

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



Fall 2021

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## 1 EVENTS

**October 7, 2021**

**12:00pm - 1:30pm**

**[2021 Philip R. Nader Legacy of Health Lectureship - Virtual!](#)**

**"Responsive Feeding and Childhood Obesity Prevention: An Equitable Nurturing Care Perspective"**

Keynote Speaker:

Rafael Perez-Escamilla, PhD

Professor of Public Health

Director, Office of Public Health

Practice

Director, Global Health Concentration

Director, Maternal Child Health

Promotion Program, Center for

Methods on Implementation and

Prevention Science (CMIPS)

Yale School of Public Health

Dr. Perez-Escamilla will discuss how the guiding the process of feeding infants and young children through responsive feeding principles is a central component of the responsive parenting and the UNICEF/WHO nurturing care framework, and how this important public health goal may be attained in the U.S. context following a social-ecological model strongly rooted in implementation science, equity and social justice principles.

**October 27-29, 2021**

**[Virtual Healthier Texas Summit](#)**

A three-day virtual event for health champions to learn alongside though leaders at a national, state, and local level about emerging insights to transform health and health equity in Texas. A premier population health

## Live Smart Texas News

This year we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Walk Across Texas (WAT!), a program from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension. As of 2020, the WAT! program has reached over 615,000 participants and has contributed to an estimated economic impact of over \$2.2 billion dollars.

You can still join this eight-week program designed to help Texans establish the habit of regular physical activity. Each adult team may include up to 8 team members, all working to reach the 832-mile goal.

There is also the Walk Through Texas History 4-week program where 8 team members work together to follow legendary historical paths.

Found out more and register [here!](#)

We will also be highlighting this program in an upcoming webinar and at our World Obesity Day Summit on March 4, 2022.

In health,  
Leah & Emily  
Co-Chairs

conference, the Healthier Texas Summit offers informative sessions and interactive workshops, with education credits available for numerous professions.

**Save the Date**  
**March 4, 2022**  
**World Obesity Day Summit**

Join us for our 2nd World Obesity Day Summit. More details, including our keynote speaker, coming soon!

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# RESOURCES

The Michael and Susan Dell Center for Healthy Living's Texas Research-To-Policy Collaboration project released new resources for improving measurable impact regarding the COVID-19 pandemic:

[A Resource for Improving Measurable Impact - Protecting Our Children From COVID-19: How Texans Can Help](#)

[A Resource for Improving Measurable Impact - COVID-19 Myth vs. Fact: A Guide for Evidence-Based Information](#)

An updated Texas SPAN Overview was released over Child Obesity in Texas through the Michael & Susan Dell Center for Healthy Living:

[Texas SPAN Overview: Child Obesity in Texas](#)

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Texas A&M University AgriLife Extension's website provides information related to [child care during COVID-19](#), online courses about statewide [programs](#) that are available to child care providers, the "[Scrub Up Tune Up](#)" Handwashing Program, and [information and resources](#) about COVID-19.

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# WEBINARS

Texas Action for Healthy Kids has [UPCOMING webinars](#) on their website to check out!

**How Districts are Addressing The New Physical Education and Health TEKS Thursday, Oct. 14, 2021 | 11:30am (CST)|12:30pm (ET) 10:30 (MT) 9:30 (PT)**

Join us as a panel of district physical education leaders will share insights on how Texas school districts will be addressing new health and physical education TEKS and incorporating them into curriculum development, training, and instructional delivery. [Register here](#)

**Laws Passed during 87th Legislative Session and How They Impact Child Health and Your School Health Advisory Council**  
**Thursday, Nov. 11, 2021 11:30am (CST)| 12:30pm (ET) 10:30 (MT) 9:30 (PT)**

What do the new laws mean for your district and your children? Some are supportive of school health but others will be challenging. Join us as we discuss new legislation and how you and your district School Health Advisory Council can approach these new rules. [Register here](#)

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The Michael & Susan Dell Center for Health Living has upcoming webinars to check out!

