

By: Price

H.R. No. 837

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Alan Keister of Amarillo has been named the
2 recipient of the Dr. Oscar E. Edwards Memorial Award for
3 Volunteerism and Community Service by the American College of
4 Physicians; and

5 WHEREAS, An internal medicine specialist, Dr. Keister
6 recognized a need for health care among the city's uninsured, and in
7 2013, he began offering free health screenings at local schools;
8 the response led him to found the Heal the City free clinic in
9 partnership with Generation Next Church; the clinic opened on
10 September 8, 2014, in a 1,400-square-foot house with four small
11 exam rooms; initially operating once a week, it served urgent-care
12 patients on Monday nights; and

13 WHEREAS, Numerous medical partners, donors, and volunteers
14 were inspired to join Dr. Keister's effort, and the growing clinic
15 relocated to the former Midtown YMCA building, a 20,000-square-foot
16 facility; as it expanded its hours, it also added such programs as a
17 monthly Women's Night for cancer screenings; in 2017, the clinic
18 launched a chronic care program, Shalom, and treated 7,000
19 patients; today, more than 100 medical professionals give
20 generously of their time and expertise to the clinic, assisted by
21 some 400 community volunteers; and

22 WHEREAS, Dr. Keister, an Amarillo native, graduated from
23 Baylor University and The University of Texas Southwestern Medical
24 School; he subsequently completed his internal medicine studies at

1 Vanderbilt University and returned to his hometown in 2000; his
2 work has been informed by his participation in faith-based medical
3 missions to Central America; and

4 WHEREAS, Through his dedicated efforts as founder of Heal the
5 City, Alan Keister has contributed immeasurably to the well-being
6 of thousands of Amarillo residents, and he is richly deserving of
7 this prestigious accolade; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
9 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Alan Keister on his receipt of
10 the Dr. Oscar E. Edwards Memorial Award for Volunteerism and
11 Community Service from the American College of Physicians and
12 extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for Dr. Keister as an expression of high regard by the
16 Texas House of Representatives.