



# Challenge

OF TARRANT COUNTY



## CHALLENGE OF TARRANT COUNTY

226 Bailey Avenue, Suite 105 | Fort Worth, Texas 76107

(817) 336-6617 | [challengetc.org](http://challengetc.org)



## A Prescription for Prevention

FOR: Tarrant County's Response to the Opioid Crisis

DATE: Thursday, August 29, 2019, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

AUGUST 29, 2019 | HURST CONFERENCE CENTER



TOGETHER, WE ARE THE AGENTS OF CHANGE.

# Agenda

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

*Registration & Continental Breakfast*

8:30 AM

*Welcome*

Judge Glenn Whitley, COUNTY JUDGE

8:30 AM – 9:15 AM

*HHS Five Point Strategy to Combat the Opioid Crisis*

Captain Mehran S. Massoudi, PhD, MPH / CAPT

US PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE (USPHS)

9:15 AM – 9:45 AM

*Opioids: An Overview of the*

*National and Local Problem*

Jamie Vasquez, ASSOCIATE LABORATORY DIRECTOR, DEA

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM

*The Opioid Epidemic:*

*Cook Children's Approach to the Problem*

Dr. Artee Gandhi, COOK CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

10:45 AM – 11:00 AM

*Break*

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

*The Opioid Crisis: Treatment of Pain*

*and the Multi-modal Approach*

Dr. John Garrett, BAYLOR SCOTT & WHITE

12:00 PM – *Lunch (provided)*

12:00 PM – 12:15 PM

*Opioid Response Network*

*Technical Assistance Available to Community*

Beth Hutton, MS, LPC

12:15 PM – 1:00 PM

*Naloxone Community Training*

Nanda S. Reamy, RN

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

*Challenges in Opioid Use among the Elderly*

Dr. Shara Summers, PHARM.D., BCACP, BCGP

2:00 PM – 2:15 PM

*Break*

2:15 PM – 2:45 PM

*Law Enforcement Response to the Opioid Crisis*

Calvin C. Bond, COMMANDER,

COMBINED NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT TEAM (CNET)

TARRANT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

2:45 PM – 4:00 PM

*Treatment Responses and Emerging Practices*

Deirdre P. Brown,

ASSOCIATION OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS BOARD MEMBER

Crystal Walker,

PA-C, ADDICTION SERVICES, MHMRTC

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM

*Evaluations and CEUs*

## Presenters



### *“HHS Five Point Strategy to Combat the Opioid Crisis”* Captain Mehran S. Massoudi,

PhD, MPH / CAPT  
US PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE (USPHS)

Mehran S. Massoudi, PhD, MPH was appointed Regional Health Administrator for Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Region VI, in October 2016. Dr. Massoudi is a Commissioned Corps officer in the US Public Health Service, having served since 1994 and holds the rank of a Captain. He is the senior federal health official representing the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health and the Office of the Surgeon General in Region VI, which covers Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Beyond his regularly assigned duties at CDC, CAPT Massoudi has also completed five international deployments for CDC and the World Health Organization as part of the Polio Eradication Initiative. He has also traveled to Haiti as part of the Department's health and medical response, and most recently, deployed as Lead for the Epi Team in Grand Cape Mount, Liberia for the Ebola Response. CAPT Massoudi's PhD is in epidemiology, and he has an MPH degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

### WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

“The Five-Point HHS strategy to End the Opioid Crisis,” unveiled in 2017, uses the best science and evidence to directly address this public health emergency. This workshop will provide the audience with the strategic framework in this strategy and provide an overview of the Administration's focus on addressing the opiate epidemic.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Review of HHS's 5-point strategy to combat the opioid crisis:

- Access: Better Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services
- Data: Better Data on the Epidemic
- Pain: Better Pain Management
- Overdoses: Better Targeting of Overdose-Reversing Drugs
- Research: Better Research on Pain and Addiction



### *“Opioids: An Overview of the National and Local Problem”*

Jamie Vasquez,

ASSOC. LABORATORY DIRECTOR, DEA

Ms. Vasquez is currently the Associate Laboratory Director (ALD) at the Drug Enforcement Administration's South Central Laboratory in Dallas, Texas. As ALD, she runs the day-to-day operations of the laboratory, handling quality assurance activities, evidence triage, customer requests, and budgetary requirements.

