the Foundation. ●

# Around DFWHC Foundation

## North Texas Regional Extension Center approved through 2014

THE NORTH TEXAS REGIONAL EXTENSION CENTER (NTREC) ANNOUNCED IN APRIL it will continue to offer electronic health records (EHR) services through 2014.

Funded by a grant from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC), U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, the project was originally intended to be a two-year program from 2010-2012 to assist primary care providers with the adoption of EHR. Funding for two additional years was officially approved following NTREC's success in achieving its goals.

"The grant was evaluated to determine eligibility to funding for two more years," said Mike Alverson, executive director of NTREC. "We're pleased to announce this rigorous biennial evaluation resulted in a positive outcome. ONC's support validates NTREC's strong impact in accelerating the implementation and meaningful use of EHR in North Texas."

NTREC anticipates offering additional state-subsidized services to specialists who accept Medicaid and offering access



to additional services to enhance practices.

Established by the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council Foundation in 2010, NTREC was funded by an ONC grant to assist physicians in 42 North Texas counties in implementing EHR. It officially enrolled 1,498 providers - achieving 100 percent of its enrollment goal - by the end of 2011. NTREC was the first group in Texas to achieve its complete goal.

NTREC has received the endorsements of the Southwest Physician Associates, the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association, the Texas Organization of Rural and Community Hospitals and the Patient Physician Network of Plano.

For more information, please visit [www.NTREC.org](http://www.NTREC.org). ●

## Foundation hosts anti-racism seminars

IN A UNIQUE, FIRST-TIME EVENT HOSTED by the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council Foundation (Foundation), the Health and Human Services Commission Center for the Elimination of Disproportionality and Disparities presented "**Courageous Conversations: Race and Racism.**" The training session took place April 24 and 25, during three separate times.

The conversational seminar was coordinated by Joyce James, Associate Deputy Executive Commissioner of the Center.

"Institutionalized racism is at the core disparate outcomes for vulnerable communities and communities of color," James said. "During the presentation, we wanted participants to have courageous conversations about racism, its manifestations, the history of institutionalized racism and its impact."

The presentation examined how institutionalized racism is unconsciously upheld in systems through policies. The sessions provided a set of core values promoting system change.



Training sessions were free, with the separate classes taking place April 24, 1-3:30 p.m.; April 25, 8:30 a.m.-12 noon; and April 25 1-3:30 p.m. All sessions were held at the Foundation offices at 250 Decker Drive in Irving, Texas. ●

# Employee of the Year Luncheon

## Area hospital employees recognized for excellence



A SALUTE TO THE NORTH TEXAS HOSPITAL WORKFORCE, the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council Foundation's (DFWHC Foundation) Annual Employee of the Year Luncheon celebrated its 16th year April 19 with the announcement of the 2012 recipients at the Arlington Convention Center. Twelve winners were introduced from a pool of 50 area hospitals.

"This event paid tribute to our nurses, technicians, educators and so many other dedicated professionals working in our hospitals. They are healthcare heroes of North Texas," said Kristin Jenkins, president of the DFWHC Foundation. "This event is an opportunity to honor the positive spirit and efforts of these dedicated employees allowing our hospitals to function smoothly."

The recipients were:

### Rex McRae Scholarship

- **Kimberly Cline**, Patient Care Technician, Methodist Mansfield Medical Center, Student, El Centro College

### Physician Award

- **Dr. Anis Ansari**, Internal Medicine, Baylor Medical Center at Carrollton

### Community Service Award

- **Shawna Underwood**, Patient Care Technician, HCA's Medical Center of Plano

### System Award

- **Janet Brady**, Employee Activities Coordinator, Methodist Health System

### Special Recognition Awards

- **Nikki Best**, Nursing Administration, THE HEART HOSPITAL Baylor Plano
- **Dan Swan**, Physical Therapist, Our Children's House at Baylor
- **Cindy Melis**, Clinical Nursing Supervisor, Methodist Charlton Medical Center
- **Michelle Baker**, Registered Nurse, Medical City Dallas Hospital

### Employee of the Year Awards

- **Jaime Ball**, Registered Nurse, Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Azle
- **Jackie Clifton**, Registered Nurse, Tenet's Lake Pointe Medical Center
- **Hedgy MacDonald**, Cardiovascular Invasive Tech, Baylor Medical Center at Garland
- **Abi Finberg Provence**, Staff Nurse ER, Methodist Dallas Medical Center

Drew Pearson, historic wide receiver of the Dallas Cowboys' football team, served as guest speaker in support of the luncheon's theme, "Healthcare Champions Among Us." Jay Fox, president of Baylor Medical Center of Waxahachie, served as master of ceremonies. Board members of the Dallas-Fort Worth Healthcare Human Resources Association judged the nominations. The luncheon was sponsored by Fulbright & Jaworski, LLP and GroupOne Services. ●

