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Dr. George "Scottie" Whiddon honored

*By Bailey Donoghue
special to the chronicle*

George "Scottie" Whiddon, M.D. and his assistant **Sandy Baker** were recognized for excellence in diabetes care by the Florida Academy of Family Physicians Foundation and Big Bend Rural Health Network during a special ceremony Sept. 24.

During the same ceremony, Dr. Whiddon was recertified as a Diabetes Master Clinician and Sandy was recertified as a Diabetes Master Clinician Associate.

The Diabetes Master Clinician Program teaches physicians and office staff how to use reports that improve patient care.

One report, given to the patient, is written in language patients can understand. Additional reports allow office staff to target patients who are not up-to-date on yearly activities and provide more intensive treatment to high-risk patients.

"The dedication and hard work of Dr. Whiddon and his assistant Sandy Baker has saved many lives and decreased patient risk of blindness, kidney dialysis, amputations, heart attacks and stroke," said **Edward Shahady**, MD, Medical Director of the Diabetes Master Clinician Program of the Florida Academy of Family Physicians Foundation.

Bridges to Excellence data estimates patients who reach ADA-established goals save hundreds of dollars for themselves, their employers and insurance companies. Projected over the next 10 years, close to a million dollars could be saved by Tallahassee Memorial Family Medicine—Quincy.