Since beginning her federal career with the DEA, she has worked with various federal, state, and local law enforcement entities in the Washington, DC and Dallas metro areas. She has also participated in the training of law enforcement in the areas of laboratory operations, field testing, evidence packaging and submission, and clandestine laboratories. Ms. Vasquez earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from the George Washington University in Washington, DC.

### WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

The opioid overdose epidemic is one of our nation's most pervasive drug issues. This session will 1) provide insight of the nationwide problem involving opioid prescriptions and emerging drug trends; 2) identify how the DEA responds to the heroin and prescription opioid pill crisis; and 3) discuss the various DEA resources for the community.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Understand the mission of the Diversion Control Division of the DEA.
- Identify and Understand how DEA responds to Opioid Crisis.
- Identify and Understand the Various DEA resources for schools, educators, parents and students.
- Understand the role Schools & Community play in education and prevention.
- Formulate treatment planning through interprofessional collaboration.



### *“The Opioid Epidemic: Cook Children's Approach to the Problem”*

Artee Gandhi, M.D.,  
COOK CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Artee Gandhi, M.D., is a pediatric pain management specialist and anesthesiologist. She has trained across the country including a residency at the University of Missouri and a fellowship at Stanford University. Dr. Gandhi serves as the Medical Director of Pain Management at Cook Children's hospital. Cook Children's Pain Management program cares for infants, children and adolescents with chronic and acute pain and is one of a few children's hospitals in the U.S. providing a comprehensive pediatric pain management program.

### WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

Opioid abuse has become an epidemic not only for adults, but also for children. Health care has neglected the prevalence of pediatric pain and has not placed focus on the importance of treating our youth with mind-body therapies, rather than medications. This workshop will focus on the impact of opioid use in the pediatric population, describe current guidelines for acute and chronic pain management, and review alternative strategies in treating pediatric pain.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Define the impact of opioid use in the pediatric population.
- Outline the mission of the opioid stewardship program.
- Describe current guidelines for acute and chronic pain management.
- Review surgical data and current outcomes of the program.
- Explore future projects and community education efforts.



### *“The Opioid Crisis: Treatment of Pain and the Multi-modal Approach”*

Dr. John Garrett

BAYLOR SCOTT & WHITE

Dr. John Garrett currently serves as Integrated Emergency Services Vice Chief Quality Officer as well as the chief patient safety officer and medical director for healthcare improvement at Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas, the flagship hospital of Baylor Scott & White Health. After completing his fellowship in EMS medical directorship, disaster response and pre-hospital research at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, Garrett relocated to Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas.

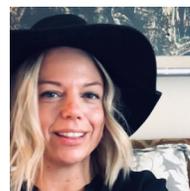
His research efforts at Baylor have focused on implementation science, bringing the newest developments in resuscitation science to the emergency departments of Baylor Scott & White Health, improving systems of care delivery to prevent avoidable patient harm, and the development of operational interventions to address rapid recognition of critical illness.

### WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

This workshop will review the how pain works in the body and brain, and how, through a “multi-modal approach” of non-addictive medication, pain can be successfully treated without opioids and all the associated risks in prescribing them.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Introduce a multi-modal approach.
- Understand how pain operates in our bodies and brains.
- Understand the perceived impact of opioids on pain.
- Review options for successful treatment of pain with non-addictive medications.



### *“Naloxone Community Training”*

Nanda S. Reamy, RN

Nanda Reamy, RN, is the Director of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) in the department of Substance Use Disorders through My Health My Resources of Tarrant County (MHMRTC). She has been with MHMRTC since September of 2014, where

she started as a direct care nurse on the short stay residential detoxification unit. In 2015 she was promoted to nursing supervisor. She began her current role of MAT Services Director in 2016, which includes oversight of the operations of MHMRTC's short stay residential detoxification unit, partial hospitalization program, and the office-based treatment programs. She holds an Associate degree in Mental Health- Clinical and Counseling Psychology which she obtained in 2009, she has been a Registered Nurse since 2014, and she is currently working on her Certification in Addictions for Registered Nurse (CARN) and her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing through University of Texas at Arlington.

## WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

Naloxone is an emergency medicine that prevents overdose death from prescription painkillers and heroin. Participants will learn about signs, symptoms and how to respond to an opioid overdose.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- SAMHSA Strategies to prevent overdose deaths
- How to recognize an opioid overdose and how to respond
- What is Narcan and how it works
- How can I get Narcan?
- Rescue breathing



### *“Challenges in Opioid Use among the Elderly”*

**Dr. Shara Summers,**  
PHARM.D., BCACP, BCGP

Dr. Shara Summers received her BS in Biology from Texas A&M University and a PharmD from The University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy. She completed a PGY-1 residency in Community Pharmacy and a PGY-2 specialty residency in Ambulatory Care at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Previously, she was faculty at Nova Southeastern University College of Pharmacy in Ft Lauderdale, FL.

## WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

The opioid epidemic is an issue of growing concern in the United States. All ages, including older adults, are feeling its impact. According to the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project, across the past 20 years, the hospitalization rate for geriatric misuse of opioids has quintupled. While it is common for older adults to experience chronic pain, special consideration should be given when prescribing opioids to older patients. This workshop will provide information about the impact of opioid use on older adults.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Describe prevalence and risk factors for use and misuse of opioids in older adults
- Review appropriate use of opioids for non-cancer chronic pain
- Discuss prescribing considerations for opioids in older adults



### *“Law Enforcement Response to the Opioid Crisis”*

**Calvin C. Bond,** COMMANDER,  
COMBINED NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT TEAM (CNET)

Mr. Bond began his career with DEA in January 1990. In 2004, he was promoted to Group Supervisor in Dallas leading the Mobile Enforcement Team (MET) and then in 2006, GS Bond was assigned as the Group Supervisor of the D/FW Airport Interdiction Group. In 2009, Mr. Bond was reassigned as a Staff Coordinator in the Office of Global Enforcement (OGE) Europe, Asia and Africa section at DEA Headquarters in Arlington, Virginia supporting DEA operations and activities in Afghanistan. He also represented DEA Headquarters in meetings with the Department of Defense, Department of State and the Intelligence Community.

In 2012, Mr. Bond was promoted to Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Dallas Field Division as ASAC 5. Mr. Bond retired from DEA in 2016 and began his career with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office in 2017. As the Commander of the Combined Narcotics Enforcement Team, he is responsible for directing narcotics investigators from the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office, Hurst, Euless, Bedford, Grapevine, and Mansfield Police Departments, and the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office. Mr. Bond graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1983 with a Bachelor of Science degree. He obtained his master's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Texas at Arlington in 1994.

## WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

This workshop will review effective enforcement of state and federal drug laws, and the role education and environmental strategies, such as prescription dropboxes, can play in combating the opioid crisis. Additional focus on community partnerships with child welfare, the National Guard and other organizations will also be explored.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Attendees will understand the strategies and techniques utilized by CNET which are producing consistent and effective results in addressing the illegal use of opioids in Tarrant County.
- Attendees will understand the barriers facing law enforcement in Tarrant County that are attempting to address the opioid threat.



### *“Treatment Responses and Emerging Practices”*

**Deirdre P. Brown,** ASSOCIATION OF  
SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS BOARD MEMBER



**Crystal Walker,** PA-C,  
ADDICTION SERVICES, MHMRTC

Deirdre Browne is a board member of the Association of Substance Abuse Programs. She has been in the field of chemical dependency since 1987 and a Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor since 1991. She worked as a counselor for 10 years before starting in management for an outpatient treatment services in St. Louis, Missouri. She began the management of residential programs in 2003 as the Director of Bridgeway Counseling Services in St. Charles, Missouri, overseeing a full continuum of care. In 2006, Dee testified in front of US Congress twice for more federal dollars for family treatment services. She obtained her undergraduate degree at Maryville University in St. Louis in 2002 and her Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management and Leadership from University of Missouri-St. Louis in 2005.

