

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

## Reconnection and Preparation: The Year in Review

With less emphasis on the COVID-19 pandemic, 2022 largely lived up to its promise to be the year during which TPA and the profession returned to more normal rhythms. From advocacy and membership to education and events, the Association’s activities focused on our vision to unify, strengthen, and protect the profession of pharmacy in Texas.

### Together Again

After two years of virtual conferences, the 2022 TPA Conference & Expo was held live and in person, allowing members to gather face-to-face and reconnect in Austin. At our fall Leadership Retreat, council members shared valuable perspectives on a variety of matters to help shape the Association’s priorities. Throughout the year, TPA leaders attended local affiliate meetings and visited with student pharmacists on their campuses to promote the value of membership and the importance of advocacy. TPA’s Women in Pharmacy event also returned, offering attendees the opportunity to reflect, reimagine, and reignite their passion.

### Preparing for the 2023 Legislative Session

TPA’s advocacy work continued during the legislative interim. TPA toured the state to meet with political candidates and elected officials to build new bonds and strengthen existing relationships that will benefit the Association when

the Legislature meets in 2023. Leaders traveled to the Rio Grande Valley, San Antonio, Austin, Fort Worth, Dallas, and East Texas over a period of many months. Meanwhile, TPA members accepted the challenge to raise \$25,000 for PharmPAC—TPA’s political action committee—securing a \$25,000 match from a generous member, which contributed greatly to our annual \$100,000 goal!

TPA was invited to testify before a number of Texas House committees about health care issues affecting pharmacists and their patients. TPA advocated for expanded PBM reform, making permanent the pandemic-era immunization authority granted by the PREP Act, and other matters likely to come before the Legislature in 2023.

Late in the year, the TPA Board of Directors and Independent Pharmacy Academy Board honed the Association’s 2023 legislative priorities, and our expert team of lobbyists planned our advocacy strategy. The 2023 session holds great potential for pharmacy. Thank you for joining us on the journey!

Respectfully submitted,



**Debbie Garza, R.Ph.**  
Chief Executive Officer



**Carter High, Pharm.D.**  
President

### SOME OF THE YEAR'S HIGHLIGHTS:



TPA begins holding its first year of free monthly member CE sessions as live webinars, also available on-demand.

**JANUARY**



TPA publishes a variety of online well-being resources to help Texas pharmacy professionals handle the workplace challenges they face.

**FEBRUARY**



TPA leaders meet with Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick to request his continued support of TPA’s legislative priorities during the next session.



TPA meets with state legislators in Austin as part of a grassroots advocacy effort to build relationships with lawmakers.

**MARCH**



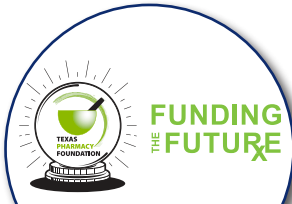
*As a volunteer-based organization, TPA depends on our members' input. Your voice is vital! It is important to hear your experiences, insights, and ideas to elevate our profession and advance the practice.*

**Building Solid Relationships**

TPA spent much of the year building relationships with legislators ahead of the 2023 legislative session while emphasizing the need for continued reforms to help pharmacists better serve their patients. This grassroots advocacy effort across the state allowed TPA to thank legislators for their support during the successful 2021 legislative session and to educate lawmakers about how they can support legislation that would help pharmacists care for patients in their districts. Thanks to the many members who visited with their local lawmakers!

**TPA Testifies at the Capitol, Works with State Agencies**

TPA was invited to testify at the Capitol before multiple committees that were working during the legislative interim. These opportunities allowed us to reinforce the important contributions of Texas pharmacists, highlight the accessibility and value we provide, and advocate for policies that will enable us to do even more. Following the House Insurance Committee hearing regarding the implementation of PBM reform legislation passed last session, TPA met with staff from the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) to explain the challenges pharmacies face when determining whether or not a PBM is in violation of the new laws, as well as suggestions to remedy the situation. TPA will continue to engage with TDI on these important bills.



The Texas Pharmacy Foundation launches its Funding the Future campaign to help fulfill its mission to advance the profession through research and scholarships.

APRIL



TPA supports proposed TSBP rule changes re: emergency medicine kits, non-sterile compounding, and in-person patient counseling.

