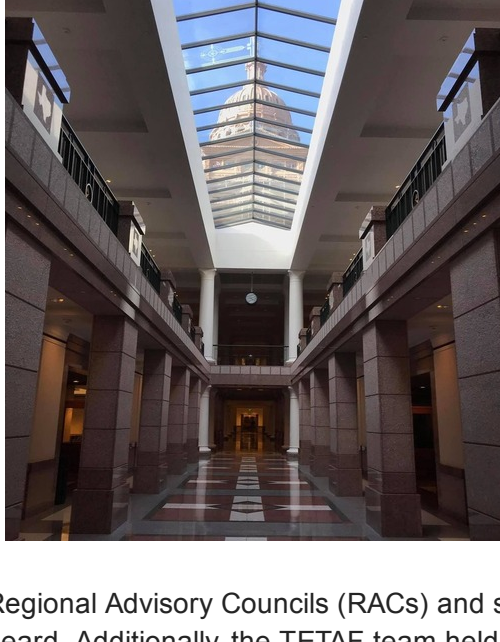




June 2021



87th Legislative Session

Monday, May 31 was Sine Die and the 87th Legislative Session ended. The TETAF Advocacy team worked hard prior to the legislative session and during to ensure your concerns were heard by legislators and staff as we advocated for the best in not only trauma and stroke care, but also maternal and neonatal care. The TETAF team did this through numerous meetings with legislators, submitting riders, sharing testimony virtually, and creating one-page handouts for

Regional Advisory Councils (RACs) and stakeholders to have their voices heard. Additionally, the TETAF team held 19 virtual meetings with stakeholders, shared 16 weekly updates, and many action item updates and legislative alerts to keep our stakeholders informed throughout the legislative process.

Here is an overview of bills of note that are headed to the governor for signature:

Final Budget Update

Senate Bill (SB) 1 is headed to the governor for his signature. The TETAF Advocacy team worked diligently during the session to ensure level funding for the Regional Advisory Councils (RACs) as well as funding for the Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF). This included providing virtual testimony, written testimony, and submitting riders. As the bill is written, funding was adopted that would remove the proposed 5% reductions to the RACs and EMS, and \$5 million was adopted from the General Revenue (GR) Fund for the biennium.

Bills of Note

[HB 133](#) by Rep. Toni Rose (D - Dallas) - The bill extends the length of Medicaid coverage from 60 days to 6 months, instead of 12 as previously written, for eligible postpartum mothers. The six month extension is funded in the budget. TETAF and Texas Perinatal Services supported this bill. [Read more in the Texas Tribune.](#)

[HB 1164](#) by Rep. Tom Oliverson (R - Houston) - The bill requires the Health and Human Services Commissioner to work with the Perinatal Advisory Council (PAC) to establish rules to develop patient safety practices regarding placenta accreta spectrum disorder and monitor through the maternal levels of care designations.

There will be a special legislative session in the fall. TETAF will monitor legislative activity for any discussions related to maternal and neonatal care. TETAF will release its Advocacy Report this month.

Perinatal Advisory Council Seeks Applicants

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) seeks applicants wanting to serve on the Perinatal Advisory Council (PAC). HHSC takes into consideration qualifications, background, ethnicity, gender, and geographic location to ensure diverse representation of all Texans. [This letter](#) explains more about representation on the PAC to help determine if you qualify.

If you are interested and meet at least one qualification, you can click the button below to submit your application.

Applications are **due by 11:59 p.m., June 15**. The Texas Health and Human Services Commission executive commissioner will appoint members to the council to serve a three-year term expiring Sept. 1, 2024.

The PAC will hold its next meeting on **June 23, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. CST** and it will be virtual via Microsoft Teams.

To join the meeting or view previous meetings, please visit the [Perinatal Advisory Council webpage](#).



[Apply to the Perinatal Advisory Council](#)



TETAF Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting

The next quarterly meeting of the TETAF Board of Directors will be held on **June 22, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. CST**. Register below to attend the meeting via Zoom.

[Register to attend the virtual TETAF Board of Directors meeting](#)



TEXAS Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State Health Services

Perinatal Mood Disorders Webinar

Psychiatric disorders are associated with leading causes of maternal mortality and morbidity and are commonly encountered by clinicians during the peripartum period. The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) will host a live webinar focusing on perinatal mood disorders.

Continuing education credits/contact hours for multiple disciplines are awarded for attendance.

Screening and Early Detection: Psychiatric Disorders During Pregnancy and Postpartum
June 9, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. CST

[REGISTER HERE](#)

National Association of Neonatal Nurses to Hold Virtual Conference in September



National Association of Neonatal Nurses

The National Association of Neonatal Nurses (NANN) will hold its annual conference virtually from September 13-15, 2021. NANN plans on returning to an in-person conference in Las Vegas in 2022.

Learn more about the conference on the [NANN website](#).



Date Set for 2021 AWHONN Convention

The Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN) has pushed back the date for the AWHONN convention that an in-person event can be safely held. The new date is scheduled for October 9-13, 2021 in Kissimmee, Florida.

[Registration for the conference](#) is now open.

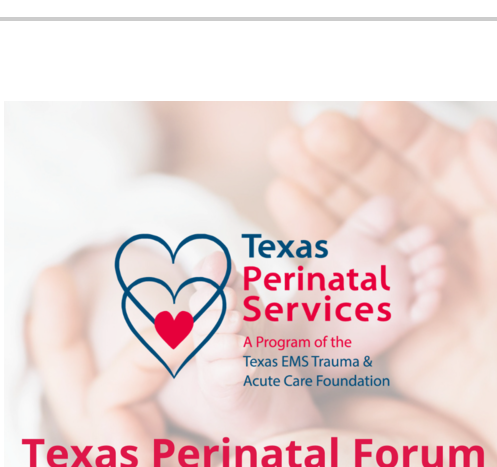
Upcoming Texas Perinatal Forums

The next Texas Perinatal Forum will be on **June 29 at 11:00 a.m. CST** and the topic will be, "Turn Around Times, Family Centered Care and Dietitian Project Improvement Initiatives."

Save the date for the Texas Perinatal Forum on **July 27 at 1:00 p.m. CST**.

The topic will be, "QAPI tier 1-3 approach, Documentation of Family Centered Care, Staff Involvement on an Ongoing Basis for Quality Improvement."

If you have not previously joined one of the educational online forums that are exclusive to TETAF/TPS hospitals, contact Carla Rider at crider@tetaf.org to register.



In the News

[Methodist Hospital seeing increasing in births, bucking national trend](#)

[CHRISTUS Spohn South labeled as a premier hospital in South Texas](#)



Mark Your Calendar

[Perinatal Advisory Council](#) - June 23

[Cord Blood Awareness Month](#) - July

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