2017 PRESIDENT’S CABINET FUNDS UTMB HEALTH PROJECTS

Twenty-six UTMB faculty, staff and students recently received UTMB President’s Cabinet awards for projects that promote outreach, education and improved patient care. The 11 funded projects total more than $243,000.

Formed in 1993, the UTMB President’s Cabinet is an organization comprised of community and business leaders, university friends and UTMB faculty members, staff and alumni that is dedicated to helping advance UTMB’s mission to improve health. The contributions of the cabinet’s 380-plus members have provided more than $5 million in seed grants to more than 130 developing programs. Many programs that receive funding by the President’s Cabinet go on to be recognized and rewarded with federal grants and garner national and international attention.

The theme of this year’s awards was “The Community and Beyond: Working together for Our Future.” This theme recognized the shared interest of UTMB Health and the surrounding community, and the awards selection committee sought projects that mobilized the creativity, ingenuity and dedication of the students, staff and faculty of UTMB Health.

Read on to find out about the 2017 President’s Cabinet winners.
Safe Kangaroo Care with Innovative Gown
Souby George and Tracey Santiago
Women Infants and Children

Kangaroo Care is a form of developmental care that benefits all newborns, especially those in the neonatal intensive care unit. However, current patient hospital gowns are not designed for skin-to-skin contact and do not allow for privacy or proper securing of the infant. The goal of this project is to produce a gown so that all new mothers at UTMB can provide safe and modest skin-to-skin contact with their baby during the hours immediately after birth.

Heart Failure Kit: Impacting Readmission Rates through Home Monitoring
Dennis Santa Ana
Adult Patient Care Services

This project will teach heart failure patients about the signs and symptoms that signal a worsening condition and also will include post-discharge home visits. Weighing scales and blood pressure machines will be provided to newly-diagnosed Galveston County heart failure patients who have been identified as high-risk for readmission or are under the care of the UTMB Cardiology Heart Failure Team.

Beds for Babies: Improving Newborn Health and Safety for UTMB Patients
Matthew Johnson and Dr. Joan Richardson
Health System Administration

Beds for Babies is a project that will provide new mothers with fundamental newborn education and ensure their newborns have a safe and comfortable place to sleep. Baby boxes, outfitted with firm mattresses and fitted sheets, are designed to provide maximum security while guarding against the risks of newborns sleeping with adults. Video-based educational materials will be provided to new parents at UTMB and baby boxes will be filled with supplemental information on proper sleeping practices and newborn supplies.
PocketPath: Providing an Innovative Tool for Clinicians
Drs. Adam Booth, Barbara Bryant, Judy Trieu and Chris Zahner
Pathology

In efforts to reduce the number of inappropriate blood product orders by clinicians, the PocketPath mobile application was created by three UTMB residents to provide guidelines and suggestions regarding the utilization of blood products and services at the bedside. Year one of the project will focus on launching, promoting and assessing the platform and year two will focus on expanding the application.

Early Prevention of Addictive Behaviors for Galveston Teens
Stefani Garcia, Dr. Norma Perez, and Jonathan Teran
School of Medicine

In order to determine what high school students already know about the health risks of cigarette smoking and alcohol abuse, a survey will be created and administered at Ball High, La Marque and Texas City high schools. Survey results will be presented to the community. Health fairs focused on preventing addictive behaviors will be held at each school to promote sustained cure and quality of life.

St. Vincent's Coordinated Hepatitis C Program
Dr. Robert Beach, Paul Bui, Sarah Butler, Transon Vu Nguyen and Kendrick White
Internal Medicine

The St. Vincent’s Student Run Clinic will address chronic hepatitis C in vulnerable populations by establishing a support group and hepatitis clinic in Galveston. Project funds will be for laboratory testing, addressing barriers and providing social support and behavioral counseling to promote sustained cure and quality of life.