Crystal Walker is a nationally certified Physician Assistant with My Health My Resources of Tarrant County (MHMRTC). She is currently a Doctor of Medical Sciences candidate through the University of Lynchburg with an anticipated completion in Fall of 2020. She obtained her Master of Physician Assistant Studies from the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth and her Bachelor of Science from Stephen F. Austin State University. She spent 6 years providing primary care to the inmates of Tarrant County Jail. She spent a year at the JPS homeless clinic and the JPS-MHMR Integrated Health Clinics. For the last 3 years she has been working in the department for Substance Use Disorders of MHMR of Tarrant County. She is also active as an adjunct clinical instructor for her alma mater UNTHSC. Additionally, she is currently an approved waiver trainer by SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration), providing prescribers the training to obtain their DATA 2000 waiver. Her passion is for the education and long-term treatment of those with substance use disorders and because of these efforts she is the current recipient of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), a division of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), 2018 Mentored Outreach Award in Substance Use Disorders Treatment Dissemination.

## WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

This workshop focuses on the evolution of the opioid crises in Texas and Tarrant county, with a review of how Texas is approaching treating those struggling with Opioid Use Disorders, current research and anticipated funding to address the opioid crises.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- The opioid crisis history – uniquely framed for Texas and Tarrant County
- Opioid use disorder treatment – up to date recommendations from leading medical and government sources, how Tarrant County and Texas are approaching treatment, as well as why this information is important for those both in and out of the medical field
- Government and funding sources – current updates on available resources
- Pending research to anticipate in the next couple of years from NIH and NIDA
- Opioid Pearls of Wisdom – what everyone should know about opioids



## Gold Sponsors



The mission of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) is to enforce the controlled substances laws and regulations of the United States and bring to the criminal and civil justice system of the United States those organizations involved in the growing, manufacture, or distribution of controlled substances appearing in or destined for illicit traffic in the United States. Additionally, the DEA recommends and supports non-enforcement programs aimed at reducing the availability of illicit controlled substances on the domestic and international markets.

**214.366.6900 | [dea.gov](http://dea.gov)**



The Fort Worth Safe Communities Coalition brings together a dynamic group of more than 130 people (and growing) representing more than 50 Fort Worth organizations to work collaboratively on safety promotion and injury reduction. We have eight prevention task forces, including the Drug Overdose/Opiate Abuse Task Force, which were created based on community data, needs and recommendations from the steering committee.

**[fwsc.org](http://fwsc.org)**



## Silver Sponsors



JPS Health Systems Foundation- JPS Health Network is a \$950 million, tax-supported health care system for Tarrant County in North Texas. Anchored by a 537-bed acute care hospital, the network includes more than 46 community-based clinics, including 20 school-based clinics. John Peter Smith Hospital is home to Tarrant County's first and only Level 1 Trauma Center, its only psychiatric emergency services site and has the largest family medicine residency program in the nation.

**817.702.1100 | [jpshealthnet.org](http://jpshealthnet.org)**



*There's hope. There's help.®*

Mesa Springs/Innovations is a 72-bed behavioral health hospital offering inpatient and outpatient mental health and addiction treatment to adults, adolescents and their families. Our goal is to consistently deliver quality, evidence-based treatment using a program-centered approach. Using the latest advancements in program curriculum such as web-based COGNIT®, Good Days Ahead®, and the Hazelden® Co-Occurring Disorders Program,

individualized treatment plans are developed and used to begin the journey to recovery and mental wellness.

**817.292.4600 | [mesasprings.com](http://mesasprings.com)**



MHMRTC has been a provider of quality mental health and intellectual and developmental disability services in Tarrant County since its inception in 1969. It is the second largest community center in Texas, offering services in the areas of mental health, intellectual & developmental disabilities, addiction, early childhood intervention, criminal justice system support, homelessness, and veterans. All of these services are provided in collaboration with our community partners in the public and private sector.

**817.569.4300 | [mhmrarrant.org](http://mhmrarrant.org)**



Clearfork Academy is a Christ-centered recovery community that serves adolescent males (13-17 years old) entangled in the physical, mental, social, and spiritual bonds of chemical dependency. We offer a structured and therapeutic environment where teens can experience freedom from addiction.

**817.714.1311 | [clearforkacademy.com](http://clearforkacademy.com)**



## Bronze Sponsors



Addiction Campuses provides the most comprehensive drug and alcohol addiction treatment program in the country by going beyond the standard 30 day plan and treating persons struggling with addiction medically, mentally and spiritually to break the cycle of repeated visits to treatment. Utilizing our 15 to 50 acre addiction campus environment we have the depth of caring staff, industry experience and clinical proficiency to effectively treat the disease of addiction for life.

