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Rodney Young, MD, named Texas Family Physician of the Year

ARLINGTON, TEXAS — Rodney Young, MD, of Amarillo, Texas, has been awarded the highest honor among Texas family doctors by the Texas Academy of Family Physicians. He was named the 2018 Texas Family Physician of the Year during TAFP’s Annual Session and Primary Care Summit in Arlington on Nov. 10. Each year, patients and physicians nominate extraordinary family physicians throughout Texas who symbolize excellence and dedication in family medicine. A panel of TAFP members chooses one as the family physician of the year.

Young is chair of the Department of Family and Community Medicine at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine in Amarillo. Throughout his distinguished career, he has earned numerous honors and awards, including the Texas Medical Association’s Award for Excellence in Academic Medicine and the Distinguished Alumnus from Texas Tech School of Medicine.

“Dr. Young’s personal and professional career defines that of a servant leader,” TAFP President Janet Hurley, MD, said at the awards ceremony. “He has an exceptional record of community service and understands how being involved in the community can effect positive change in people’s health. He combines his love of teaching with his love of medicine to serve people in his community who are displaced and disadvantaged.”

In addition to his academic responsibilities, Young maintains a busy clinical practice, spending half of his time in direct patient care.

In his community, Young serves on the board of directors for Heal the City, a free clinic that provides primary care, chronic disease management, and other preventive and wellness services for Amarillo’s uninsured patients. He also serves on the board of directors for the Harrington Cancer and Health Foundation, which provides patients access to high-quality cancer care, detection, supportive care, and survivorship services.

Family physicians like Young 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 for more information.