Language Services Alignment and ServiceHub Implementation
Manuel Higginbotham and Martha Livanec
Patient Services

To better provide and integrate language access services at all UTMB locations, a Language access plan will be created. It aims to provide new and accurate data to leadership, improve response times of interpreters, help patients to fully understand their plan of care, and improve UTMB’s compliance with regulatory entities. Technology components of the plan will include dispatching and translation software and assistive and video remote interpreting devices as mandated by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

UTMB MakerHealth Space

Expanding the Reach of the UTMB Health MakerHealth Space
David Marshall
Hospital Administration

The UTMB MakerNurse Program and MakerHealth Space have provided faculty, staff and students the creative ability to make their ideas for new health devices a reality. To celebrate and showcase the outstanding innovations generated from these labs, a Galveston MakerWeek event will be created and include Mini-Maker Fairs at the UTMB Galveston Campus and the Galveston Children’s Museum.

For information on the President’s Cabinet, visit https://development.utmb.edu/cabinet-intro.
1-800-FACULTY provides direct referral access to internal providers

The UTMB Access Center now provides a direct-connect solution for internal providers using the number 1-800-FACULTY. Registered nurses now answer the 1-800-FACULTY line to provide physician referral and access services to internal physicians and their staff. If a nurse is unavailable, a patient access specialist will answer. The line is staffed 24/7 by the Access Care team to assist the needs of internal providers.

The Access Center will continue to support (409) 772-CARE for UTMB employees and (409) 772-2222 for all other calls.

The UTMB Access Center handles over 625,000 calls a year. This includes 46,000 nurse triage and health information questions. They also facilitate over 10,000 community referrals annually.

UTMB re-certified as Primary Stroke Center by the Joint Commission

UTMB has been re-certified as a Primary Stroke Center by The Joint Commission. To achieve and maintain Primary Stroke Center certification, programs must meet the expectations developed by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association (AHA/ASA).

Primary Stroke Center requirements include having a designated stroke unit for continuous patient monitoring, demonstrating application of and compliance with clinical practice guidelines published by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, annual training for core stroke team members, addressing processes for receiving and/or transferring patients, providing public education, and collecting, analyzing and using standardized performance measure data to continually improve treatment plans.

For information on the three different levels of stroke certification, visit the Joint Commission website, https://www.jointcommission.org/facts_about_joint_commission_stroke_certification/.

UTMB receives Donate Life Champion Award

In recognition of UTMB’s outstanding support of organ, tissue and eye donation, Donate Life presented UTMB with a 2017 Donate Life Champion award. The award is given to members across the country who have inspired others to give the gifts of life, sight and mobility. Thanks to UTMB’s efforts, 33 lives have been impacted.

The Donate Life Champion award is part of a national initiative to increase organ, eye and tissue donation. You can save a life by joining your state’s donor registry at https://www.donatelife.net/.
Health Resource Center offers education series for caregivers

Located in the lobby of Jennie Sealy Hospital, the David L. Callender, MD and Tonya R. Callender, FNP Health Resource Center is a space providing patients, guests and caregivers of patients with chronic conditions support and hospital/community resources. Every Wednesday at 2 p.m. in Jennie Sealy Conference Room 2.506A, the center offers 30-minute sessions focused on caregiving and caregiver support. Below are schedule and topics for the month of November. Sessions are open to all.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Overview</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 1</td>
<td>Taking the Message and Medicine Home</td>
<td>Meredith Masel, PhD, MSW</td>
<td>Did you know that as soon as you finish talking to your doctor, nurse or other health care team member you may forget more than half of what was said? It doesn’t have to be that way! Come today to learn how you can talk to care team members about audio recording information that you may need to hear again. As one patient said, “It’s like having another person there with you.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 8</td>
<td>It Takes Two: Make Choices About Your Healthcare Treatment with Your Doctor</td>
<td>Meredith Masel, PhD, MSW</td>
<td>Let’s talk about ways you can work with your doctor to choose how you want to treat your illness. We will show you where to find help for medicine or surgery choices. You will see “Decision Aids” or “Choice Cards” that you can use with the doctor and your care partners to pick treatments that may be the best fit for your life and health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
<td>How to Access Community Resources</td>
<td>Meredith Masel, PhD, MSW</td>
<td>As we move through our lives, different challenges and needs tend to arise. Sometimes we can handle these challenges with our own resources and sometimes community resources are helpful. Come and learn about identifying and accessing community resources that might benefit you and your family. (Patients are welcome and encouraged to attend this session.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 22</td>
<td>Holiday</td>
<td>Holiday</td>
<td>Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 29</td>
<td>Caregiver Zen Hour</td>
<td></td>
<td>Caregivers take on many responsibilities and stress and often their emotional self-care needs go unmet. Caregivers, family members and patients are invited to participate in the “Caregiver Zen Hour” which offers relaxing and comforting activities (pet therapy, aromatherapy, massage chairs, adult coloring books, pastoral care) to decrease stress and allow time for themselves.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Patient Resource Specialist Savannah Parks (sjparsks@utmb.edu) is always available to assist staff, patients and families remotely in locating resources, as well. The center is open 24/7 and staffed Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, please visit www.utmb.edu/health-resource-center.
SHOUT OUTS!

