

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### Quality Committee

Tuesday, August 13, 2024  
12:00 P.M.

BOARD ROOM  
4800 Fournace Place, Bellaire, Texas 77401

The meeting may be viewed online at: <http://harrishealthtx.swagit.com/live>.

*Notice: Some Board Members may participate by videoconference.*

#### Mission

Harris Health is a community-focused academic healthcare system dedicated to improving the health of those most in need in Harris County through quality care delivery, coordination of care, and education.

## AGENDA

- |      |  |  |
|------|--|--|
| I.   | <b>Call to Order and Record of Attendance</b>  | <b>Dr. Andrea Caracostis    1 min</b>  |
| II.  | <b><u>Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting</u></b>  | <b>Dr. Andrea Caracostis    2 min</b>  |
|      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Quality Committee Meeting – June 11, 2024</u></li> </ul>   |  |
| III. | <b><u>Harris Health Safety Message Video: Minute for Medicine</u></b><br><b><u>– Dr. Steven Brass</u></b>  | <b>5 min</b>                           |
|      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Hand Hygiene</u></li> </ul>  |  |
| IV.  | <b><u>Presentation Regarding Social Determinants of Health: Medical Legal Partnership – Ms. Sheebani Patel</u></b>   | <b>10 min</b>                          |
| V.   | <b>Executive Session</b>   | <b>Dr. Andrea Caracostis    70 min</b> |
|      | A. <u>Report Regarding Harris Health System Correctional Health Quality of Medical and Healthcare, Pursuant to Tex. Health &amp; Safety Code Ann. §161.032, Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §160.007, and Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §151.002 to Receive Peer Review and/or Medical Committee Report – Dr. Otis R. Ekins</u>  | <i>(15 min)</i>                        |
|      | B. <u>Report Regarding Quality of Medical and Healthcare, Pursuant to Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §151.002, Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §160.007 and Tex. Health &amp; Safety Code Ann. §161.032, to Receive Peer Review and/or Medical Committee Reports in Connection with the Evaluation of the Quality of Medical and Healthcare Services – Dr. Steven Brass and Dr. Yashwant Chathampally</u> | <i>(50 min)</i>                        |

- C. Report by the Executive Vice President, Chief Compliance and Risk Officer, Regarding Compliance with Medicare, Medicaid, HIPAA and Other Federal and State Health Care Program Requirements and a Status of Fraud and Abuse Investigations, Pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, and Possible Action Regarding this Matter Upon Return to Open Session  
– ***Ms. Carolynn Jones***

(5 min)

**VI. Reconvene**

**Dr. Andrea Caracostis 1 min**

**VII. Adjournment**

**Dr. Andrea Caracostis 1 min**

**HARRIS HEALTH SYSTEM**  
**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**QUALITY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Tuesday, June 11, 2024 | 12:00 PM**

| AGENDA ITEM   | DISCUSSION  | ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS   |
|---|---|--|
| <b>I. Call to Order and Record of Attendance</b>  | Dr. Cody Pyke, Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. It was noted that a quorum was present and the attendance was recorded. The meeting may be viewed online through the Harris Health website: <a href="http://harrishealthtx.swagit.com/live">http://harrishealthtx.swagit.com/live</a> . |  |
| <b>II. Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting</b><br>Quality Committee Meeting – May 14, 2024  |   | Moved by Ms. Sima Ladjevardian, seconded by Dr. Cody Pyke, and unanimously approved the minutes of the May 14, 2024 meeting. |
| <b>III. Harris Health Safety Message: Minute for Medicine – Preventing Falls</b>  | Dr. Yashwant Chathampally, Associate Chief Medical Officer & Senior Vice President Quality & Patient Safety, presented a Minute for Medicine video series related to Human Factors – Preventing Falls. A copy of the video series is available in the permanent record.   | As Presented.  |
| <b>IV. Executive Session</b>  | At 12:09 p.m., Dr. Caracostis stated that the Quality Committee of the Board of Trustees would go into Executive Session for items IV. 'A and B' as permitted by law under to Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §151.002, and Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §160.007.                              |  |
| <b>A. Report Regarding Quality of Medical and Healthcare, Pursuant to Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §151.002, Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §160.007 and Tex. Health &amp; Safety Code Ann. §161.032, to Receive Peer Review and/or Medical Committee Reports in Connection with the Evaluation of the Quality of Medical and Healthcare Services</b> |   | No Action Taken.   |

