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## **Adrian Billings, MD, PhD Receives AAFP Exemplary Teaching Award**

AUSTIN, TEXAS — Adrian Billings, MD, PhD of Alpine, Texas, was awarded the Exemplary Teaching Award by the American Academy Family Physician during the organization’s 2016 Family Medicine Experience held in Orlando, Florida on Sept. 22. This award honors individuals who’ve made outstanding contributions to family medicine through teaching.

Billings is an associate professor at Texas Tech University Health Science Center School of Medicine, clinical assistant professor at the University of Texas Medical Branch, and Chief Medical Officer of Presidio County Health Services. His notable work with Texas Tech University Health Science Center Family Medicine Residency to establish the first rural training program on the United States-Mexico border has brought medical access to the underserved area. A long-time preceptor in the Texas Family Medicine Preceptorship Program – who has mentored over 100 medical students – he became the program director in 2015.

Originally from Del Rio, Texas, Billings received a Bachelor of Science degree from Texas A&M University, obtained his Doctorate in Philosophy in Experimental Pathology and Medicine from the University of Texas Medical Branch, and earned his medical doctorate from the University of Texas Medical Branch. Prior to entering medical school, Dr. Billings completed a post doctorate program at the Center for Disease Control. He completed his family medicine residency at John Peter Smith Hospital where he was also Chief Resident.

While reflecting on his work with medical students Billings stated, “I feel that my most important work in my everyday professional life is precepting these medical students and residents because I hope they will find an undiscovered passion for the care of vulnerable, underserved rural patients.”

Family physicians like Billings are qualified to work in all major medical areas and trained to treat more than 90 percent of all cases they encounter. Family physicians care for patients of all ages.

*The Texas Academy of Family Physicians is the premier membership organization dedicated to uniting the family doctors of Texas through advocacy, education and member services, and empowering them to provide a medical home for patients of all ages. It has 33 local chapters and is a chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians. Visit [www.tafp.org](http://www.tafp.org) for more information.*