

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

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TMLIRP GAINS RECOGNITION & ENGAGEMENT THROUGH PARTNERSHIP AWARDS

BY CLAIRE BUCHWALD

The Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool (TMLIRP) is commending the work of its members and enhancing member relations by consistently bestowing a quarterly partnership award to recognize their members efforts to keep their employees, property, and residents safe.

The purpose of the program is "[t]o recognize and reinforce member contributions to the community and to the Pool. These contributions must align with TMLIRP's Core Values and assist with promoting and building on the understanding that TMLIRP is a partnership of local governments in Texas." Recipients are selected based on performance criteria that include open communication with the pool, creating resources that other TMLIRP members can use, and exhibits on or more of the pool's core values.

Recent recipients of the TMLIRP Partnership Award have included: (1) the City of Austin for the city chaplain's efforts to combat post-traumatic stress injuries in first responders; (2) the City of Desoto, which is just south of Dallas, for its efforts to help elderly residents get their COVID vaccines; and (3) the City of Sugar Land, which will receive its award in the first quarter of 2022, for an innovative, real-time flooding notification system.

Award recipients are publicly recognized by TMLIRP and given a commemorative plaque. The plaque is presented at ceremonies or as part of events, such as the Texas Municipal League's annual conference. Local papers and internal publications often publicize the award and its recipients further. The member who wins the award is also featured on the TMLIRP website.

Scott Houston, Intergovernmental Relations Manager for TMLIRP, comments, "It's a great way to recognize members, and they are - as they should be - really proud of it!" The award brings public recognition to members. At the same time, it reinforces TMLIRP's goals and values, creates publicity for the pool, and increases member engagement.

If you are interested in starting a similar program in your pool or otherwise would like more information on this initiative, you can contact Scott Houston at scott.houston@tmlirp.org.