

The University of Texas
Health Science Center at Tyler

# Addressing Mental Health Needs in Rural Northeast Texas

Presented to the House Select Committee on Mental Health



#### **Presentation Outline**

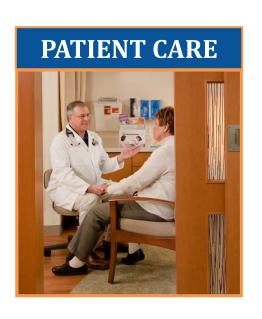
- UT Health Science Center at Tyler Mission
- Critical Regional Challenges
- Mental Health Operations Briefing
- Mental Health Workforce Development
- Our Commitment & Future

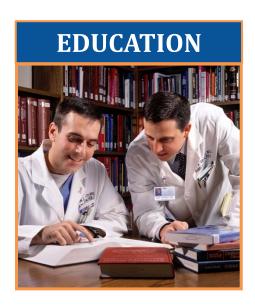




- As the only academic medical center in Northeast Texas, we serve a region the size of West Virginia, a population of over 1.3 million, and have an annual impact of \$361 million.
- We exist to meet the needs of our region and State through our three-part mission:









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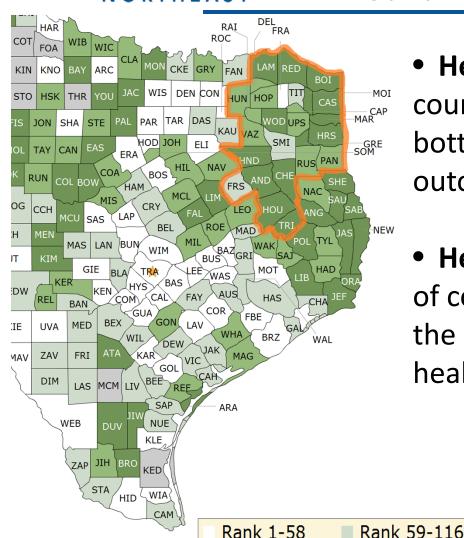
#### **Northeast Texas**

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STE PAL PAR TAR DAS KAU VAZ SMI CAS CAP HOD JOH ELI SMI ERA HOD JOH ELI NAV HND RUS PAN SOM MIS CRY FAL LEO HOU ANG SAU SAB SAS LAP BEL ROE MAD TRI	Population	1.3 million	25.1 million
	Counties	28	254
	Rural Population	53.9%	17.5%
	Median Age	41	33.6
S LAN BUN WIM MIL BUS WAK SAJ HAD	Per Capita Income	\$19,386	\$24,870
KEN COM CAL FAY AUS HAS CHA JEF	Bachelor's Degree	13.2%	25.8%
BEX GAN LAV WHA BRZ WAL	Minority Population	24.8%	29.6%
S MCM LIV BEE REE CAH	Hispanic Origin	13.1%	37.6%
SAP			

Northeast Texas is older, poorer, less well educated and at greater risk of early death than the state average.



#### **Health Outcomes & Risk Factors**



- **Health Outcomes:** Over half of counties in Northeast Texas are in the bottom quartile of counties in health outcomes.
- **Health Risk Factors:** Over one third of counties in Northeast Texas are in the bottom quartile of counties in health risk factors.

Rank 175-232

Rank 117-174

Not Ranked



## **Mental Health Challenges**

- **Mental Illness:** An estimated 85,000 individuals in the region have a serious mental illness.
- **Substance Abuse:** Approximately 113,000 need treatment for substance abuse but do not receive it.
- **Suicide Rate:** The region has a suicide rate that is 65% higher than the rate for Texas.



### Our Leadership Role

UT Health Northeast exists to solve problems. Our campus and its leaders serve a critical leadership role in defining and solving the region's most difficult challenges.



# ALTH 1115 Waiver - Anchor & Provider

- As Anchor, UT Health is the lead agency responsible for coordinating the development, approval, and implementation of a regional health plan designed to transform the healthcare delivery system across a 28 county region in Northeast Texas.
- DSRIP providers aim to transform delivery of behavioral healthcare in Northeast Texas through projects on Telemedicine, Integrated Care, Crisis Stabilization Units, and expansion of services to underserved populations.

1115 Waiver behavioral health projects in RHP 1 account for 30% of projects valued at \$78.5 million.



#### **Mental Health Investments**

- UT Health Northeast is partnering with the Texas Department of State Health Services to improve mental health services:
  - March 2013: Opened a *30-bed residential unit* that provides mental health services and alleviates overcrowding at state mental facilities.
  - September 2014: Opened a *14-bed acute care unit* to provide additional beds to the State to better care for patients in acute mental illness crisis.
- September 2014: Opened a *21-bed geriatric psychiatric inpatient unit* to treat elderly patients with mental illness (non-state beds).



#### **Mental Health Investments**

- Integrated Care: Began integrating mental health services into UT Health primary care clinics.
  - Local Mental Health Authority: UT Health provides a primary care provider to the local mental health authority to support integrated care efforts at the LMHA.
- Intensive Outpatient Program: Geriatric intensive outpatient program provides treatment for seniors with mental health needs, allowing them to remain in their homes or long-term care environments.
- **Child and Adolescent:** Opened an outpatient mental health clinic to serve youth with mental illness.



### **Our Commitment & Our Future**

#### Our Commitment to Texas:

- Focus educational programs on high-demand fields.
- Collaborate to solve tough problems in Northeast Texas.
- Manage our resources well and eliminate waste.

#### Our Future:

- Expanded programs in community health and health professions.
- Clinical programs that focus on population health and managing cost.
- Rapid responses to community needs.



#### **Contact Information**

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