



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Samantha White
Texas Academy of Family Physicians
(512) 329-8666 ext. 116
swhite@tafp.org

James Felberg, MD, FAAFP, receives the Texas Academy of Family Physicians Public Health Award

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS — James Felberg, MD, FAAFP, was awarded the Texas Academy of Family Physicians Public Health Award during TAFP’s Annual Session and Primary Care Summit in The Woodlands on Nov. 9. The award recognizes individuals who are making extraordinary contributions to the public health of Texas.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Felberg saw the gap between hospital and outpatient care grow. With the great need for hospital beds at the time, there was a need to discharge patients quickly, and not always someone to catch them after discharge. Felberg collaborated with the City of Lubbock’s public health department to improve care transitions by opening an intermediary care clinic, creating a new access point for patients recently discharged from the hospital who do not have a medical home, regardless of their ability to pay. Though not a replacement for primary care, the clinic is a soft landing to provide medical and social support to overcome barriers to care and become established with a traditional primary care provider.

A colleague who nominated Felberg says that it’s rare to find a physician willing to take a critical look at systems, identify solutions, develop new programs, and take on the clinical work necessary to make those new programs succeed. “Dr. Felberg is one of these rare physicians,” she said.

Felberg is an associate professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Lubbock, as well as the assistant medical director of hospital medicine. He also serves as the deputy medical director for the Lubbock County Department of Health and is health authority for the South Plains Public Health District and for several surrounding rural counties.

Family physicians like Felberg are qualified to work in all major medical areas and trained to treat more than 90% 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.