

NEWS RELEASE

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Adrian Billings, MD, PhD, named Texas Family Physician of the Year

AUSTIN, TEXAS — Adrian Billings, MD, PhD, of Alpine, Texas, has been awarded the highest honor among Texas family doctors by the Texas Academy of Family Physicians. He was named the 2020 Texas Family Physician of the Year during TAFP's virtual Member Assembly on Oct. 24. 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.

Billings earned his medical degree and a PhD in experimental pathology at UTMB Galveston. After completing residency and obstetrics fellowship at JPS in Fort Worth, he moved to Alpine in Pecos County and began practice to fulfill his commitment to the National Health Service Corps.

Since 2014, Billings has been the director of the Texas Family Medicine Preceptorship Program, helping TAFP administer the state-funded program to bring preclinical students to family medicine offices across the state. In his relatively short career, he's had hundreds of medical students and residents rotate with him. He practices full-scope family medicine in an underserved community. He also serves outside the exam room and is committed to education. He pioneered a community-based medical Spanish rotation in Presidio and recently collaborated with Texas Tech in Odessa to bring a rural residency rotation to Alpine.

Billings joined the stream late, accepting the award after performing an emergency Caesarian section.

"Thank you for what you're doing," he said. "You are all heroes for the work that you're doing. We have to be active; we have to be advocating for our patients."

Family physicians like Billings 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 32 local chapters and is a chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians. Visit www.tafp.org for more information.