888.816.8415

[addictioncampuses.com/treatment-centers/the-treehouse/](http://addictioncampuses.com/treatment-centers/the-treehouse/)



Dallas Behavioral Healthcare Hospital is a center of excellence in providing

psychiatric stabilization and dual diagnosis treatments for adolescent and adult patients in the Dallas metroplex. Located in the growing city of DeSoto, the facility is conveniently located adjacent to Dallas and other communities in the Best Southwest region and a short drive from many other cities and suburban communities. The facility specializes in providing the full continuum of care, where a patient may receive inpatient, partial hospitalization, and intensive outpatient program services all within the same campus.

877.510.1909 | [dallasbehavioral.com](http://dallasbehavioral.com)



Emergent Biosolutions develop, manufacture, and deliver a portfolio of medical countermeasures for biological and chemical threats, existing and emerging infectious diseases as well as

opioid overdose. We manufacture NARCAN® Nasal Spray, the first and only FDA-approved naloxone nasal spray for the emergency treatment of opioid-, fentanyl- and heroin-related overdose

240.631.3200 | [emergentbiosolutions.com](http://emergentbiosolutions.com)



Love, Cassidy is a Dallas-Fort Worth nonprofit organization dedicated to helping youth and their families lead productive lives through drug prevention and awareness. Love, Cassidy is a foundation dedicated to helping youth and their families in the DFW community who are facing the

Disease of Addiction. A dependence on drugs not only harms the addicted person but devastates their family and loved ones. The foundation's primary goals are to first, bring awareness to the widespread problem of drug addiction and second, to offer the addicted individuals and their loved ones education and support tools to fight this battle of addiction. The foundation's hope is to end the senseless death and deterioration caused by teenage drug addiction

817.948.2798 | [lovecassidy.org](http://lovecassidy.org)



MedMark Treatment Centers recognizes the unique challenges associated with recovering from opiate addiction or

dependency. Our treatment professionals guide patients through the recovery process in a supportive and non-judgmental manner. MedMark clinics also provide physical evaluations, drug screenings, case management services, relapse prevention education, and after-care planning. Additionally, certain clinic locations offer methadone detox, buprenorphine maintenance, and group counseling. All of our services focus on helping you achieve long-term sobriety to enhance your wellbeing and improve your quality of life.

866-840-6658 | [medmarktreatmentcenters.com](http://medmarktreatmentcenters.com)



New Vision™ is a medically supervised, hospital-based service for adults experiencing impending or active withdrawal from alcohol, prescription medications, and/or certain drugs. Types

of substances New Vision™ can treat include Opioids (Heroin, OxyContin, Percocet), Alcohol, Cocaine, Benzodiazepines (Xanax, Valium), and Combined substances. New Vision™ provides safe, confidential, compassionate and reliable care with a typical stay of 72 hours for people who qualify.

972.888.4060 | [dallasmedcenter.com](http://dallasmedcenter.com)



In response to the nation's opioid crisis, SAMHSA awarded a two-year grant to provide technical assistance (TA) to states and territories to the American Academy

of Addiction Psychiatry (AAP) with a coalition of 27 national professional organizations, forming the Opioid Response Network. These TA activities are designed to enhance efforts already underway throughout the United States and territories. The Opioid Response Network (ORN) provides training and technical assistance via local experts across the country, focusing on applying evidence-based practices in prevention, treatment and recovery to meet locally identified needs.

[opioidresponsenetwork.org](http://opioidresponsenetwork.org)



The Prevention Resource Center serves as the central data collection repository and substance abuse prevention training liaison for Region 3. PRC3 is a program of The Council

on Alcohol & Drug Abuse and serves 19 North Texas counties: Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Fannin, Grayson, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant and Wise. Our goal is to identify local community and county resources in order to create a data repository that will facilitate the development of a Regional Needs Assessment.