| AGENDA ITEM  | DISCUSSION   | ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS  |
|--|--|-------------------------|
| <b>B.</b> Report by the Executive Vice President, Chief Compliance and Risk Officer, Regarding Compliance with Medicare, Medicaid, HIPAA and Other Federal and State Health Care Program Requirements and a Status of Fraud and Abuse Investigations, Pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, and Possible Action Regarding this Matter Upon Return to Open Session |  | <b>No Action Taken.</b> |
| <b>V. Reconvene</b>  | At 1:05 p.m., Dr. Cody Pyke reconvened the meeting in open session; she noted that a quorum was present and that no action was taken in Executive Session. |                         |
| <b>VI. Adjournment</b>   | There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.  |                         |

I certify that the foregoing are the Minutes of the Meeting of the Quality Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Harris Health System held on June 11, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Cody Pyke, MD, JD, LLM, FCLM, Presiding Officer  
In lieu of Andrea Caracostis, MD, MPH, Committee Chair

Recorded by Cherry A. Pierson, MBA

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

**Harris Health System Board of Trustees Board Meeting – Quality Committee Attendance**

**Note:** For Zoom meeting attendance, if you joined as a group and would like to be counted as present, please submit an email to: [BoardofTrustees@harrishealth.org](mailto:BoardofTrustees@harrishealth.org) before close of business the day of the meeting.

| QUALITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT           | QUALITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT                 | OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT |
|---|--|-----------------------------|
| Afsheen Davis                               | Dr. Andrea Caracostis ( <i>Committee Chair</i> ) |                             |
| Dr. Cody M. Pyke ( <i>Presiding Chair</i> ) |  |                             |
| Sima Ladjevardian                           |  |                             |

| HARRIS HEALTH EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP, STAFF & SPECIAL INVITED GUESTS    |   |
|---|---|
| Anthony Williams  | John Matcek   |
| Berrlyn Nelson  | Lindsey (Katie) Rutherford ( <i>Harris County Attorney's Office</i> ) |
| Carolynn Jones  | Louis Smith   |
| Cherry Pierson  | Dr. Martha Mims   |
| Daniel Smith  | Dr. Matasha Russell   |
| David Riddle  | Matthew Schlueter   |
| Derek Curtis  | Maureen Padilla   |
| Ebon Swofford ( <i>Harris County Attorney's Office</i> )              | Nicholas J Bell   |
| Elizabeth Hanshaw Winn ( <i>Harris County Attorney's Office</i> )     | Olga Rodriguez  |
| Dr. Esmaeil Porsa ( <i>Harris Health System President &amp; CEO</i> ) | Dr. Otis R. Eging   |
| Dr. Glorimar Medina   | Patricia Darnauer   |
| Dr. Hemant Roy  | Dr. Sandeep Markan  |
| Dr. Jackie Brock  | Shawn DeCosta   |
| Dr. Jennifer Small  | Dr. Tien Ko   |
| Jennifer Zarate   | Victoria Nikitin  |
| Jerry Summers   | Vivian Nguyen-Ho  |
| Jessey Thomas   | Dr. Yashwant Chathampally   |
| Jocelyn Thomas  |   |

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

Harris Health Safety Message Video: Minute for Medicine

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HRO Safety Message (Video): Harris Health Minute for Medicine

- Hand Hygiene

  
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Dr. Yashwant Chathampally

Associate Chief Medical Officer, Senior Vice President – Quality & Patient Safety

