

# Texas Bar Foundation Scholar Profiles 2018



## **Brittany Touchon, LMSW**

Social Worker-Geriatrics  
Long Term Care  
JPS Health Network

*“The Last Steps training was very useful to me in my role as a social worker that specializes in geriatrics. I learned how to introduce, explain and help people make decisions about end-of-life care. It was the part of the conversation that I was missing. Last Steps is very practical and makes complex topics easier to confront for both my patients and me.”*

Lifesaving moment: <https://jpshealthnet.org/news/social-workers-great-save>

Favorite movie: *“I would love everyone to see “Alive Inside” – a documentary that you can watch on Netflix.”*



## **Debbie Rocha, RN**

Registered Nurse  
Healing Shepherd Clinic

*Healing Shepherd Clinic staff and volunteers work closely with Union Gospel Mission & John Peter Smith Health Network to ensure that the indigent patients are provided prescription medications; diagnostic evaluations and specialty care at no cost. Debbie Rocha joined the Healing Shepherd Clinic in 2011 as a volunteer. It wasn't until 2015 she accepted a nursing position.*

*“We are in the process of implementing the Advance directives with Union Gospel Mission. I am working with the case managers to offer a couple of classes for the residents to familiarize them with advanced directive concepts. We will discuss what it is & why it is so important to have an advanced directive in place. I am looking forward to alleviating some of the stress our residents may be experiencing due to their current situation -or worrying about what's going to happen to them in an emergency situation.”*



**Kevin Thompson**

Case Management  
Union Gospel Mission

*“The most touching thing I’ve seen was a memorial for 50 people who died in 2017, which is approximately 20 to 25% of those receiving services with us.”*

*“I hope that this training will help my residents understand the choices that they have.”*

**Favorite movie: Thor**



**Kristen Reuter, LMSW, MSSW, CDP, CADDCT**

Social Worker-Geriatrics  
UNTHSC

*“The emphasis has always been on getting the documents finished and signed by all parties. Now I realize the process of the conversation is just as important as the finished product.”*

**Favorite movie: Titanic**



**Laura Addicks, LMSW**

THR Harris Methodist Fort Worth Hospital  
Social Worker- Palliative care

*“I will be able to utilize the ACP training in my daily work. Part of the social work role within the Palliative care services is to facilitate advance care planning and goals of care conversations with families. However at the time of class registration I learned that there were no funds available for tuition for Respecting Choices from my department. With the scholarship I will be able to serve the ‘At risk’ populations on a daily basis in my employment, due to being in an urban hospital setting. In my three years on the Palliative care team I have seen many from each of these populations.”*



**Leah R. Wingard**

Administrator

Coalition for Quality End-of-Life Care

*"I am so grateful for the training I believe I will be able to steward my legacy better, as well as help my family and friends understand their rights and responsibilities in the advance care planning process.*

*I do believe ACP could be THE catalyst for converting a vast amount of resources rightfully directed towards making this world a better place.*

*Imagine if every person's estate donated 10% to resolve whatever crisis on our planet they were passionate about? What a different world we could have in 2020!"*

*Favorite movie: Saving Mr. Banks. "I love the story's layering & the legacy preserved."*