I am very appreciative for all of the staff in Labor and Delivery who attended my delivery for their phenomenal care and professionalism. There were complications during the birth, and it was uncertain whether my baby was going to live. The L&D team worked together quickly, revived my baby and performed the cesarean section successfully. A great team makes great miracles! Thank you! (Obstetrics)

Our nurse, Jandi Chavez, was wonderful. I wish all hospitals treated patients like UTMB does. Thank you very much. The overall stay was an A+! (UTMB League City Hospital)

Patient Care Technician Tarris Woods was especially helpful—each time he came in, he offered to assist us. He was always smiling and upbeat, changed the linens and got us anything we needed. Tarris is an excellent employee! (Surgery)

Dr. Laila Rashidi went above and beyond. She showed up to introduce herself at 8 p.m. after flying home from Seattle all day following Hurricane Harvey. She answered all our questions and provided explanations as necessary. Thank you! (Trauma)

Our nurse, Jandi Chavez, was wonderful. I wish all hospitals treated patients like UTMB does. Thank you very much. The overall stay was an A+! (UTMB League City Hospital)

The Ambulatory Always Award went to Angleton Cardiology. Physician communication quality ranked at the 100th percentile. Patients commented on how friendly, kind and attentive everyone is at the clinic and said they are confident in the care that is provided. Dr. Quiangjun Cai, Lori Milner, Ann Varghese and Cynthia Nelson accepted the award.

Inpatient satisfaction surveys ranked Jennie Sealy Hospital Unit 10C (Medicine) in the 96th percentile for overall satisfaction. Communication with nurses was in the 99th percentile. Patients commented on the compassionate treatment from physicians and nurses and staff. The award was accepted by Josette Armendariz-Batiste and Nicole Young.

Odette Comeau has been selected as a recipient of the 2018 American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN) Circle of Excellence Award. The Circle of Excellence Award is given annually to individuals who exemplify excellence in high-acuity and critical care nursing practice. Recipients of the award must demonstrate patient-driven excellence, model effective decision making, transform thinking, structures and processes to address challenges, enrich their own and other organizations by influencing and mentoring others, and achieve visible results that validate the impact of individual leadership contribution to organizational excellence. Recipients are recognized at the AACN National Teaching Institute & Critical Care Exposition. Congratulations, Odette on this impressive achievement!
Employees across all three UTMB campuses celebrated UTMB’s Best Care 5-star achievement this month. UTMB President Dr. David Callender, Donna Sollenberger, executive vice president and CEO Health System, and Dr. Gulshan Sharma, vice president, chief medical and clinical innovation officer, gave remarks at the Galveston campus during the lunch hour and then visited the Angleton Danbury and League City campuses for afternoon celebrations and refreshments.

In September, UTMB received the results of the annual Vizient Quality and Accountability Study, which ranked UTMB among the top 12 academic health centers out of 107 participating members nationally for quality, accountability and safety.