**HARRIS**HEALTH SYSTEM

## **HRO Safety Message**

### **Hand Hygiene**

**Steven Brass, MD, MPH, MBA**  
**Chief Medical Executive**

**Board of Trustees Quality Committee**  
**August 13, 2024**

# SAFETY MESSAGE

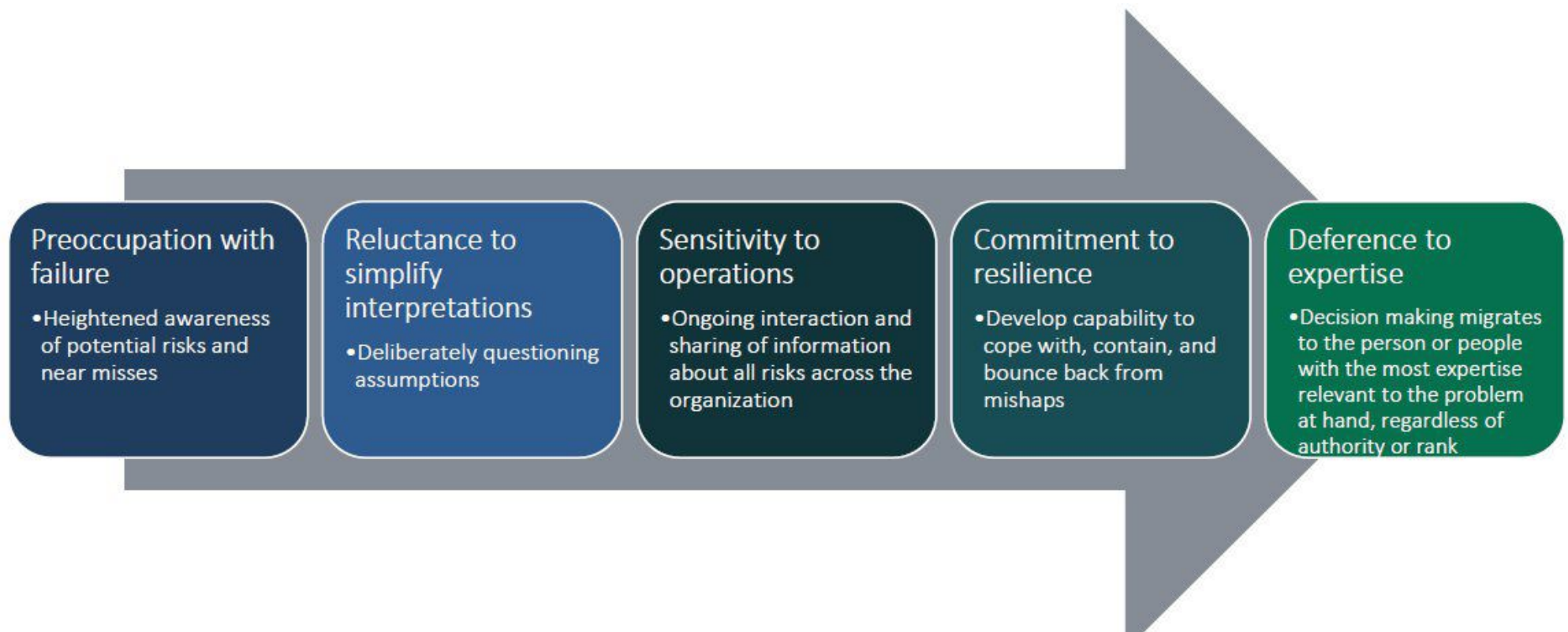
**HARRIS**  
**HEALTH**  
SYSTEM

**ZERO**  
**HARM**

Safety 1st. Always.



# Five Principles of a High Reliability Organization





## HRO Mindset:

Harris Health System Minute For Medicine: Hand Hygiene

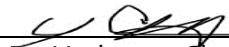
<https://youtu.be/jzeEGlekwls>

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

Presentation Regarding Social Determinants of Health: Medical Legal Partnership

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Presentation regarding Social Determinants of Health: Medical Legal Partnership



Dr. Yashwant Chathampally

Associate Chief Medical Officer, Senior Vice President – Quality & Patient Safety

**HARRIS**HEALTH SYSTEM

## **Social Determinants of Health: Medical Legal Partnership**

**Sheebani Patel, JD**  
**Director, Strategic Initiatives**  
**Population Health Department**

**Board of Trustees Quality Committee**  
**August 13, 2024**

# MLP Background

- **What is a Medical-Legal Partnership (MLP)?**

- Integration of legal expertise into health care settings to help clinicians, case managers, and social workers address structural problems causing health inequities

