



# Exchange Hotline

Exchange Club of  
Sugar Land Newsletter  
June 15th, 2020

## The Exchange Club of Sugar Land

4800 Sugar Grove Blvd. Suite 100  
Stafford, TX 77477  
[www.ecsl.org](http://www.ecsl.org)

### Weekly Meetings

Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m.

Sweetwater Country Club  
Palm Royale Blvd.  
Sugar Land, Texas

### Officers 2019-2020

President:  
Vernon Hunt

President Elect:  
Paul Barnett

Secretary:  
Vida Goodell

Treasurer:  
Brad Porter

Immediate Past President:  
David Lanagan

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[www.ecsl.org](http://www.ecsl.org)

Newsletter Editor:  
[newsletter@ecsl.org](mailto:newsletter@ecsl.org)

## "Zoom" Speaker of the Week

06/03/2020



## Mr. Kevin Barker!

**Kevin** is the Director of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Provider Services for Texana Center. He currently oversees the Supported Home Living, Day Habilitation, Nursing, Residential, Respite, Supported Employment, and Vocational services for a six county region. Kevin has over 39 years of experience in serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. Kevin also works with individuals and families to effectively tell their stories to state legislators in order to advocate for needed services and funding for persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. He is a Licensed Professional Counselor and received his Master of Arts Degree in Psychology from Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi.

## How we were able to Operate During COVID-19...

- Certain Programs were shut down March 15, 2020 and have remained closed through May 31, 2020. (Children's Autism Center, Intellectual and Developmental Disability Learning Centers (Day Habilitation programs where the individual goes to learn independence skills, social skills, etc...), and Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Specialized Services in nursing facilities. This resulted in the furloughing of approximately 112 employees.
- Texana Center Residential Programs and Mental Health Crisis Center remained open.
- Face to Face Services were reduced. Face to Face Services continued for Crisis Services and Eligibility Determination Services.

## COVID-19: Federal and State Support...

- The Federal Government waived requirements for how Medicaid Services could be provided.
- Allowed Service Coordination services to be provided via telephone, Zoom or Facetime. previously allowed Nursing Services, Early Childhood intervention and Behavior Support services to be provided using telehealth.
- Allowed Telehealth Visits with Physicians to be reimbursed at the same rate as In-Person visits.
- Waived certain HIPAA requirements to allow physicians and other professionals to use Zoom or FaceTime to provide certain services. Allowed Service Coordination services to be provided via telephone, Zoom or Face Time.
- Previously allowed Nursing Services, Early Childhood Intervention and Behavior Support services to be provided using telehealth.
- The State of Texas Health and Human Services Commission waived requirements for who could provide certain services in certain settings.
- Allowed people who provided Host Home Companion Care services (the contract provider cares for a person with IDD in the provider's home) to also be able to provide day habilitation services in the home.
- Allowed a parent or family member living with the client to provide in-home services to the client.

## How Do We Continue to Serve while keeping our clients and staff safe?

### What do we do differently?

1. We limited access and implemented screening procedures at all of our facilities.
2. We provide frontline staff with Personal Protective Equipment.
3. We clean and disinfect and clean and disinfect and then we do it again.
4. We develop ways to serve our clients without requiring them to come to us.
5. We developed protocols for using telehealth services and working from home.
6. We communicate more frequently with our staff and provide resources to them.



## Going forward, The New Norm for Texana Center...

### What we will continue to do:

1. We will use Zoom and teleconferencing to communicate with our staff to reduce travel time and in-person meetings.
2. We will use Zoom and teleconferencing to conduct treatment planning meetings.
3. We will use telehealth to monitor the health needs of our clients and also provide certain services in our remote areas (Early Childhood Intervention, Applied Behavior Analysis).
4. We will further develop online training and resources for our staff and clients.
5. We will teach clients how to access and use Face Time and other applications to remain in touch with their peers.
6. We will teach clients other ways to greet and acknowledge each other besides hugging and handshakes.
7. We will maintain a stockpile of PPE supplies and implement screening and prevention protocols during flu season.
8. We will explore ways we can remain engaged with our clients using text and other media as opposed to in person.

