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Metro Health and University Health System to be recognized for preventive health services integration

The San Antonio Metropolitan Health District and Bexar County's University Health System are being honored by the Texas Municipal League (TML) and Texas Association of Counties with the City-County Cooperation Award. The award commends the two public health entities for a City-County integration effort aimed at creating a high-performing public health care system for the community.

On February 4 of this year, Metro Health transferred its clinical preventive services to University Health System. Integration of the services involved more than 120 staff positions and ten clinics from the City's public health department. Providing preventive care in an integrated health care system is expected to result in increased early detection as well as more effectively address costly health problems affecting the community.

"Years down the line when we look back on this project, I think we will discover that it benefited the overall health of this community. Yet, this is just one piece of the puzzle when we look at the bigger picture of reducing the impact of chronic diseases in Bexar County. So, I will continue to support partnerships between the University Health System and Metro Health to address those long-term goals," said Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff.

"I'm proud that the City of San Antonio and Bexar County were able to work so well together in achieving this integration of clinical services," said Mayor Phil Hardberger. "By cutting down on duplication and improving preventive care, we're doing more with less and contributing to the health of our community. This award should serve as an example of how we can succeed when we work together."

The City-County Cooperation Award will be presented to representatives of the City and County at three conferences this year, including the TML annual conference taking place October 28 - 31 in San Antonio.