800.246.HOPE (4673) | [prc3.org](http://prc3.org)



Providing expert professional alcohol and drug addiction treatment in a warm, supportive environment is both our core philosophy and our passion. Working closely

with your clinical team, you will receive highly individualized treatment for your substance use problems. Best practices demand that treatment for drug addiction be customized in order to provide the best chance for recovery. Concurrent treatment for any dual diagnosis needs, such as anxiety, trauma issues, disordered eating and depression are integrated into your care plan.

866.568.5661 | [ranchatdovetree.com](http://ranchatdovetree.com)



Recovery Resource Council is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with more than 50 years of experience providing hope, conquering addiction and healing families. We are the link between substance abuse services and the adults, youth and families who are in need. Recovery Resource Council has an extensive history of providing case management and behavioral health services to those seeking help with substance abuse and mental health issues.

**817.332.6329 | [recoverycouncil.org](http://recoverycouncil.org)**



The Right Step has facilities all across Texas and offers a full continuum of addiction treatment services. Our programming includes medical detox; inpatient drug rehab; outpatient treatment; continuing care options; and specialized programs for women, adolescents and LGBTQI individuals. We provide comprehensive assessments conducted by medical and psychological professionals to determine the appropriate level of care and best program and approaches for your needs.

**888.550.9475 | [rightstep.com](http://rightstep.com)**



The Mission of Santé Center for Healing is to address addictive behaviors and associated conditions with an integrated addiction treatment model, drawing from traditional and innovative approaches. Our services are open to individuals and families who seek recovery from addictive behaviors, with a focus on treating the addicted professional. We provide treatment with integrity, promoting wellness for the patient, family and public in a safe and pleasant setting.

**800.258.4250 | [santecenter.com](http://santecenter.com)**



Santa Fe Youth Services, a division of Youth Advocates Program, provides innovative and accessible prevention, intervention and counseling services to the community that promotes social, emotional and mental health of youth and families most in need. We implement evidence-based programs that have been critically evaluated and proven effective by research projects and are nationally recognized as model programs.

**817.492.4673 | [santafeyouth.org](http://santafeyouth.org)**



Starlite Recovery Center offers help for everyone whose lives are impacted by addiction and alcoholism. Our goal of promoting an abstinent lifestyle is predicated upon intervention and education which demonstrate to the addicted individual the path of success and how others achieved it. Starlite provides programs that deliver a comprehensive, individualized continuum of care for chemically dependent persons and/or their family members who have been affected by the diseases of alcoholism and/or drug addiction.

**800.292.0148 | [starliterecovery.com](http://starliterecovery.com)**



Fort Worth TAAP organizes and charts local chapters in Texas, and assists in stabilizing and increasing their membership. By means of

legislative initiatives, promotional campaigns and professional networking opportunities, TAAP will promote awareness of the disease of chemical dependency and other addictions and compulsive behaviors. TAAP will advocate for standards for licensure and certification of qualified counselors to ensure the competency basis of those who counsel alcoholics and other addicts and their families and ensure a high order of professional standards and ethics among those in the addictions counseling profession.

**[FortWorthTAAP@gmail.com](mailto:FortWorthTAAP@gmail.com) | [fortworthtaap.org](http://fortworthtaap.org)**



The Texas Poison Center Network (TPCN) provides information to citizens who suspect they have been exposed to toxic substances, or may have had adverse reactions to food, plants, or insect stings. The North Texas Poison Center (NTPC), located at Parkland Health & Hospital

System in Dallas, TX, is dedicated to providing comprehensive state-of-the-art toxicology information, treatment assistance, and preventative education to the public and health professionals within its region. In operation since November 1984, the NTPC has maintained certification from the American Association of Poison Control Centers since 1985. The NTPC works closely with the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center to provide toxicology training to health care professionals as part their fellowship program.

**800.222.1222 | [poisoncontrol.org](http://poisoncontrol.org)**



Rainbow Days exists to help children and youth in adversity build the needed coping skills and resilience to create healthy and promising futures. In addition to facilitating hands-on prevention programs with local

youth, Rainbow Days has trained more than 55,000 professionals across the state of Texas and beyond to implement their nationally recognized Curriculum-Based Support Groups® and other accredited prevention programs. Rainbow Days also operates Family Connection, a program that provides comprehensive supportive services for homeless children living in emergency, transitional or domestic violence shelters.

