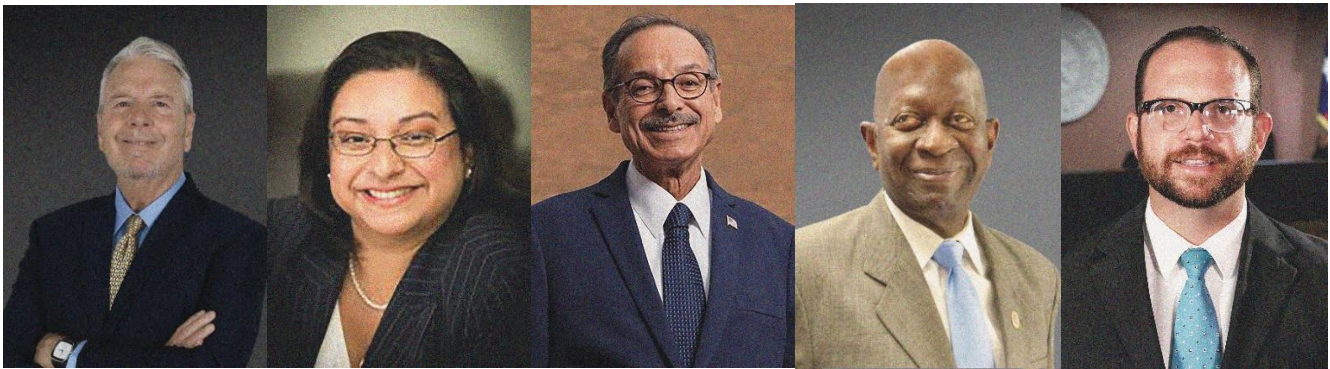




## EPCHD's Fiscal 2022 Budget Approved by Commissioners

Borderland residents recently received great news with the approval of the Fiscal 2022 Operating and Capital Budget for the El Paso County Hospital District (the District), ensuring the continued high level of healthcare provided by the district for another year. Additionally, the El Paso County Commissioners Court approved the District's budget for Fiscal 2022, which included the reduction of our property tax rate from \$0.267747 to \$0.258145.



**El Paso County Hospital District and its El Paso County Commissioners (left to right): County Judge Ricardo A. Samaniego, County Commissioner Iliana Holguin, County Commissioner Carlos Leon, County Commissioner Carl L. Robinson and County Commissioner David Stout.**

The approved budget and tax rate ensure UMC continues its growth and success providing access to exceptional healthcare to our ever-growing El Paso region. One of the major initiatives included in the budget and approved by the UMC Board of Managers and all Commissioners Court members was a minimum wage salary increase from \$11 per hour to \$13 per hour that will be fully implemented by July of FY22. UMC thanks the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) who gave their vocal support during the Commissioners Court hearing for passage of the budget and lauded the pay increase for all minimum wage salary employees to \$13 per hour.

“We share this success with you, our community, our Board of Managers and Commissioners Court,” said R. Jacob Cintron, President & CEO. “Your support for our hospital, its Associates and programs is directly related to the success we have caring for hundreds of thousands of patients each year. On

behalf of our Associates, senior leadership teams and partners of the El Paso County Hospital District, thank you for being with us, shoulder to shoulder, with the shared purpose of bettering the health of our community.”

## UMC Again Recognized For Stroke Care Excellence

University Medical Center of El Paso is recognized for the second consecutive year by the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association, receiving the highest recognition possible from the American Heart Association. The award “Get With The Guidelines: Gold Plus, Target Stroke Honor Roll Elite Plus, and Target Type 2 Diabetes” is given to certain comprehensive stroke centers able to achieve the highest level of quality metrics involving patient care and timing of treatments.

“Our stroke care at UMC has risen to a level of excellence over the last few years that is unmatched in our region,” said R. Jacob Cintron, President & CEO. “For more than two decades, we have been recognized as the only Level 1 trauma center in our region. This award emphasizes our capacity to provide exceptional stroke care as the region’s only Joint Commission-certified Level 1 Comprehensive Stroke Center. Our team of physicians, nurses and techs in this department stand shoulder to shoulder with the best stroke care systems in the nation – and I am extremely proud to be their CEO.”



UMC’s recognition for excellence in stroke care comes on the heels of the recent rollout of the region’s only [Mobile Stroke Unit](#), a mobile unit, equipped with a state-of-the art CT scanner, able to bring immediate stroke care directly to patients. This reduces the overall amount of time a stroke patient’s brain goes without necessary care.

“This award is testament of the great partnership and emphasis on providing high-quality stroke care in our department,” said Dr. Salvador Cruz-Flores, Professor and Founding Chair of the Department of Neurology at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso. “Receiving this recognition in consecutive years is a great indicator that we are focused on a very high standard of care that our patients can depend on. We have a great team of highly skilled physicians, using the latest techniques and equipment, along with a strong team of nurses and techs led by Carla Escobar and Roxann Contreras.”

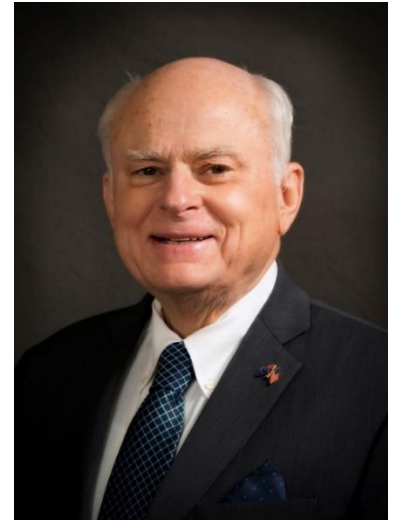
Carla Escobar is the Administrative Director for Neuroscience Programs at UMC. She has been and continues to be one of the key drivers for ensuring UMC’s stroke program is second to none in the southwest.

