

Issue Brief: SUPPORT TEXAS' EXISTING FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAMS

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Increase funding to the Family Practice Residency Program (FPRP) to expand and invest in Texas' primary care workforce

Texas' 40 family medicine residency programs are the lifeblood of our primary care

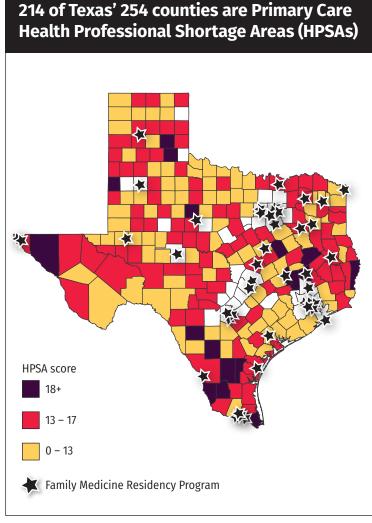
workforce, preparing more than 300 new family physicians each year to care for patients. In addition to training, these residency program clinics provide access to primary care, preventive care, mental health, and maternity care for Medicaid and CHIP patients, Medicare patients, and the uninsured.

The Family Practice Residency Program is among the state's oldest physician workforce development programs, dating back to 1977. It provides grants directly to Texas's nationally accredited family medicine residency programs, located in every region of the state.

Data consistently shows that more than 70% of family doctors who complete residency in Texas stay in Texas, and family physicians are more likely than other

specialties to practice in rural areas.

Even as the state has increased the number of residents in training, the



Source: Texas Department of State Health Services Health Professional Shortage Area Dashboard

amount of THECB funding for family medicine residents has withered, dropping from \$14,300 per resident each year in 2011 to less than \$8,850 in 2025.

We respectfully request an additional \$11.85 million, above the base budget, for the biennium to support the FPRP.