



**tcmhcc**

Texas Child Mental  
Health Care Consortium

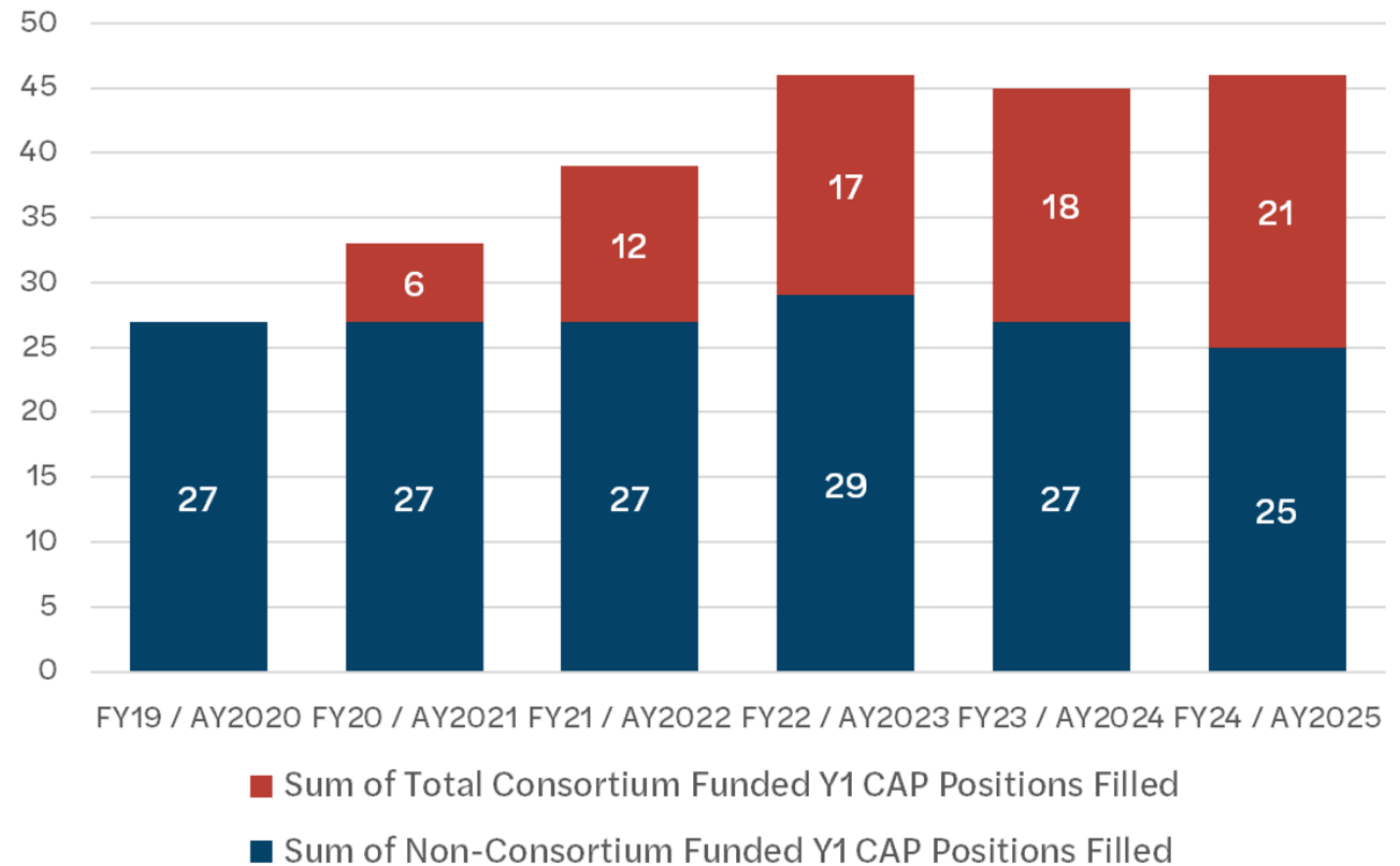
# **CAP Expansion Update**

Adam Brenner M.D.  
TCMHCC  
July 31, 2025

# Growth in CAP through TCMHCC



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# Individual meetings held with:

- Gunit Kahlon CAP PD John Peter Smith
  - Laurel Williams CAP PD Baylor
  - Kathie Trello-Rishel CAP PD UT Southwestern
  - Brigitte Bailey former CAP PD, UTHealth San Antonio
  - Jess Sandoval CAP PD UTHealth San Antonio
  - Tiya Johnson CAP PD UT Tyler (also Forensic PD)
  - Denise Baughn CAP PD UT Medical Branch
  - Sarah Wakefield CAP PD TexasTech UHSC Lubbock
  - Taiwo Babatope CAP PD UTHealth Houston
  - Kari Whatley CAP PD UT Dell
  - Cecilia Devargas CAP PD & Assoc PD Texas Tech UHSC El Paso
- and Fernando Doval Perez

## Discussion topics

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What limits further growth? Is recruitment a concern?

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Are there places where statewide collaboration would add value?

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What are specific points of pride for your program?

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# Concerns about recruitment

- Although recruitment has been very successful it remains a concern to CAP PDs, especially when considering further growth.
- “We’re always worried about filling.”
- “Debt is high, and they can make just as much in general psychiatry.”
- “We’re competing with each other”

# Initial ideas about pipeline

- On-call duties and insufficient compensation are deterrents
- Programming to increase interest in CAP during medical school
- Increasing CAP rotation exposure during general psychiatry
- Recruitment fair for TX students who've left the state for general psychiatry



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# Additional limiting elements for CAP growth

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Difficulty finding good inpatient psychiatry sites

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Administrative support

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Number of faculty and retention of faculty

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Particular areas of faculty expertise: forensic, addiction, psychotherapy

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# Collaborative didactics

- “We have made it work but providing all the didactics is difficult”
- “State-wide didactics would be awesome”
- “We’d be very interested in shared didactics”
- High value topics include
  - Forensics,
  - Addictions,
  - Psychotherapy/Psychodynamics
  - Government advocacy



# Some points of recruiting pride

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TT El Paso has created a Rural and Global Child Psychiatry Track

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Several programs have created community tracks, including UT Dell, UTSW

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UT Dell protects time for psychotherapy patients

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Baylor's first year is outpatient with an emphasis on interviewing skills

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UTHealth SA has a strong tradition of faculty devotion to teaching including their current and former chairs

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UTHealth Houston has added sites for eating disorders, PHP, developmental pediatrics through TCMHCC funding

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# Next steps

Initial meeting of CAP program directors on Tuesday, July 29