**Texas Coronavirus Antibody Response Survey: Fall 2021 Update**

**How bad is COVID-19 and the Delta Variant in Texas and how should schools respond?**  
**October 21, 2021|12:00pm – 1:00pm (CST)**

[Register here.](#)

As Texas schools adapt for learning in the 2021-2022 school year, experts at the UTHealth School of Public Health will provide updated information on a statewide COVID-19 antibody study called Texas CARES. Key topics of interest to school administrators and teachers will be covered, such as:

1. How should I answer questions from my students about COVID-19, the delta variant, vaccines, and antibodies?
2. What common sense strategies can I use for protecting my school from getting COVID-19 and spreading it to my community?
3. When will it be safe enough in my community to resume normal activities?

Presented by:

Bill Kohl, PhD

Professor of Epidemiology, Human Genetics and Environmental Sciences, UTHealth School of Public Health in Austin

George L. Delclos, MD, MPH, PhD

Professor of Epidemiology, Human Genetics and Environmental Sciences, UTHealth School of Public Health in Houston,

Distinguished Teaching Professor, The University of Texas System

Sarah Messiah, PhD, MPH

Professor of Epidemiology, Human Genetics and Environmental Sciences

Director, Center for Pediatric Population Health,

UTHealth School of Public Health in Houston

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The Michael & Susan Dell Center for Healthy Living hosted a Live Smart Texas webinar on Sep. 23, 2021.

**Resuming In-Person Physical Activity Safely: Updated COVID-19 Guidance and Practical Recommendations**

As COVID-19 rates fall and vaccinations are being administered, many people are returning to in-person physical activity. However, the guidance on how to safely participate in physical activities varies by sport and by setting and is often updated based on the latest research evidence. Therefore, this webinar reviewed the latest safety guidelines.

Speakers:

Bertha Hidalgo, PhD, MPH, Associate Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Vanessa Castro, Program Director, Stronger Austin, IT'S TIME TEXAS

Heidi Swartz, Coordinator, Cowtown Marathon

View the recording [here!](#)

To view other past webinars, visit The Michael & Susan Dell Center for Healthy Living [website!](#)

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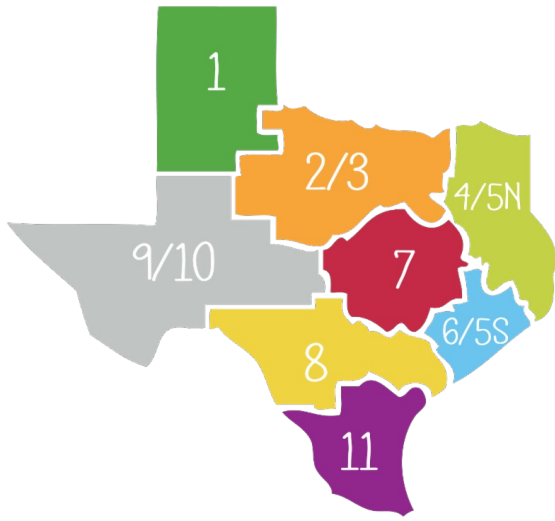
## REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

**Region 1:** Dr. Naima Moustaid-Moussa, Texas Tech University ([naima.moustaid-moussa@ttu.edu](mailto:naima.moustaid-moussa@ttu.edu))

**Region 2/3:** Victoria Nelson, Children's Health - Dallas ([Victoria.Nelson@Childrens.com](mailto:Victoria.Nelson@Childrens.com))

**Region 4/5N:**

Paula Butler, MAg, RDN, LD, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service ([pibutler@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:pibutler@ag.tamu.edu))



**Region 6/5S:** LaPorcha Carter, Harris County Public Health ([LaPorcha.Carter@phs.hctx.net](mailto:LaPorcha.Carter@phs.hctx.net))

**Region 7:** Kara Prior Hanaoka, IT'S TIME TEXAS ([kara@itstimetexas.org](mailto:kara@itstimetexas.org))

**Region 8:** Denise Benoit-Moctezuma, City of San Antonio Metropolitan Health District ([Denise.Benoit-Moctezuma@sanantonio.gov](mailto:Denise.Benoit-Moctezuma@sanantonio.gov))

**Region 9/10:** Pema Garcia, Texas A&M University ([pgarcia@arch.tamu.edu](mailto:pgarcia@arch.tamu.edu))

**Region 11:** Dr. Belinda Reininger, UTSPH Brownsville ([Belinda.M.Reininger@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:Belinda.M.Reininger@uth.tmc.edu))