Information taken from Kevin's presentation.

### *How Kevin's passion got him to where he is today at Texana...*

**Kevin** applied for a job with the Ada Wilson Children's Hospital in Corpus Christi, which was a residential program for children and young adults from the ages of 8-22, as a direct service worker. It was there I found the joy of helping people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. From there I worked with special education services with the school district and then with the state supported living centers. My passion is deeply rooted in supporting individuals in their local communities. It is amazing what achievements people with intellectual and developmental disabilities can make when given the right supports. My position is that they are like everyone else, persons with different abilities. When I look around at all my friends I see that they all like me and the people I serve, they are good at some things and not so good at other things. But in that, they focus on the things they do well and we support them with the things they struggle with. That is why Exchange is such a great fit for me! I enjoy people doing what they do best to make their community a better place to live.





# The Book of Golden Deeds! 06/10/2020



It is time to celebrate the National Exchange Clubs first project: ***The Book of Golden Deeds!***

**The Book of Golden Deeds Award** is an Exchange Club program that honors a worthy person or group which continuously donates time, talent and energy to help those in need. Many times, fine citizens of our community do numerous good deeds which go unnoticed. The Exchange Club of Sugar Land would like to publicly recognize these generous people. We have three very deserving recipients this year. Three Business owners who have continued to give back to their community despite the devastation of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

**President Vernon Hunt**

As we recognize the unsung heroes who give back in so many ways, the Book of Golden Deeds is there to say thank you on behalf of Exchange Club members. Each of these business owners was impacted during Covid like so many others, but rose to the occasion of community service despite the challenges. We awarded our Book of Golden Deeds to -Irfan Motiwala and Lin Lin Tan of Alings Chinese Bistro. J Andres Novoa of La Cocina Mexican Restaurant. Jimmy Cantu of Pier 36 Seafood and Oyster Bar. A special thank you to **Championship Trophies** in Rosenberg for donating the plaque engravings ! (FB comment by)

**Attorney Farha Ahmed**



**J Andres Novoa**



**Irfan Motiwala.,Lin Lin Tan**



**Jimmy Cantu**



**Presenter - Ray Aguilar**



**Presenter - Farha Ahmed**



**Presenter - Kevin Barker**

**Continued-**

# The Book of Golden Deeds recipients - Bio's.

## J Andres Novoa La Cocina Mexican Restaurant



Andres has been in business over 20 years in the Richmond area. He has sponsored the annual Cinco De Mayo fundraiser for Fort Bend Seniors Meals on Wheels and has raised over \$700,000 since it began. Andres has volunteered his time and efforts to support his local community and first responders. Andres is a humble and earnest person who works behind the scenes to support those in need. His reward is seeing his community become a better place to live!

## Irfan Motiwala and Lin Lin Yan Alings Chinese Bistro



Irfan and his sister in-law Lin Lin have operated this family business for over 10 years. Both of their spouses work behind the scenes creating magnificent and spicy dishes. Their families believe in community service and show that through their actions. They have provided meals to many first responders and non-profits. They were asked to provide meals for the Houston Police Department during the recent protests. Their response was yes, but they also stated they were going to also provide food to the protesters. It was their way of showing support for both!

## Jimmy Cantu Pier 36 Seafood and Oyster Bar (Richmond and Fulshear)



Jimmy was born and raised in Fort Bend County. Jimmy has a passion for the community that helped raise him. Jimmy has supported many of the non-profits in the area and is quick to lend a hand to support those in need. Jimmy and his staff provided meals to first responders during the floods and in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. When Jimmy was able to restart his business for drive through only during COVID-19, he began to think of ways he could use the restaurants slow time to give back to first responders and others in his community. Jimmy noted that in his time of struggle, he received back tenfold what he has given to the community by having friends and neighbors reach out and ask, what can we do to help you. He said it was a very humbling moment.

- **Leaders**
- **Humble**
- **Caring**
- **Supporting**

*Congratulations*

- **Community**
- **Serving**
- **Helping**
- **Giving Back**