## 2012 Nominees



**Don Kersting**  
Manager, Learning Center  
Baylor Health Care System



**Sue Cook**  
Patient Relations  
Baylor All Saints Medical Center  
Fort Worth



**Karen Wharry**  
RN, Quality Improvement  
Baylor HealthTexas Provider  
Network



**Al Booker**  
Materials Management  
Baylor Jack and Jane Hamilton  
Heart and Vascular Hospital



**David Needham**  
Registered Nurse, ICU  
Baylor Medical Center  
at Carrollton



**Hedgy MacDonald**  
Cardiovascular Invasive Tech  
Baylor Medical Center  
at Garland



**Faith Nava**  
Registered Nurse, PCU  
Baylor Medical Center  
at Irving



**Luz Zamora**  
Registered Nurse  
Baylor Medical Center  
of Waxahachie



**Maureen Aschman**  
Registered Nurse  
Baylor Regional Medical Center  
at Grapevine



**Abbie Emery**  
Registered Nurse, ER  
Baylor Regional Medical Center  
at Plano



**Christi Tronson**  
Registered Nurse  
Baylor Specialty  
Hospital



**Randy Freethy**  
Registered Nurse, ER  
Baylor University Medical  
Center



**Nikki Best**  
AA Nursing Administration  
THE HEART HOSPITAL  
Baylor Plano



**Dan Swan**  
Physical Therapist  
Our Children's House  
at Baylor



**Alma Salazar**  
ARMS Program Coordinator  
Children's Medical Center Dallas



**Nancy Russell**  
Nursing Informatics Specialist  
Cook Children's  
Health Care System



**Patty Stovall**  
Coordinator Occupational Health  
Denton Regional  
Medical Center



**Tariq Abdullah**  
Lead IV Technician  
Doctors Hospital at  
White Rock Lake



**Mitzi Parker**  
Benefits Coordinator  
Hunt Regional Medical Center



**Jackie Clifton**  
RN, Clinical Coordinator  
Lake Pointe Health Network



**Julie Cao**  
Registered Nurse  
Medical Center of Arlington



**Linda Wyman-Collins**  
Registered Nurse  
Medical Center of Lewisville



**Shawna Underwood**  
Patient Care Technician  
Medical Center of Plano



**Michelle Baker**  
Registered Nurse  
Medical City Dallas Hospital

# Employee of the Year Luncheon

## 2012 Nominees continued



**Janet Brady**  
Employee Activities Coordinator  
Methodist Health System



**Cindy Melis**  
Clinical Nursing Supervisor  
Methodist Charlton  
Medical Center



**Abi Finberg Provence**  
Staff Nurse ER  
Methodist Dallas  
Medical Center



**Karen Yates**  
ER Cardiac Stroke Coordinator  
Methodist Mansfield  
Medical Center



**Vani Prabhu**  
Staff Nurse III  
Methodist Richardson  
Medical Center



**Ross Jones**  
Registered Nurse II  
Parkland Health and  
Hospital System



**Ruthie Kauffman**  
Director of Transplant Services  
Plaza Medical Center  
of Fort Worth



**Kerrie Fragoso**  
Registered Nurse  
Texas Health Arlington  
Memorial Hospital



**Jaime Ball**  
Registered Nurse  
Texas Health Harris Methodist  
Hospital Azle



**Jackie Laws**  
Registered Nurse  
Texas Health Harris Methodist  
Hospital Cleburne



**Matthew Canning**  
Registered Nurse  
Texas Health Harris Methodist  
Hospital Fort Worth



**Bibi Khan**  
Hostess/Cashier  
Texas Health Harris Methodist  
Hospital Hurst-Euless-Bedford



**Kathy Rhodes**  
Registered Nurse  
Texas Health Harris Methodist  
Hospital SW Fort Worth



**Jane Musick**  
Registered Nurse  
Texas Health Harris Methodist  
Hospital Stephenville



**Sophary Tan**  
Mammographer  
Texas Health Presbyterian  
Hospital Allen



**Julie Boling**  
Nursing Supervisor  
Texas Health Presbyterian  
Hospital Dallas



**Jenna Harper**  
Registered Nurse  
Texas Health Presbyterian  
Hospital Denton



**Amy Maher**  
Payroll/HR Coordinator  
Texas Health Presbyterian  
Hospital Flower Mound



**Pandora Bonner**  
Physical Therapist  
Texas Health Presbyterian  
Hospital Kaufman



**Sue Goddard**  
Registered Nurse  
Texas Health Presbyterian  
Hospital Plano



**Sarah Ransleben**  
Staff Nurse  
Texas Health Specialty Hospital



**Tsedey Malaku**  
Nursing Informatics Specialist  
UT Southwestern  
Medical Center



**Whitney Center**  
Medical Staff Coordinator  
UT Southwestern  
Medical Center

# 2012 Physician Nominees



**Dr. Anita Chow**  
Oncology - Breast Cancer  
Baylor All Saints Medical Center  
Fort Worth



**Dr. Christopher Berry**  
Family Medicine  
Baylor HealthTexas Provider  
Network



**Dr. Ravi Vallabhan**  
Interventional Cardiology  
Baylor Jack and Jane Hamilton  
Heart and Vascular Hospital



**Dr. Anis Ansari**  
Internal Medicine  
Baylor Medical Center  
at Carrollton