MAY

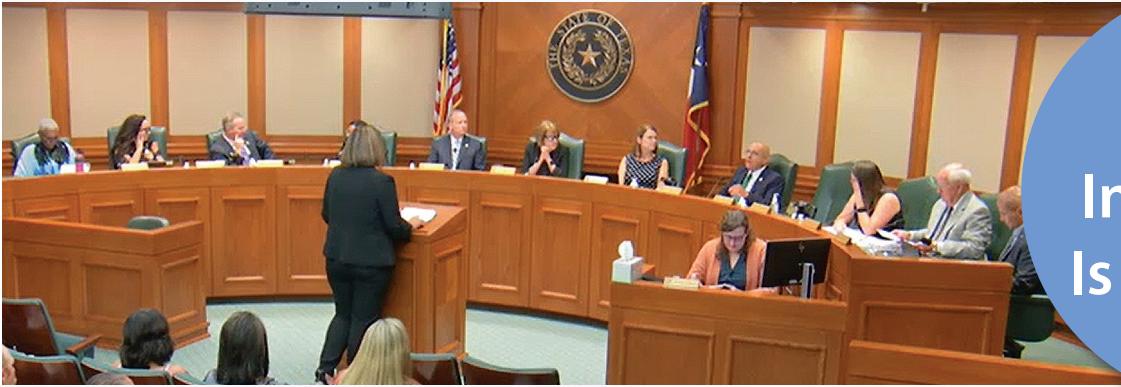


TPA testifies before the House Insurance Committee about the impact of the U.S. Supreme Court's 2020 decision affirming states' ability to regulate PBMs.



TPA members discuss pharmacy priorities with lawmakers in Fort Worth, including House Public Health Chair Stephanie Klick.

JUNE



Your Innovation Is Impactful

*By answering the call during the COVID-19 pandemic, Texas pharmacists elevated the profession in the minds of the public and in the minds of our elected officials, who better understand what pharmacy can do.*

### Members Share Innovative Ideas

The 2022 TPA Conference & Expo, held in-person for the first time in three years, facilitated important discussions at our House of Delegates meeting. Similarly, members met in Austin in early September for a fall Leadership Retreat. The event began with meetings of TPA’s three standing councils, where members gathered to make their voices heard and contribute to the Association’s continued vitality.

### New Practice Models

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Value-Based Payment & Quality Improvement Advisory Committee voted July 26 to accept workgroup recommendations (1) to establish standards and a working definition for an Accountable Pharmacy Organization (APO) and work with stakeholders to increase engagement with APOs, and (2) to develop guidance for managed care organizations (MCOs) to reimburse pharmacists through the medical benefit for services within a pharmacist’s scope of practice.

Benjamin McNabb, a member of the TPA Independent Pharmacy Academy Board of Directors and the only pharmacist serving on the committee, presented the recommendations of the pharmacy workgroup, which he chaired. TPA testified in support of the recommendations, noting the vital role that pharmacists have played during the pandemic.

### MORE OF THE YEAR'S HIGHLIGHTS:

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| <p>TPA holds its first in-person conference in 3 years (due to the pandemic) in Austin.</p> | <p>PharmPAC meets and exceeds its goal of raising \$25,000 in just three months, prompting a \$25,000 match by generous TPA member.</p> | <p>TPA promotes pharmacy's role and urges continued PBM reform before the Texas House Select Committee on Health Care Reform.</p> | <p>President Carter High inducts new TPA board members during TPA's fall leadership retreat.</p> |
| <p>JULY</p>   |   | <p>AUGUST</p>   |  |
| <p>SEPTEMBER</p>  |   |   |  |



**Your Participation Is Powerful**



*TPA is working to elevate the profession and advance the practice of pharmacy so that you, our members, can care for patients. Your participation is an important component of that effort!*

**Conference & Expo Returns to In-Person Format**

A highlight of the year was the 2022 TPA Conference & Expo in July. It was great to finally return to an in-person event after two years of virtual conferences. Hundreds of pharmacists, student pharmacists, and technicians from across the state met face-to-face in Austin to reconnect with their pharmacy peers and celebrate how Texas pharmacy is reaching new heights! Educational sessions covered topics ranging from legislative advocacy to medical billing for pharmacists and mental health.

Being together in person enabled exciting student competitions, and allowed for successful fundraisers to support the Texas Pharmacy Foundation and our political action committee, PharmPAC.

**Meeting the Challenge**

TPA members met the PharmPAC \$25,000 challenge in just three short months! Your financial contributions to PharmPAC were matched by a generous TPA member, providing the Association with an additional \$50,000 to contribute to pharmacy-friendly political candidates who can help us achieve our legislative priorities during the next session.

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|  <p>In recent years, the advancement of modern medicine has been astonishing—but were it not for our dedicated pharmacists, these breakthroughs would be for naught. Medicine is useful only inasmuch as it is accessible, and these professionals provide patients the medications they need to heal and thrive. Today, there are hundreds of thousands of highly trained pharmacists in America, and more people than ever before have come to rely upon this crucial industry. From mild illnesses to life-threatening emergencies and chronic conditions, people are enabled to rise above their health challenges thanks to our many pharmacists.</p> <p>In the proverbial war against COVID-19, pharmacists were on the frontlines. By</p> <p><b>Gov. Abbott proclaims October 2022 to be Pharmacist Month in Texas.</b></p> |  <p>TPA discusses legislative priorities with Sen. Lois Kolkhorst, Chair of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee.</p> |  <p>TPA's 2022 Women in Pharmacy event encourages attendees to reflect, reimagine, and reignite their passion for the profession.</p> |  <p>TPA pharmacist members honor House Insurance Chair Tom Oliverson as a Texas legislative champion for his leadership and strong support of PBM reform.</p> |
| <b>OCTOBER</b>  | <b>NOVEMBER</b>  |   | <b>DECEMBER</b>  |