Dr. Philips is the Executive Vice President and Director for the F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural and Community Health at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. Dr. Philips’ work focuses on improving the health and well-being of the communities of Texas and beyond using innovative and scholarly research, advanced use of technology, and comprehensive education and outreach. Since joining the Institute in 2009, the staff has grown from 14 to more than 50 members and housed innovated grant projects such as the West Texas AHEC, the West Texas Health Information Technology Regional Extension Center, and the Rural Health Quarterly. In addition to his other duties he is responsible for the direction, implantation, and overall programming of telemedicine for the entirety of the Health Sciences Center including the federally funded TexLa Telehealth Resource Center grant and demonstration projects such as the Telemedicine Wellness Intervention Triage and Referral (TWITR) Project, the Next Generation 9-1-1 Telemedicine Medical Services Pilot Project, and the Frontiers in Telemedicine Training Lab, the only one of its kind in the nation.

Brittani Bilse is the Director of 1115 Waiver Strategy; a new position at HHSC responsible for coordinating strategy development and planning for the future of Texas’ 1115 Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program Waiver. Many of you know Brittani from her work, going back to 2004, in Government Relations at HHSC between 2007 – and 2009, at the Texas Legislature with the Senate Finance and House Public Health Committees, and most recently as an independent consultant. Brittani brings deep knowledge and experience in Medicaid and 1115 Waiver financing and policy, Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Program (DSRIP) operations, and rural health care. Brittani has a Master’s degree in Journalism from the University of North Texas and a Bachelors degree in business administration from Baylor University.

Emily Sentilles is the Director of Healthcare Transformation Waiver Programs Team, known as the DSRIP Team. She has worked in Medicaid and CHIP Services for 7 years, five years on the DSRIP team and two as Senior Advisor to the State Medicaid Director. She has served in Texas state government for 13 years. She has a master’s degree in public affairs from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at The University of Texas at Austin.
## VICTORIA GRADY

*Director of Providers Finance*

*Texas Health and Human Services Commission*

Victoria Grady is the Director of Provider Finance for the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (formerly Director of Rate Analysis at HHSC). Grady oversees the Provider Finance department’s development and implementation of reimbursement methodologies and rates for Medicaid and certain non-Medicaid services; supplemental and directed-payment programs for hospital services; long-term services and supports; and acute care services. She also provides strategic direction for hospital finance and the development of all new and existing supplemental and directed-payment programs. Grady began her career at HHSC in 2014 in Governmental Relations as the legislative liaison for Financial Services; Procurement and Contracting Services; and the Transformation, Policy, and Performance divisions. She was promoted to senior advisor to the director of Rate Analysis before being promoted to deputy director then director in 2018. Prior to joining HHSC Grady worked at the Texas Senate Research Center and as chief of staff for State Representative Jim Pitts. She earned a bachelor’s degree in English literature from the University of [JIMMY BLANTON](#)

*Director, Office of Value-Based Initiatives, Quality and Program Improvement, Medicaid and CHIP Services, Texas Health and Human Services Commission*

Jimmy Blanton has over 25 years’ experience with Texas Health and Human Services, primarily to support data informed decision making and program improvement efforts. In his current role, as director of Medicaid/CHIP’s Office of Value-Based Initiatives, Mr. Blanton collaborates throughout the HHS system and with interdisciplinary stakeholders and health system experts to help translate the best available information and evidence into initiatives that promote better health care, smarter spending, and healthier people and communities. As part of this work, Mr. Blanton’s office manages key HHSC initiatives for increasing alternative payment models in Medicaid, reducing potentially preventable hospital readmissions and complications, using data for cross-agency and cross-program healthcare quality improvement, and incentivizing MCOs to achieve the highest value care possible.

## PHIL BECKETT

*Chief Executive Officer, HASA*

Phil Beckett is currently CEO of HASA, a regional health information exchange in Texas. He joined HASA in 2015 as CIO to deliver HIE services in Dallas/Fort Worth, north Texas and west Texas. Phil served for the previous 3 years as the Chief Technology Officer and Privacy and Security Officer with Greater Houston Healthconnect. Formerly trained in biochemistry and metabolism at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland, Phil came to Houston as a post-doctoral fellow to study protein metabolism at the Children’s Nutrition Research Center.
JIM HOAG  
*Chief Operating Officer, HASA*

Jim Hoag brings a diverse background of experience to HASA with over 15 years in healthcare administration around physician practice operations, medical education, outpatient departments, and behavioral health. He started in behavioral health with a Master’s in Counseling from Denver Seminary and continues to use those skills occasionally through his church. Jim is excited that HASA’s passion is to create a connected community of providers for patients because, as he says, “the right care at the right time requires the best information possible.”

SEYDIA ADKINS  
*Manager, City of Lubbock Health Department*

Seydia Adkins works for the City of Lubbock Health Department. She is currently listed as a case manager, and functions as the Community Engagement Manager for the LBK Community Network. Before joining the Health Department in January 2020, she was employed at Lubbock Christian University for 11 years, where she worked with “at-risk” college students as an academic accountability partner. She earned her Associate’s degree from Southwestern Christian College in Terrell, Texas (1997), and completed her undergraduate degree at Texas A&M University in Commerce, Texas (2006), where she majored in Sociology with a Criminology emphasis, and minored in Political Science. She later earned her Master’s degree in Counseling at Lubbock Christian University (2011). Seydia enjoys hiking, sports, reading, writing, and hanging out with family and friends. She has two beautiful daughters, Sylvia and Sophia, and one, precious and equally beautiful granddaughter, LeiLani.

KYLE GALYEAN  
*Director of Social Services, UMC Health System*

Kyle Galyean received his Bachelors degree in Social Work from Lubbock Christian University and his Masters degree in Social Work from the University of Cincinnati. Kyle specializes in healthcare and geriatrics, including graduate field training in cancer care. Kyle has over fourteen years of healthcare experience, working in acute-care, oncology, population health, chronic disease management, and chemical dependence. He has been Director of the Social Services Department at University Medical Center since December 2015.