



January 2022

Texas Perinatal Services News

Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) Series Continues During January Texas Perinatal Forum

Texas Perinatal Services proudly continues its series focused on quality assurance and performance improvement (QAPI) during its Texas Perinatal Forum. The series have been well-attended and we thank our past presenters and all of you who have attended. Each presentation is different so it is not necessary to have attended past forums to join this month's presentation.

The next QAPI presentation in our series will be on **January 13 at 1:00 p.m.** Carla Martinez, MD, FACOG and Carolina Juarez, RN, BSN from University Medical Center in El Paso will present on developing a collaborative QAPI process and provide helpful guidance on creating tools and workflow to ensure quality care.

If you have not already registered to attend the forum via Zoom, please click the link below.

[Register for the January 13 Texas Perinatal Forum](#)

Scheduling a Survey Early Has Benefits

Texas Perinatal Services reminds our hospitals to schedule neonatal and maternal surveys early to ensure your hospital facility secures the date that works best for all who need to participate.

As an additional service, TPS offers consultation surveys with our expert surveyors. Our consultants spend a day and a half with the program manager and program staff to provide a comprehensive assessment of the current program, define opportunities for improvement, and offer recommendations to improve the program.

Learn more about our [neonatal surveys and neonatal consultations](#)

Learn more about our [maternal surveys and maternal consultations](#)

A New Chapter Begins



If you missed last month's announcement, Jessica Phillips, MAS, BSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM, C-ONQS, has joined Texas Perinatal Services as the new perinatal program director.

Jessica brings experience in labor and delivery, childbirth education, quality improvement, and maternal program development and management.

Jessica can be reached at jphillips@tetaf.org.

TETAF General Assembly Elect New Board Members

The TETAF General Assembly met in San Antonio on December 16. Five nominees were elected to the 2022 TETAF Board of Directors with terms that will expire in 2025. The General Assembly voted to select from the entire slate of 11 nominees with the five highest votes elected to serve on the TETAF Board of Directors.

The individuals elected to the TETAF Board of Directors are:

- **Scott Christopher, BBA, BSN, RN, LP** - Lufkin (PHI Med 11, Air Medical Base Supervisor)
- **Dan Little, MD** - Temple (McLane Children's Hospital, Chief of Pediatric Surgery)
- **Rhonda-Manor Coombes, BSN, RN, TCRN** - Austin (Baylor Scott & White - Lakeway, Trauma Program Manager and Stroke Coordinator)
- **Kathy Perkins, RN, MBA** - San Antonio (Texas Department of State Health Services, Retired Assistant Commissioner for Regulatory Services)
- **Danny Updike, RN, CCRN, EMT-LP** - San Angelo (Regional Advisory Councils J and K, Executive Director)

New to the TETAF Board of Directors are Dan Little and Rhonda Manor-Coombes. Scott Christopher, Kathy Perkins, and Danny Updike will return to the TETAF Board for another term.

TETAF would like to thank our departing board members Nilda Garcia, M.D. and Angela Gentry, RN, MSN, TCRN for their years of commitment and service to the TETAF Board of Directors.

Additionally, Lisa Hutchins, RN-NIC, has resigned from her seat effective January 1, 2022 due to a new employment opportunity. She has one year remaining on her term. This month, the TETAF Board of Directors will select an individual to serve the remainder of her term. New TETAF Board officers will also be elected this month. Learn more about our Board of Directors on the [TETAF website](#).

Maternal and Neonatal News

Texas Collaborative for Healthy Mothers and Babies 2022 Summit is Next Month



Texas Perinatal Services is proud to once again be a sponsor for the 2022 Texas Collaborative for Healthy Mothers and Babies (TCHMB) 2022 Summit.

This year's event will be [virtual on February 16-18, 2022](#).

This year's keynote speaker is Debra Bingham, DRPH, RN, FAAN, founder and executive director of the Institute for Perinatal Quality Improvement.

Click the link below to register for the Summit.

January is National Birth Defects Awareness Month



Approximately 1 in 33 babies are born in the United States each year with a birth defect. Maternal care plays an important role in the prevention and early detection of potential birth defects.

The March of Dimes provides helpful tips to share regarding birth defects and raising awareness.

Hospital Successfully Verified by Texas Perinatal Services in the News



Neonatal Intensive Care Unit designation is a life-changer for local babies

