

The Value of Working Together to Manage our IHC Programs

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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.

Recently, 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.

What is TIHCA?

TIHCA is a program of the Texas Conference of Urban Counties working in concert with the Texas Association of Counties. Membership in TIHCA is open to all Chapter 61 entities in the State of Texas and is aimed at IHC program administrators.

What is TIHCA's purpose?

Basically, TIHCA is intended to foster better working relationships among IHC programs and to move toward developing a set of Best Practices for their administration. TIHCA's ultimate objective is to develop workable solutions to operational and budgetary issues.

How can TIHCA help?

TIHCA can assist member Chapter 61 entities in a number of ways, including:

- Keeping programs up to date with the latest news and information,
- Strengthening inter-program dialogue and networking among programs,
- Providing educational opportunities to programs,
- Providing programs with 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.

Individually each of the above would be better than what exists today, however, when taken together they represent an opportunity for IHC programs from around the state to work together to identify and effectively address IHC issues.

What is the benefit of being a member of TIHCA?

The answer is fairly easy. 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 – **will save you money**. That means that you will be able to provide the same level of services while reducing the burden on your taxpayers.

How does my IHC program join TIHCA?

Contact Windy Johnson at 512.476.6174. Or, visit our web site www.tihca.org.

To promote a forum for developing collaborative nonpartisan representation, advice and technical expertise on Indigent Health Care issues.

TIHCA

Membership Application

<input type="checkbox"/> NEW MEMBERSHIP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RENEWING MEMBERSHIP ALL FIELDS REQUIRED	
County Name	TOM GREEN
Chapter 61 Program Type	COUNTY INDIGENT HEALTH
Contact Individual	ANITA DUNLAP
Title	DIRECTOR
Physical Address	19 North Irving
City, State, Zip	San Angelo, Texas 76903
Mailing Address	same as physical address
City, State, Zip	
Phone	325-659-6504
Fax	325-655-4863
Email Address	anita.dunlap@co.tom-green-tx.us
Web Site Address	www.co.tom-green.tx.us/county/index.html
Number of Full-Time Employees	4
Number of Clients/Patients	750-1500
Federal Poverty Income Limit	21%

Upon completion please submit to Windy Johnson at Urban Counties ASAP.

State of Texas §
County of Tom Green §
§

BOARD RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the governing board of the Tom Green 'County' believes it to be in the best interest of the 'County' 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 'County' through the efficiencies and potential savings to be realized;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT Tom Green County agrees to join the 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 CIHCP Director as its Representative to TIHCA, whose contact information is:

Phone number: 325-659-6504

Fax number: 325-655-4863

Address: 19 North Irving, San Angelo, Texas 76903

Email address: anita.dunlap@co.tom-green.tx.us.

3. Approves and authorizes the payment of dues to TIHCA in an amount of \$ 200 ; such dues being the initial membership dues charged by TIHCA for the time period extending through October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the execution of this Resolution shall evidence the election of Tom Green County to become a member of the TIHCA upon the terms and conditions stated in the attached Charter. The governing board of Tom Green County 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 16th day of September, 2008

[Governmental Entity]

By: 
Authorized Representative

Printed Name: Michael Brown

Title: Tom Green County Judge

Date: September 16, 2008

Attest: 

Elizabeth McGill
Name

Tom Green County Clerk
Title

