



## **TEXANPLUS® CHAMPIONS COMPETITION KICKS OFF FOR FOURTH YEAR**

*Help Honor Someone Making a Difference in the Lives of  
Older Adults in Houston/ Beaumont-Port Arthur*

**Nominations Accepted through June 19, 2017**

HOUSTON/BEAUMONT–PORT ARTHUR - May 23, 2017 - TexanPlus, a local Medicare Advantage health plan, in collaboration with the Houston Astros™, is asking the community to identify individuals who are helping to better the lives of older Americans in Southeast Texas. Now through June 19, TexanPlus® is asking local residents to visit [www.TexanPlusChampions.com](http://www.TexanPlusChampions.com) and nominate a Champion.

TexanPlus Champions are your neighbors, your friends, your colleagues, your parents. They are Southeast Texas residents who are an example of how one person can make a difference in the lives of older adults. Five finalists will be recognized as TexanPlus Champions during a Houston Astros pre-game ceremony in late summer. They will also participate in an online competition where baseball fans, the community, and friends and family can vote for the individual story worthy of earning our Grand Prize.

The 2017 TexanPlus Grand Champion will present a \$25,000 donation to their chosen charitable organization and throw out the first pitch at a Houston Astros game in September.

“We are excited to bring the annual TexanPlus Champions competition to the community again this year,” said Erin Page, President of TexanPlus. “The competition opens our eyes to the amazing work of individuals and not-for-profit organizations that are impacting the lives of older adults in Southeast Texas. We want to find these everyday Champions and recognize their important contributions to the community.”

Previous recipients of the \$25,000 grant were Mission Northeast and Interfaith CarePartners. Kathy Martin and Pam Dickson, volunteers with Mission Northeast, were the TexanPlus Grand Champions in 2016 and 2015 respectively. Beth Statesir, a volunteer with the Gathering Place at Kingwood United Methodist Church, was the 2014 TexanPlus Grand Champion.

TexanPlus created TexanPlus Champions to complement its strong commitment to making a difference in the communities where its employees live and work. The Competition honors individuals who embrace older adults in helping them live a healthier and happier life, while also sharing TexanPlus’ goals of improving quality of life and maximizing access to services for seniors and people with Medicare.

The Competition is open to the general public living in one of the following counties: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Hardin, Harris, Jefferson, Liberty, Montgomery, Orange, and Waller. For more information about the annual TexanPlus Champions Competition, official rules and submission information visit the website at [www.TexanPlusChampions.com](http://www.TexanPlusChampions.com).

### **About TexanPlus:**

TexanPlus, part of Wellcare Health Plans Inc., specializes in Medicare Advantage plans. The goal of our plans is to help our members stay active, live healthy and be independent.

For more information about TexanPlus, please visit our website at [www.TexanPlus.com](http://www.TexanPlus.com).

**About WellCare Health Plans, Inc.**

Headquartered in Tampa, Fla., WellCare Health Plans, Inc. (NYSE: WCG) focuses exclusively on providing government-sponsored managed care services, primarily through Medicaid, Medicare Advantage and Medicare Prescription Drug Plans, to families, children, seniors and individuals with complex medical needs. WellCare serves approximately 4.1 million members nationwide as of March 31, 2017. For more information about WellCare, please visit the company's website at [www.wellcare.com](http://www.wellcare.com) or view the company's videos at <https://www.youtube.com/user/WellCareHealthPlan>.