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## TEXAS ACADEMY *of* FAMILY PHYSICIANS

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### **DR. TAMRA DEUSER RECEIVES PUBLIC HEALTH AWARD**

*ARLINGTON, TEXAS* — Tamra Deuser, M.D., a private practice physician and owner of MaxHealth Family Medicine in Flower Mound, Texas, was named the 2009 recipient of the Texas Academy of Family Physicians Public Health Award during the organization's 60th Annual Session and Scientific Assembly in Arlington on July 25. The award recognizes individuals who are making extraordinary contributions to the public health of Texans.

“When I was first nominated, I didn't really understand,” Dr. Deuser told the audience at the awards ceremony. “I don't work in the public health sector; I'm a solo practitioner in a private practice in a suburb of Dallas. I have, however, chosen to get involved in activities that support members of my community including those who are not my patients.”

In addition to her years of service on TAFP's Commission on Public Health, Dr. Deuser represents the specialty of family medicine on the Texas Immunization Stakeholder Working Group, a coalition of public and private stakeholders that meets quarterly to discuss the current state of immunizations in Texas, identify shortages and disparities among different populations, and propose strategies to increase immunization education, awareness and implementation across the state. Through this group she facilitated TAFP's participation in a project to educate physicians and patients on pertussis vaccinations.

Dr. Deuser has also held several Hard Hats for Little Heads events in and around her community. Hard Hats for Little Heads is a public safety initiative led by the Texas Medical Association that allows physician volunteers to hand out bicycle helmets to local children at no cost to promote safety during biking, skating and other wheeled activities.

She is on the Board of Directors for Christian Community Action, an organization that provides services to the poor in Southern Denton County to help stabilize and transform their lives. Dr. Deuser has served as medical director and currently serves on CCA's Adult Health Center Advisory Committee.

“... The more I thought about it, family physicians promote health in their communities beyond their office and beyond their hospital care of their patients. Who better to be promoters of public health than the only physicians who can take care of everyone? I am

proud to be in the specialty that sees the bigger picture and is committed to good health for all.”

Dr. Deuser was awarded her medical degree by the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Medicine in Memphis, Tenn., and completed a family medicine residency with San Jacinto Family Medicine Residency Program in Baytown, Texas.

*The Texas Academy of Family Physicians is the premier membership organization dedicated to uniting the family doctors of Texas through advocacy, education and member services, and empowering them to provide a medical home for patients of all ages. It has 33 local chapters and is a chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians. Visit [www.tafp.org](http://www.tafp.org) for more information.*