“I am truly proud of our team and what we have achieved by again being recognized on a national level for excellence,” she said. “If nothing else, this shows that UMC is the home of stroke care expertise; that UMC is a place of trust for patients and families in need neurocritical care.”

## Dr. Richard McCallum Ranked World Expert in His Field

Last month, Expertscape, a medical publication that objectively ranks people and institutions by their expertise on more than 29,000 biomedical topics, announced that Dr. Richard W. McCallum, Texas Tech Physicians, as an Expertscape World Expert in Gastric Emptying.”

“This news gets us energized,” said Dr. Richard McCallum, Professor and Founding Chair in the Division of Gastroenterology at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso (TTUHSC), Paul L. Foster School of Medicine and the Director of Gastrointestinal Motility research at University Medical Center of El Paso. “It’s worth the extra effort,” said the physician and research pioneer who is #10 in world ranking of experts in Gastroparesis, a disease in which the stomach cannot empty itself of food in a normal fashion. “We call it *slow stomach*,” said Dr. McCallum, and there are a number of causes. Sixty percent of my patients who are afflicted with Gastroparesis are diabetic. There are up to ten million people in this country who could have this condition of gastroparesis, many undiagnosed.



Dr. Richard W. McCallum, ranked World Expert by Expertscape.

Dr. McCallum believes the world ranking is a very satisfying and reassuring nod to the work being done here at Texas Tech University and UMC, and attributes this success to the efforts of a great team. It is based on recognition over the last ten years,” he said. “It is sustained excellence for UMC and Texas Tech.

## Former UMC Pharmacy Residents Update Current Status



Lisa Garcia, Pharm.D.

Ever wonder what happens to our UMC pharmacy residents once they have moved on to their residencies – let’s find out! *The Pulse*: How did the UMC Pharmacy PGY1 residency program help you?

**Lisa Garcia, Pharm.D., PGY2 Psychiatric Resident, New Mexico VA Healthcare System, Albuquerque, New Mexico:**

The PGY1 residency program at UMC helped foster my clinical knowledge and prepared me to practice as a competent and skilled pharmacist. Through my residency training, I gained exposure to a wide variety of clinical practice settings. This experience made me confident in my ability to provide advanced clinical care to patients with a wide range of conditions. My experience at UMC led



to personal growth as a clinician, teacher, and professional. The residency challenged me to develop a strong clinical foundation while providing a great support system in the process. The encouragement and guidance of my pharmacy preceptors undoubtedly aided in my pursuit of a PGY2 residency position.

**Jessica Francois Whitt, Pharm.D., PGY2 Transplant Resident, Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami, Florida:**

The PGY1 residency program at UMC helped foster my clinical knowledge and prepared me to practice as a competent and skilled pharmacist. Through my residency training, I gained exposure to a wide variety of clinical practice settings. This experience made me confident in my ability to provide advanced clinical care to patients with a wide range of conditions. I believe that during each of my rotations at UMC, I was able to learn valuable skills. Each preceptor, attending, and team has a different method of approaching a situation. I believe this is important to observe as a learner, because you can pick up various techniques from each preceptor and apply them to your own practice. As a researcher, I was able to complete my first manuscript at UMC and hope to submit it for publication later this year.



Jessica Francois, Pharm.D.

## Denim Fridays and Scrubs FY22 Kicks off September 8th

Ahh, Friday, that day of the week that signals the weekend is nearly here and what better way to celebrate than to wear jeans or scrubs every Friday? Sign up for Denim Fridays and Scrubs FY22 starting Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> and on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, attach your badge to your ID to flaunt your comfort every Friday! Here's what you do:

1. Watch for the email and form.
2. Fill it out and take to:
  - The Gift Shop for payroll deduction.
  - Cashiers for cash, check or credit card and one-time payment.
3. Clinic Associates, email your form to:  
[valeria.chavez@umcelpaso.org](mailto:valeria.chavez@umcelpaso.org) for payroll deduction, only. Arrangements will be made to drop off a badge to you.

A promotional poster for Denim Fridays and Scrubs FY22. The background is dark blue with a pattern of white dots. At the top, a red banner with white text reads "DENIM FRIDAYS AND SCRUBS" and "FY 22" in a white circle. Below the banner, a blue badge with white text says "THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT" and "DENIM FRIDAYS AND SCRUBS". To the right, yellow text reads "NEW DENIM FRIDAYS BADGES ARE HERE!" and "\$150 TO WEAR DENIM FOR FY22" with "12 PAYMENTS OF \$12.50" below it. A red t-shirt with a "DENIM FRIDAYS" logo is shown. At the bottom, a stack of denim jeans is visible. Text on the poster includes: "Sign up before September 22nd and receive a FREE t-shirt!", "Payroll Deduction: Turn in your completed form to the Gift Shop.", "Cash/Check/Credit Card: Turn in completed form to Cashiers. (one-time payment)", "Clinic Associates: Email your completed form to valeria.chavez@umcelpaso.org (payroll deduction only - arrangements will be made to drop off a badge to you)", and "PRIZES TO BE GIVEN AWAY WEEKLY" and "FIRST 50 RECEIVE A SPECIAL TREAT!". A small note at the bottom says "\*\*Badges are valid starting Oct. 1st for every Friday in FY22. Associates may wear denim or scrubs on Denim Fridays with their badge\*\*".

All monies raised from denim Fridays goes towards associate engagement events and programs.