Project Title: “Emerging Strategies for Children and Youth with Epilepsy in Texas”
Applicant Name: Epilepsy Foundation Texas-Houston/Dallas-Fort Worth/West Texas
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Requested Funds: $1,218,750 ($406,250 annually for three years)

ABSTRACT
“Emerging Strategies for Children and Youth with Epilepsy in Texas” will improve access and quality of care for 1000 children and youth with epilepsy (CYE) living in Texas including CYE experiencing health disparities or living in medically underserved/rural areas. The Epilepsy Foundation Texas-Houston/Dallas-Fort Worth/West Texas (EFTX) will accomplish this through collaboration with Epilepsy Foundation Central & South Texas and providers in three metropolitan areas-Houston, (Center for Women and Children, Texas Children’s Health Plan-2 clinics; Harris County Health-up to 23 community health centers), Dallas (Children’s Medical Center-1 clinic), and San Antonio (Children’s Hospital-1 clinic). The total population for these areas in 2013 was 15,409,611 and of these an estimated 29,124 were children and youth with epilepsy. The goals of the program are:
By August 2019:
1) Seven clinics will have increased telemedicine services to CYE, including those CYE experiencing health disparities, and/or living in medically underserved/rural areas. 
2) Seven clinics will have a pediatric to adult transition infrastructure in place using Got Transition: Six Core Elements of Health Care Transition Model
3) Improve care to 1000 CYE including 200 CYE experiencing health disparities/living in Medically Underserved Areas (MUA)/rural area.

To increase telehealth services, we will host a 12-month learning collaborative with staff from seven clinics focusing on improving policies, procedures, and access to telehealth/telemedicine services for all CYE. A second learning collaborative will focus on increasing transition planning from pediatric to adult care. As an incentive for participation, physicians will receive activity points towards their Maintenance of Certification status, a quality improvement initiative of the American Academy of Pediatricians. While work with providers will build the infrastructure for improved service delivery, concurrent marketing efforts will outreach to CYE living in our communities to build their knowledge, awareness, and engagement for telehealth, transition planning, seizure action plans, community services, and finding a medical home. Outreach efforts will significantly depend on technology. We will develop a mobile health app targeting CYE, update our website with material in English and Spanish, give presentations to stakeholders, broadcast webinars to caregivers, and work with providers to find CYE within their systems. Our project addresses gaps identified by the Texas 2015 Maternal Child Health (MCH) Title V Needs Assessment. Children with special health care needs (CSHCN) including CYE need for access to medical homes, transition planning, caregivers knowledgeable of epilepsy and transition care, improved coordination and collaboration between providers, and information about community support services.