- **What is a health-harming legal need (HHLN)?**

- An unmet social need that is negatively affecting a person's health which can be addressed through legal services.
- Examples: unsafe housing issues, family-related legal issues, and personal safety

- 2022 Justice Gap Study found:

- 74% of low-income households experienced at least one civil legal problem in the past year
- 55% of low-income Americans who experienced a problem say these problems substantially impacted their lives with financial, mental health, physical health and safety, and relationship consequences

**Connecting patients to legal assistance improves Harris Health's ability to impact patients' health holistically.**

National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership: <https://medical-legalpartnership.org/>

# MLP at Harris Health

- A partnership with South Texas College of Law (STCL) and UT Health to implement and evaluate a Medical-Legal Partnership (MLP) serving Harris Health patients
- **MLP Program Goals:**
  - Identifying and addressing **health-harming legal needs** (HHLN) in Harris Health patients
  - Creating a closed-loop **partnership with STCL** to address HHLN
  - Providing experiential **opportunities for STCL law students** in supporting community health
  - Evaluating the **impact of an MLP**, both for patients and the health system

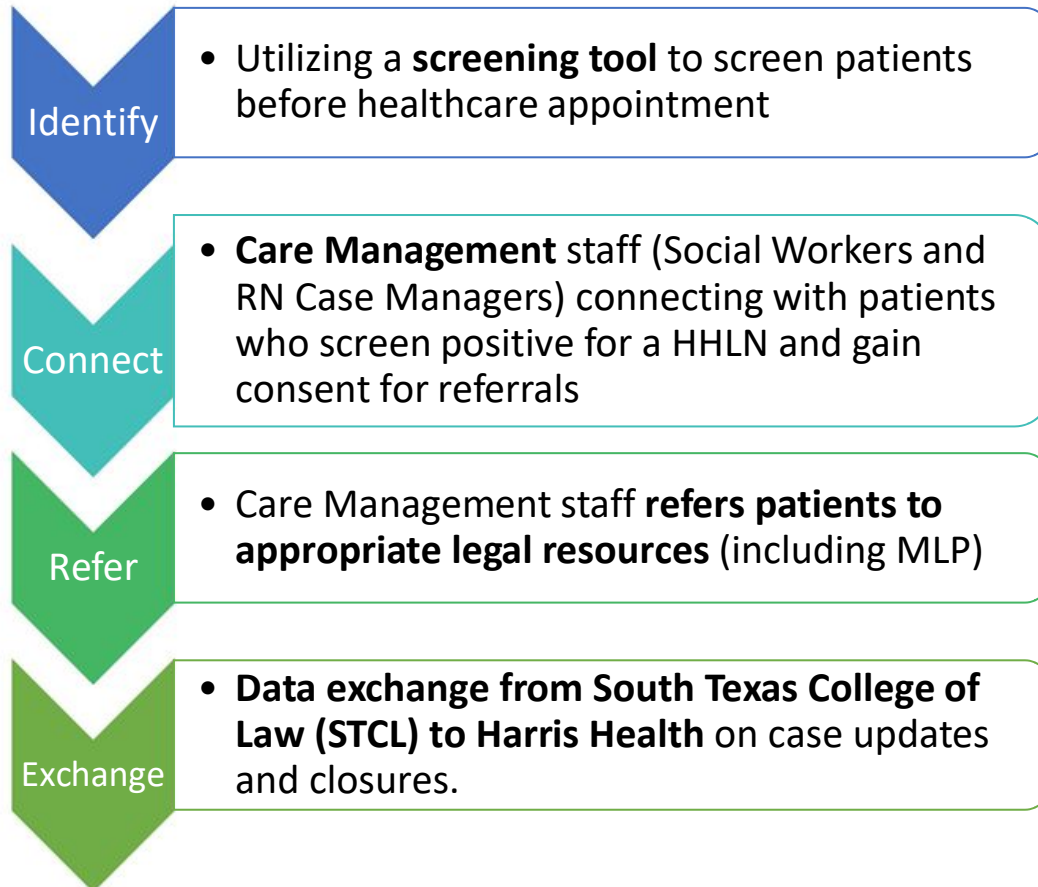
## Clinics

- Aldine (Family Practice)
- Vallbona (Family Practice)
- CE Odom (Pediatric)
- Gulfgate (Family Practice)

