



# **An Update on the Implementation of the Workplace Violence Against Nurses Grant Program**

---

**As Required by  
Texas Health and Safety Code, Section  
105.011**



**TEXAS**  
Health and Human  
Services

---

Texas Department of  
State Health Services

**December 2023**

# Table of Contents

<b>Introduction.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>FY 2022-2023 Grant Program .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Conclusion .....</b>	<b>5</b>

## Introduction

[Texas Health and Safety Code, Section 105.011](#) requires the nursing resource section in the Texas Department of State Health Services to administer a grant program, to the extent funding is available, focused on innovative approaches for reducing verbal and physical violence against nurses in hospitals, freestanding emergency medical care facilities, nursing facilities, and home health agencies.

At least annually, the nursing resource section must publish a report that describes the grants awarded through the program, including the amount and purpose of the grant, and the reported outcome of the approach used by the grant recipient.

## FY 2022-2023 Grant Program

The fiscal year 2022 - 2023 Workplace Violence Against Nurses Prevention Grant Program was the third iteration of this program. Four grant applicants were selected for award, which were initially awarded a total of \$566,858 to implement workplace violence strategies to reduce or prevent violence against nurses in their organizations. All four contracts were executed between May and August 2022. Two grant recipients' contracts were amended to receive additional funding in March 2023, resulting in an adjusted total of \$608,671.

Table 1 lists the four award recipients, the most up-to-date amounts awarded, and an overview of their proposed projects.

**Table 1. Grant Recipients, Award Amounts, and Overview**

Grant Recipient	Award Amount	Overview
Baylor Scott and White Health System	\$150,000	A phone app that can be used to notify staff in the local area, hospital security, or the police department in a workplace violence event, will be installed on phones throughout Emergency Departments. All nursing staff will be educated on how to use it, and data will be monitored to determine how often the app is used and the type of incidents reported.
Harris County Hospital District	\$150,000	The program includes information technology enhancements, simulation training, and on-site training facilitators. The project will increase capacity to identify and respond to threats of violence against nurses in two hospitals and multiple outpatient clinics.
Midland Health	\$149,985	The project includes access to standardized de-escalation education, training, and ongoing emotional support for nurses; opportunities to engage in safe dialogue events; organized monthly newsletters; and integration of a workplace violence committee to normalize operations and ensure ongoing strategies.

<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Overview</b>
St. Joseph Regional Health Center	\$158,686	The program will utilize simulation training with classroom training inclusive of incidents involving a customer, client, or patient as well as worker-on-worker incidents. A screening procedure will be implemented to assess the risk of aggressive behavior in patients on medical surgical inpatient units and will integrate screening tools into electronic health records. A Risk for Aggression Protocol will be developed to support nursing interventions that promote nurse safety.

## Conclusion

Four proposals were selected for award in the third cycle of the Workplace Violence Against Nurses Prevention Grant Program. A total of \$608,671 of the \$667,000 available was awarded. As of the date of this report, grant recipients continue to implement their programs. The final reports are anticipated to be completed by April 2024.