**Dr. Scott Meril**  
Anesthesiologist  
Baylor Medical Center  
at Garland



**Dr. Jeff Livingston**  
Women's Services  
Baylor Medical Center  
at Irving



**Dr. J. Scott Ellis**  
Orthopedic Surgeon  
Baylor Medical Center at  
Waxahachie



**Dr. Alwin Arendse**  
Emergency Medicine  
Baylor Regional Medical Center  
at Grapevine



**Dr. Michael O'Brien**  
Orthopedic Surgeon  
Baylor Regional Medical Center  
at Plano



**Dr. Cristie Columbus**  
Physician Administrator  
Baylor University Medical Center



**Dr. Trent Pettijohn**  
Interventional Cardiology  
THE HEART HOSPITAL  
Baylor Plano



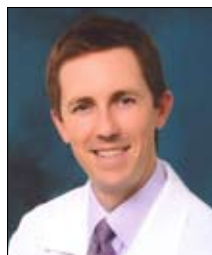
**Dr. Jim Shermerhorn**  
Doctor of Medicine  
Doctors Hospital at  
White Rock Lake



**Dr. L. Scott Dencklau**  
Chief of Staff  
Lake Pointe Health Network



**Dr. Brady Giesler**  
Orthopedic Surgeon  
Medical Center of Lewisville



**Dr. Mark Gamber**  
ER Physician  
Medical Center of Plano



**Dr. Stephen Mueller**  
Doctor of Medicine  
Methodist Charlton  
Medical Center



**Dr. Martin Koonsman**  
Doctor of Medicine  
Methodist Dallas  
Medical Center



**Dr. Ketan Trivedi**  
Emergency Medicine  
Methodist Mansfield  
Medical Center



**Dr. Nhan Nguyen**  
Cardiology, Invasive  
Methodist Richardson  
Medical Center



**Dr. Kavita Bhavan**  
Doctor of Medicine  
Parkland Health and  
Hospital System



**Dr. Baron Atkins**  
Doctor of Medicine  
Texas Health Arlington  
Memorial Hospital



**Dr. Patrick Eaton**  
Doctor of Medicine  
Texas Health Harris Methodist  
Hospital HEB



**Dr. Nancy Donachie**  
Doctor of Medicine  
Texas Health Presbyterian  
Hospital Plano



**Dr. Jonathan White**  
Neurological Surgery, Radiology  
UT Southwestern  
Medical Center

# Findings

NORTH TEXAS RESEARCH



2012 FOUNDATION RESEARCH

[www.dfwhcfoundation.org](http://www.dfwhcfoundation.org)

Volume 1, Issue 1







# DFWHC Foundation's first journal to be released in May

DIABETES IS A PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN in Dallas, according to one of seven research studies to be published in the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council Foundation's first journal *Findings*. The extensive booklet, compiling information from the DFWHC Foundation's data warehouse and many departments, will be released to the public in May.

"This first-ever DFWHC Foundation publication is an attempt to discover the community's truth by pulling facts from our extensive data and research," said Kristin Jenkins, DFWHC Foundation president. "We hope this document produces a clear picture about the health of our residents and the strengths of healthcare in North Texas. We must effectively communicate these statistics to partners and the community at large on an annual basis."

The 68-page, full-color publication will include:

- "Developing a Strategic Plan to Address Diabetes: A Formative Review," by Summer Collins, MPH, director of Population and Public Health Research
- "Diabetes in Dallas County," by Pam Doughty, Ph.D., director of Health Services Research
- "Readmissions" by Pam Doughty, Ph.D., director of Health Services Research
- "Health Workforce Planning and the North Texas Journey" by Sally Williams, Workforce Center

director, and Neguiel Francis, HR workforce analyst

- "Overview of North Texas Regional Extension Center," by Mike Alverson, executive director of the North Texas Regional Extension Center
- "ICD-10 Compliance and Implementation," by Theresa Mendoza, director of Quality, Business Intelligence, Data Services
- "The Burden of Clostridium Difficile Infection," by Carol Young, director of Quality and Patient Safety Services

"Our hope is that *Findings* will bring attention to relevant issues and create a common consensus on the needs of our community," Jenkins said. "This will support concerted action to change the face of health in the area. The discovery of such facts by combing through months of research and data is a long and arduous process, but one that is significant when discovering issues within our community. We offer our sincere gratitude to the many hospital, university, business and community partners for sharing information with us to create a 'big-picture' view of the community."

For information on how to obtain a copy of *Findings*, please contact the DFWHC Foundation at [info@dfwhcfoundation.org](mailto:info@dfwhcfoundation.org) or 972-717-4279. ●