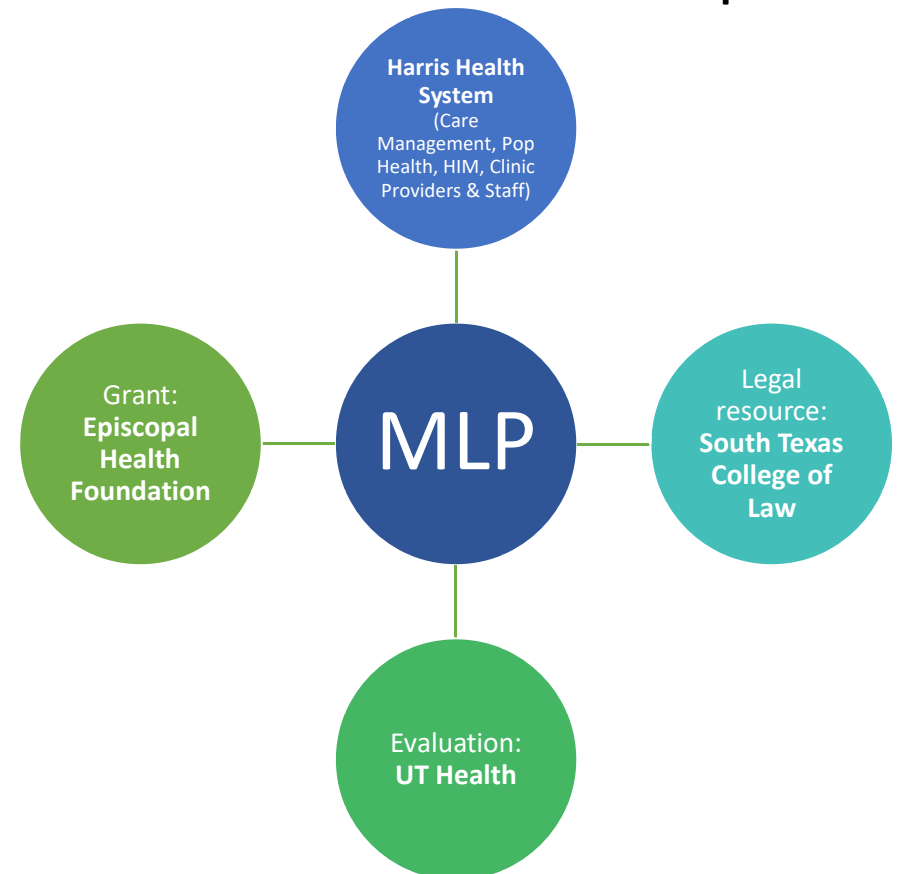
## Project Timeline

- Soft launch October 2022
- Full launch May 2023

# How to address HHLN?



## Harris Health MLP Partnership



# MLP Screening Tool

## Areas being screened:

- Domestic violence
- Family law
- Estate planning
- Expunction/nondisclosures
- Guardianship/conservatorship
- Landlord/tenant
- Probate
- Medicare/Medicaid denials\*
- Public benefits issues\*

\*Not assisted by South Texas College of Law

## Health Harming Legal Needs

The following questions will help us understand more about you and where we might be able to provide assistance with legal areas impacting your health. As with all medical information, your answers will be kept private and confidential.

