Frontera Healthcare Network Partners with Texas A&M to Advance Digital Innovation in Rural Healthcare

New pilot initiative aims to improve healthcare operations, patient outcomes and staff experiences while developing solutions for rural communities across Texas.

Frontera Healthcare Network is once again partnering with Texas A&M University to explore innovative solutions to the challenges facing rural healthcare. As a pilot site for a new digital optimization initiative, Frontera will work alongside the Texas A&M Digital Health Team to identify practical ways technology can improve healthcare delivery in rural communities.

Frontera recently welcomed Jim Colson, Associate Vice President of Digital Health at Texas A&M, and members of the university's Digital Health Team to officially launch the initiative.

The partnership builds on a history of collaboration between Frontera and Texas A&M. Frontera previously served as one of the early pilot sites for the Texas A&M School of Medicine's rural medicine rotations, a program that has since expanded to more than 60 counties. The organization also participated as a pilot site for Texas A&M Nursing Connect, helping create opportunities for nursing students to complete clinical rotations in rural communities during their education.

The latest initiative shifts the focus to digital optimization, exploring how emerging technologies and improved digital processes can strengthen healthcare operations and support both patients and staff.

“Rural healthcare organizations understand the challenges our communities face because we experience them every day,” said Mikki Hand, CEO of Frontera Healthcare Network. “This partnership gives us an opportunity to help shape technology that works for rural healthcare while developing solutions that could benefit communities across Texas.”

As healthcare technology continues to evolve, rural providers face unique challenges in adopting new systems and solutions. Through this pilot, Frontera and Texas A&M will explore opportunities to streamline workflows, reduce administrative burdens, improve patient outcomes and create a more efficient healthcare experience.

The goal extends beyond implementing technology at Frontera. By identifying and refining solutions in a rural healthcare setting, the partnership aims to develop a practical

framework that other rural healthcare organizations across Texas can use to guide their own digital improvements.

For Frontera, the initiative represents another opportunity to help shape the future of rural healthcare by ensuring that the needs and experiences of rural communities are part of the innovation process.

Rather than waiting for innovation to reach rural communities, Frontera is helping build solutions that can benefit them.

About Frontera Healthcare Network

Frontera Healthcare Network is a nonprofit community health center dedicated to improving access to quality, affordable healthcare in rural Texas. Serving communities across the region, Frontera provides comprehensive primary care, pediatrics, behavioral health, psychiatry and other essential healthcare services. Through partnerships, community engagement and innovative approaches to care, Frontera works to strengthen the health and well-being of the communities it serves.