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Bride Roberts
Williamson County

Chair Elect

Eddie Olivarez
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Kelly Curry
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Diana Buckley
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Lesla Gilbert
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System

Felix Luera
University Medical Center
Hospital District

Donna Mussotter
Rockwall County

Dianna Spieker
Tom Green County

500 West 13th Street
Austin, TX 78701

Phone: 512.476.6174
Fax: 512.476.5122

www.tihca.org

TIHCA MEMBERSHIP

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to become a member of the Texas Indigent Health Care Association (TIHCA), and receive the full benefits that TIHCA has to offer.

Enclosed you will find:

1. Background information about TIHCA,
2. A membership application, and
3. A copy of a proposed minute order resolution.

Membership in TIHCA is open to all entities that have responsibilities under Chapter 61 of the Texas Health and Safety Code. To join TIHCA, a program must adopt a minute order that states the following:

1. Approval of the Charter of the Texas Indigent Health Care Association; and
2. Designation of an official representative to the Texas Indigent Health Care Association to serve as the primary point of contact.

TIHCA's goals and commitment to members include:

- Keeping programs up to date with the latest news and information,
- Strengthening inter-program dialogue and networking,
- Providing educational opportunities,
- Providing to programs technical support and peer review, and
- Developing pooled-purchasing opportunities so that programs can use the power of group negotiating and purchasing to gain price reductions on things like pharmacology, durable medical equipment, and laboratory services.

You may visit the website at www.tihca.org or email us at tihca@cuc.org for additional information.

TIHCA

Membership Application

____ NEW MEMBERSHIP

____ RENEWING MEMBERSHIP

County Name	
Chapter 61 Program Type	
Contact	
Title	
Physical Address	
City, State, Zip	
Mailing Address	
City, State, Zip	
Phone	
Fax	
Email Address	
Website Address	
Number of Full-Time Employees	
Number of Clients/Patients	
Federal Poverty Income Limit	

Upon completion, please submit to TIHCA at tihca@cuc.org, or fax to 512.476.5122

What is the Texas Indigent Health Care Association (TIHCA)?

The Texas Indigent Health Care Association (TIHCA) was created in 2004 as a program of the Urban Counties, with the co-operation of the Texas Association of Counties when county indigent health care directors asked for organizational assistance in response to the State's discontinuation of the Texas Department of Health Regional Coordinators the prior year.

What does TIHCA do?

The basic goal of TIHCA is to provide timely information on upcoming legislative issues and state level changes as well as staff training on program administration.

Who are the current members?

Aransas County	Garza County	Northwest Texas Healthcare System
Angelina County	Hale County	Parmer County Community Hospital District
Bastrop County	Hardin County	Real County
Bell County	Harrison County	Rockwall County IHC
Bosque County	Henderson County	San Jacinto County
Brazoria County IHCP	Hidalgo County	San Patricio County
Brown County	Hockley County	Tom Green County
Brownfield Regional Medical Center	Hood County	University Medical Center Hosp Dist
Burnet County	Jasper County	University of Texas Medical Branch
Caprock Hospital District	Jim Wells County	Van Zandt County
Chambers County	Lee County	Walker County
Collin County	Liberty County	Webb County
Donley County Hospital	Liberty County Hospital District No. 1	Williamson County & Cities Health District
Ellis County	Limestone County	Wood County
Falls County	McLennan County Welfare Department	
Fayette County	Montgomery County Hospital District	
Fort Bend County	Navarro County	
Freestone County		

Who are the current Board of Directors?

Chairman	Williamson County, Bride Roberts
Chairman Elect	Hidalgo County, Eddie Olivarez
Immediate Past Chair	Montgomery County Hospital District, Kelly Curry
Secretary	Webb County, Frank X. Salinas
Board Member	Hood County, Commissioner Richard Roan, Ph.D.
Board Member	Tom Green County, Dianna Spieker
Board Member	Ellis County, Diana Buckley
Board Member	Jasper County, Linda Dickerson
Board Member	Northwest Texas Healthcare System, Lesa Gilbert
Board Member	Rockwall County, Donna Mussotter
Board Member	University Medical Center Hospital District, Felix Luera

Who is eligible to join?

Membership is open to all programs with responsibilities under Chapter 61. Has responsibilities under Chapter 61, Health And Safety Code, which defines the responsibilities of counties, hospital districts, and public hospitals in providing health care to eligible residents who are considered indigent.

How does an eligible entity join?

Interested counties, hospital districts and public hospitals may contact Windy Johnson at the Urban Counties offices for assistance in joining TIHCA. A potential member joins (or makes application) by adopting a minute order authorizing the county, HD, or PH to become a member of the association, authorizing the necessary expenditures for membership dues and appointing a representative to speak on behalf of the entity.

State of Texas §
County of _____ §
§

BOARD RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the governing board of the _____ believes it to be in the best interest of the _____ to join the Texas Indigent Health Care Association (“TIHCA”) ; and

WHEREAS, it is believed that participation in TIHCA will be highly beneficial to the taxpayers of the _____ through the efficiencies and potential savings to be realized;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT _____ agrees to join Texas Indigent Health Care Association, and:

1. Approves the attached TIHCA Charter and agrees to be bound thereby in connection with its membership in TIHCA;
2. Appoints _____ as its Representative to TIHCA, whose contact information is:

Phone number: _____

Fax number: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

3. Approves and authorizes the payment of initial dues to TIHCA in an amount of \$_____ ; such dues being the initial membership dues charged by TIHCA for the time period extending through _____.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the execution of this Resolution shall evidence the election of _____ to become a member of the TIHCA upon the terms and conditions stated in the attached Charter. The governing board of _____ has, and at the time of adoption of this Resolution had, full power and lawful authority to adopt the foregoing Resolution and to

confer the obligations, powers, and authority to the person named, who is hereby granted power to exercise the same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the meeting at which this Resolution was approved was duly noticed and held in strict compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, ch. 551 Tex. Gov't. Code.

This Resolution was approved and passed on the ____ day of _____, 2005.

[Governmental Entity]

By: _____
Authorized Representative

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Attest:

Name

Title

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The Value of Working Together to Manage our IHC Programs

There are over 254 Chapter 61 entities (counties, hospital districts and public hospitals) in the State of Texas. Each is required to provide indigent health care (IHC) within their service area. This unfunded mandate from the state government can create political, financial and operational issues at the local and regional level.

In recent years, the state has reduced administrative and financial support for IHC programs leaving each of them to, in effect, fend for themselves. The Texas Indigent Health Care Association has been formed to help Chapter 61 entities effectively address many of the issues surrounding IHC administration. TIHCA's intent is to meet and exceed the level of service formerly provided by the state.

How can TIHCA help?

TIHCA can assist members in a number of ways to include:

- Keep programs up to date with the latest news and information,
- Strengthen inter-program dialogue and networking among programs,
- Provide educational opportunities to programs,
- Provide programs with technical support and peer review, and
- Develop pooled-purchasing opportunities so that programs can use the power of group negotiating and purchasing to gain price reductions on things like pharmacology, durable medical equipment and laboratory services.

What is the benefit of being a member of TIHCA?

Working together TIHCA members can assist each other with finding solutions to operational issues that when coupled with cost savings arising from pooled-purchasing opportunities can save your organization money. Meaning you may be able to provide the same level of services while reducing the burden on your taxpayers.

How does my IHC program join TIHCA?

For more information visit the web site www.tihca.org.