### 1. Does anyone in your household have concerns about:

- ☐ Being threatened, screamed or cursed at, hurt, controlled (including hiding documents or IDs), or abused?
- ☐ Divorce, custody, or child support?
- ☐ Power of attorney or any form of medical and end-of-life planning (such as advance directives or wills)?
- ☐ Criminal records making it hard to get a job, apply for school, or find housing?
- ☐ Planning or making decisions for people with special needs (ex. children with severe disabilities aging into adults who will continue to need decision making support)?
- ☐ Being evicted, getting your landlord to repair your home (ex. fixing an appliance, removing mold), or being denied housing because of a Section 8 voucher?
- ☐ Obtaining property intended for you from someone who recently passed away?
- ☐ Denial of Medicare/Medicaid/health insurance coverage?
- ☐ Income or benefit issues (including TANF\*/welfare, SNAP\*\*/food stamps, WIC\*\*\*, unemployment, pension benefits, veterans benefits)?
- ☐ None of the above

### 2. Would you like to speak with a legal advocate about any other issues?

- ☐ Yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ No

If you checked any of these boxes indicating a legal need, a Harris Health representative will reach out to you to discuss available low to no cost community resources. Please confirm the best way we can communicate with you about these matters:

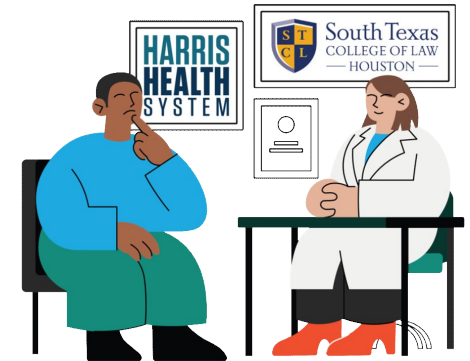
Contact Information: \_\_\_\_\_



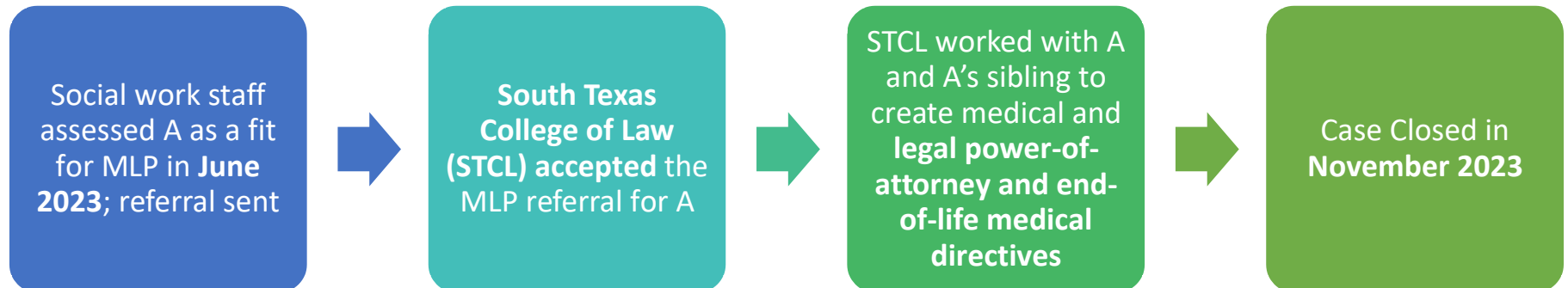
# Meet Patient A

A is a senior citizen and has multiple diagnoses, including schizophrenia and diabetes

- A has always lived with family members; currently lives with her sibling
- A's sibling needed proper documentation to manage A's medical and financial affairs
- **Barriers Identified: Lack of proper documentation → Impacts on access to care, financial security**



## Connecting A to Legal Support:



## Next Steps

- Partnering with UTSPH on program outcomes evaluation
- Securing funding to sustain and grow MLP
- Developing automated reporting and dashboards

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

Executive Session

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Report Regarding Harris Health System Correctional Health Quality of Medical and Healthcare, Pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §160.007, and Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §151.002 to Receive Peer Review and/or Medical Committee Report.

*Dr. O. Reggie Ekins*

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Otis R. Ekins, MD, CCHP-P  
Chief Medical Officer of Correctional Health

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Tuesday, August 13, 2024

Executive Session

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Report Regarding Quality of Medical and Healthcare, Pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §160.007 and Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §151.002, to Receive Peer Review and/or Medical Committee Reports in Connection with the Evaluation of the Quality of Medical and Healthcare Services, Including Report Regarding Harris Health System Quality Review Councils.



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Dr. Yashwant Chathampally

Associate Chief Medical Officer, Senior Vice President – Quality & Patient Safety

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