Three of Five New Appointees to GETAC Serve with TETAF

First, TETAF is pleased to announce that Governor Greg Abbott recently appointed Dudley Wait, Jorie Klein, and Cassie Campbell to GETAC. Their council duties begin immediately.

Dudley Wait, of San Antonio, is the Owner of Rudy’s Transport Services of East Texas and serves as pastor of Greenhill Longview, to fill one of the two general public positions on the council.

Jorie Klein, of Austin, is currently the Director of Trauma Program for Las Colinas Medical Center, to fill one of the two hospital, RAC, and trauma center positions on the council.

Cassie Campbell, of Salado, is a registered nurse filling a new emergency nurse position on the council.

Prior to these appointments, Governor Abbott also appointed Darrin R. Rudolph, of Longview, to fill one of the two general public positions on the council.

Focused on Trauma Care

Senate Bill 500 Funding Discussions

TETAF has now sent a second survey to RAC leaders. Those survey results will be scored to determine whether the dollars should be distributed statewide with a single project focus for trauma initiatives or divided for use by individual RACs.

A survey was shared with RAC leaders to gather ideas for using the funding and to prioritize those ideas. TETAF is now collecting responses in preparation for a regional conference on Senate Bill 500 funding.

On Tuesday, October 11, we held a regional conference which included leaders from RACs across the state. During this meeting, we discussed the following key points:

1. The Texas Department of State Health Services commissioned a group of trauma experts to review the current trauma rules, which were adopted in 2006.
2. The resource document was reviewed line-by-line with several areas discussed at length.
3. The group working on the resource document is an advisory panel representing the American College of Surgeons and the Texas Trauma Foundation.
4. The trauma resource document is publicly available for review and comments.
5. TETAF will notify you when the DSHS team updates the Trauma Resource Document and set a timeline for the next revision process.
6. The resource document will provide guidance for hospitals to establish trauma programs and will be used to establish trauma centers.
7. The resource document will be used to determine whether trauma center designation should be based on trauma volume or trauma-specific capabilities and will provide a framework for trauma program enhancements.
8. TETAF will continue to work with stakeholders to develop best practices for trauma care.

Senate Bill 500 Funding - Previous Survey Results

On October 2, TETAF held a three-hour regional meeting with stakeholders to discuss Senate Bill 500 funding.

This meeting was well attended by stakeholders including TETAF’s Dinah Welsh and Erin Moore. Additionally, there was representation from the Texas EMS Council, Northwest Texas Regional Advisory Council, Texas EMS Alliance, the American Ambulance Association, and the Texas Medical Association. This meeting was recorded and made available on its website for review and comments.

TETAF will submit a draft of Senate Bill 500 funding discussions to the Trauma Resource Document Advisory Panel for consideration.

On October 15, TETAF received an email from Governor Abbott’s team indicating that the Trauma Resource Document Advisory Panel will meet virtually on October 22 to discuss Senate Bill 500 funding.

Next Perinatal Forum - October 28

This is a reminder to our perinatal members to save the date for the next Perinatal Forum on October 28. This meeting will be held online and will be held in conjunction with the TETAF TQIP meeting.

Upcoming Events

- October 1: Board of Directors Meeting
- October 11: Senate Bill 500 Funding Discussions
- October 18: TETAF Updates
- October 28: Next Perinatal Forum