**214.887.0726 | [rainbowdays.org](http://rainbowdays.org)**



The UNT Health Science Center's Center for Geriatrics is located in the Health Pavilion

on the UNTHSC campus in Fort Worth's cultural district. We provide primary care and neurological geriatric consultations for older adults with complex or chronic conditions. Our team works closely with both patients and their caregivers to deliver a comprehensive assessment of the older adult through an interprofessional team approach.

**817.735.2200 | [unthsc.edu/center-for-geriatrics](http://unthsc.edu/center-for-geriatrics)**



WTF – Winning The Fight is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that provides drug education, support, and necessary resources to youth

and families that suffer from the disease of addiction. WTF was developed after losing our son, Brett Morgan O'Keefe, to an accidental drug overdose. He fought and lost. We choose to be a part of Winning, not losing. Brett was well known for using the "WTF" in a loving and kidding manner. So, we used the initials and changed the meaning to something positive.

**972.467.7704 | [wtf-winningthefight.org](http://wtf-winningthefight.org)**

# About Challenge of Tarrant County

Challenge of Tarrant County has become synonymous with education, advocacy and program development in our community's efforts to prevent and treat the disease of addiction. Community members may not be as familiar with our agency name as they are with the programs we have designed, funded, implemented and sustained in Tarrant County and across the state of Texas. Here are a few of the institutions and programs we have helped create:



BWC is a community-wide substance abuse prevention effort focused on youth of all ages throughout Tarrant County. The program addresses the issue of responsibility for drug prevention that belongs to all of us — parents, educators, law enforcement, faith-based organizations and community leaders.



FOL is an established college community coalition designed to strengthen the culture of health and wellness at Weatherford College by increasing and enhancing the knowledge, attitudes, skills, and behaviors regarding alcohol use and drug abuse in order to empower individuals to achieve responsible, healthy lives.



SMART, the first college coalition partnership project funded through DSHS, fosters the health and wellness of the University of Texas at Arlington community by promoting responsible, educated decision-making. The coalition works to reduce risky alcohol consumption and drug abuse in order to empower individuals to achieve responsible, healthy lives.



Power to Choose is a community coalition and social norming campaign that aims to reduce risky alcohol consumption by empowering TCU students to make informed decisions. The campaign explores the impact high-risk choices have on everyday social interactions, physical performance and academic endeavors while promoting informed responsible decision-making.



Stay on track is a city-wide coalition forming to address underage drinking, high-risk binge-drinking and prescription drug misuse and abuse in the Keller area. The coalition engages the city of Keller to prevent substance use among youth ages 12 to 24 by strengthening collaboration among community sectors and promoting overall community awareness through family education, social norming messages and civic events.



SMART Arlington is a Drug Free Community Coalition that engages the City of Arlington to prevent substance use among youth ages 12

to 17 by strengthening collaboration among community sectors. To reach this objective, the coalition promotes overall community awareness through family education, social norming messages and civic events.



Created by Challenge through the Closing the Addiction Treatment Gap (CATG) Initiative, Treat Texas seeks to mobilize public support for expanding addiction and recovery services by increasing public funding, broadening insurance coverage, and advocating for sound public policy on Substance Use Disorders.



Substance Abuse Information Index (SAID) collects and disseminates state and local data to demonstrate the nature and extent of the substance abuse problem in Tarrant County. The project produces the Drug Impact Index, a valuable research document for needs assessment, program development and grant writing endeavors.



Family Recovery Court addresses child welfare cases where parental substance use disorder is the primary factor. The project is built around strong community collaboration with the ultimate goal of providing safe, nurturing, permanent homes for children while simultaneously providing parents the necessary support and services to engage in long term recovery.



TYTAP is an evidenced based Tobacco Prevention Program for persons who have received citations for underage possession of tobacco. TYTAP uses motivational enhancement strategies with participants in increasing tobacco knowledge and building skills to quit tobacco use. The program uses self-awareness activities, environmental awareness activities and behavior disruption activities to promote long-term tobacco cessation.



The Challenge Institute provides a variety of training programs to help professionals, parents, students, elected officials and the community at large increase their knowledge and effectiveness in addressing substance use disorder issues and recovery. The Institute also provides technical assistance to community organizations and coalitions to meet specific organizational needs.

## Board of Directors

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