

what is the cost
FOR THE HEALTH OF TEXAS





Texas is facing critical health challenges.

- Growing shortages of physicians, nurses and public health professionals
- Implementation of federal health care reform
- 75% of health care expenditures going toward largely preventable chronic diseases, many due to lifestyle choices
- Obesity epidemic, projected to cost Texas \$39 billion annually by 2040
- Highest percentage of uninsured in nation
- Large numbers of Texans with mental illness
- Half of Texas children entering kindergarten without the basic skills necessary for success
- Increasing health costs for aging population

These tough challenges require efficient use of resources as well as innovative solutions.

So what institution is uniquely positioned to help the State of Texas deal with health care challenges in a cost effective, patient-centered way?

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) – with six schools that cover the entire spectrum of education, patient care, and research – is well prepared to tackle health care challenges successfully and lead the way in providing cost-effective solutions to some of our most critical health care issues.

UTHealth has an impact as big as Texas, as an anchor institution of the world's largest medical center and with regional campuses across the state in Austin, Brownsville, Dallas, El Paso and San Antonio.



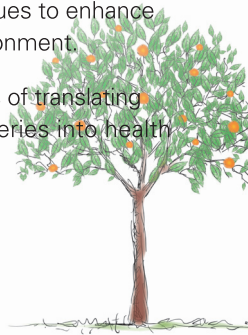
Investing in UTHealth will help reduce the burden of health care on our state and positively affect the health of Texans.

UTHealth offers innovative solutions.

- Educates the largest number of health care professionals of any institution in Texas – more than 5,000 annually – in schools of medicine, nursing, dentistry, public health, biomedical informatics and biomedical sciences.
- Serves more than 1 million patients annually with comprehensive, multi-specialty care, including life-saving care at one of the nation's busiest trauma centers.
- The nationally recognized School of Nursing develops innovative academic programs to address the nursing shortage and prepare nurses for a larger role in primary care.
- The School of Public Health has regional campuses in Austin, Brownsville, Dallas, El Paso and San Antonio to meet the public health needs of the diverse populations across our state, and leads the nation in collaborative solutions to the obesity epidemic.



- The School of Biomedical Informatics is a national leader in the development of electronic patient records to streamline exchange of information, increase patient safety and lower costs.
- The UTHealth Harris County Psychiatric Center delivers a comprehensive program of psychiatric services to children, adolescents and adults suffering from mental illness.
- The Children's Learning Institute is conducting cutting-edge research on techniques to enhance a child's home and learning environment.
- UTHealth accelerates the process of translating scientific knowledge and discoveries into health care solutions.



1

Core mission funding

- Formula funding, especially on a per student basis, is the fairest and most efficient way to fund academic health centers.
- These funds are directly targeted to the core mission of educating the next generation of the health care workforce.

2

Unique programs

- Existing Special Items allow UTHealth to serve the community through training programs with the Harris County Hospital District, provide resources for the School of Public Health Brownsville regional campus, and recruit and retain leading biomedical researchers.



3

Public health initiatives

- Prevention saves health care dollars.
- Funding is directed at addressing today's critical public health issues such as diabetes, obesity and disaster preparedness through evidence-based solutions.
- Public health programs provide the tools Texans need to take responsibility for their own health.
- Previous funding resulted in an astounding 39% growth in the number of students who will become the public health professionals in their communities around the state.

4

Trauma care

- More people ages 1 to 44 die from trauma than any other cause.
- Recent state funding successfully reduced emergency department diversions from Memorial Hermann-TMC from a high of 40% to the current 5%.
- Continued funding will help to defray the costs of hiring more physicians and staff to handle the increased patient load at our Level 1 trauma center, one of the nation's busiest.

5

Psychiatric care

- The UTHealth Harris County Psychiatric Center provides care to more than 6,000 inpatients and handles 11,000 outpatient visits annually.
- For fiscal years 2010 and 2011, additional funding made it possible to open a 24-bed unit, providing more services to the mentally ill in Harris County.

6

Childhood development

- The Children's Learning Institute gives Texas children the opportunity to excel in school through research-based programs and is the designated State Center for Early Childhood Development.
- Funding to award grants for early childhood programs is included in the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) budgets.



7

Renovation and modernization

- A recent comprehensive facilities audit found that three 1970s-era facilities contained systems and equipment that were reaching the end of their useful service life.
- An \$85-million renovation and modernization project will allow the buildings to continue to be used for teaching and research.

8

Consortium on Aging

- Interdisciplinary and collaborative efforts by faculty, health care professionals and community service providers are needed to meet the challenge of providing health care to the rapidly expanding aging population.



So what is the cost **IF WE FAIL?**

*The cost to invest
in effective health care
solutions is significant.*

*But the cost of not
keeping Texans healthy
is far greater.*

For more information,
please call 713-500-3964.
www.uth.edu



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