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Keeping the Faith



Faith-Based &
Community
Leaders
COVID-19
Coordination
Call

Faith-Based
Partners:
Key to
Equity in
COVID-19
Operations

Organizing &

Managing
Faith-Based
Partners



Faith-Based and Community Leaders COVID-19 Coordination Call

Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management

COVID-19 Response Whole Community Readiness Workgroups





Reaching Faith-Based Community

Interfaith Relations and Community Partners (IRCP) works to build respect, understanding, and service among people of different faiths, and those of no particular faith, as well as efforts to bring other nonprofits together in collaboration and service



Texas Medical Center

COVID-19
Faith-Based &
Community Leaders
Coordination Call

Harris County Judge

Mayor – City of Houston

Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management

Harris County Public Health

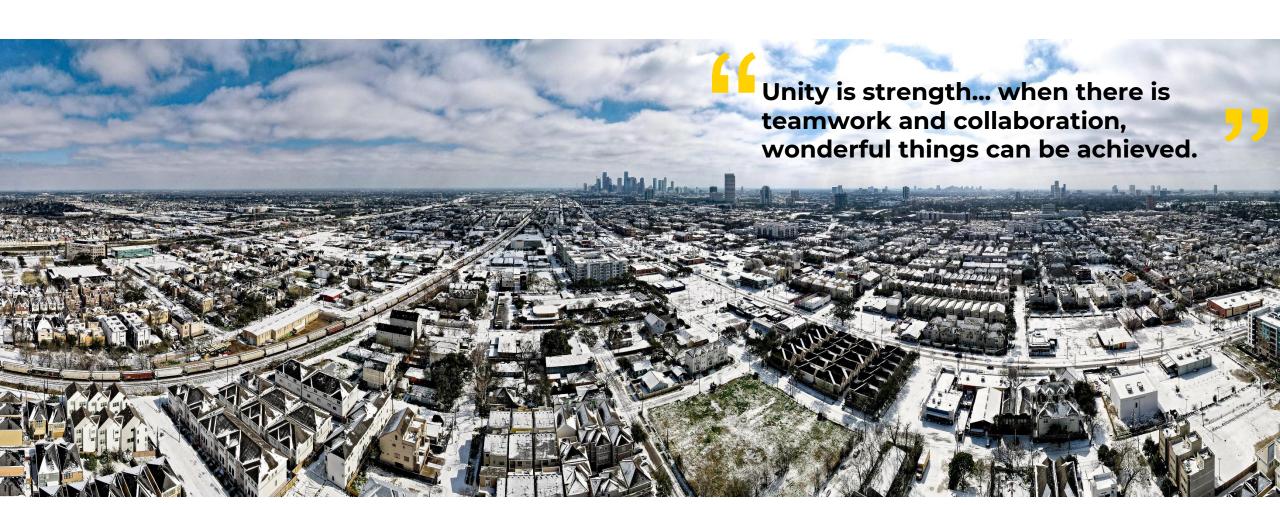


Emergency Management Association of Texas (EMAT) – President's Award



2021 EMAT Leadership Symposium Best Practice – Whole Community Engagement

Utilization in Future Disasters



Faith-Based Partners

Key to equity in COVID-19 operations

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The Issues

Reach the most people possible

Reach traditionally marginalized communities

Cover as much of the county as possible

Be a constant presence in the community

Connect with community members

Be a trusted resource





Obstacles to Access

- Transportation
- Technology
- Language
- Information
- Time

How do we work with communities to overcome the obstacles in getting COVID information, testing, and vaccines?

















Developing Strategies

A Focus on People

- Who is most affected by COVID-19?
- Who is/is not getting vaccinated?
- Race
- Age
- Housing



A Focus on Place

- Priority zip codes
 - Weighted algorithm: current cases, past cases, SVI, and vaccination rates
- Testing/Vaccine "deserts"
- Coverage of whole county





Benefits of Working with Faith-Based Partners

- Many locations
- Trusted in community
- Visible
- Direct communication channels



They can help bridge the gap



















Communications

- Minbar/Bimah/Pulpit messages
- Flyers and posters
- Translation help



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Visible and Trusted









Award Criteria

Community partners will be incentivized \$50 for each community member that they get vaccinated; up to a possible \$5000

Disbursement

Disbursement will take place 1-2 months after completed incentive event





Choosing Partners

Requirements

- Within a priority zip code determined by:
 - CDC's Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)
 - Historical incidence of COVID-19
 - Recent incidence of COVID-19
- locations with:
 - high incidence of COVID-19
 - coupled with low vaccination rates.
- Demonstrate the breadth of communities they work with
- Ties to communities of interest African American and Hispanic communities



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Partner Responsibilities

Provide outreach and advertising of the vaccine event to attract their community



Examples:

- Radio air time
- Print flyers
- Feed volunteers
- Email, bulletins, newsletters, etc.







Results

• Doubled number of vaccines delivered per site

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Organizing and Managing Faith-Based Partners

Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management

National Disaster Recovery Framework

- The National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) describes principles, processes, and capabilities essential for all communities to more effectively manage and enable recovery following an incident of any size or scale.
- This framework outlines how the whole community will collaborate and coordinate to more effectively utilize existing resources to promote resilience and support the recovery of those affected by an incident.
- A key element of the process is that the community assumes leadership in developing recovery priorities and activities that are realistic, well-planned, and clearly communicated.

Recovery Support Function

The Health and Social Services RSF outlines the framework to support local recovery efforts that address public health, healthcare facilities and coalitions, and essential social services. Social services programs promote a more effective recovery by supporting individuals and families affected by a disaster.

Health and Social Services RSF Goals	Short-Term	Intermediate	Long-Term
Evaluate needs, capabilities, and service gaps in the health, social services, and education systems.	•		
Set recovery priorities.			
Support the restoration of public health and the healthcare systems and services.			
Support service delivery to the whole community, including individuals with access and functional needs.			•
Communicate frequently and consistently with the public to promote health and raise awareness of available services and resources.			•
Support the coordination of recovery actions across public and private educational providers at all levels.		-	

Recovery Networks





Texas Gulf Coast Regional VOAD

- Focuses on short-term recovery activities
- Comprised of faith-based, nonprofits, and government entities



Harris County LTRC

- Focuses on long-term recovery
- Comprised of nonprofits, faith-based, and governmental organizations
- Workgroups utilized to divide the recovery efforts



Fostering Collaboration

- Relationship maintenance is critical to fostering collaboration with partners
 - Personal Piggy Bank
 - Transactional support
 - Transformational support
 - Recognition

Questions?

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