



Harris County
Public Health
Building a Healthy Community

Disaster Preparedness

05/17/2023



HCPHTX.ORG



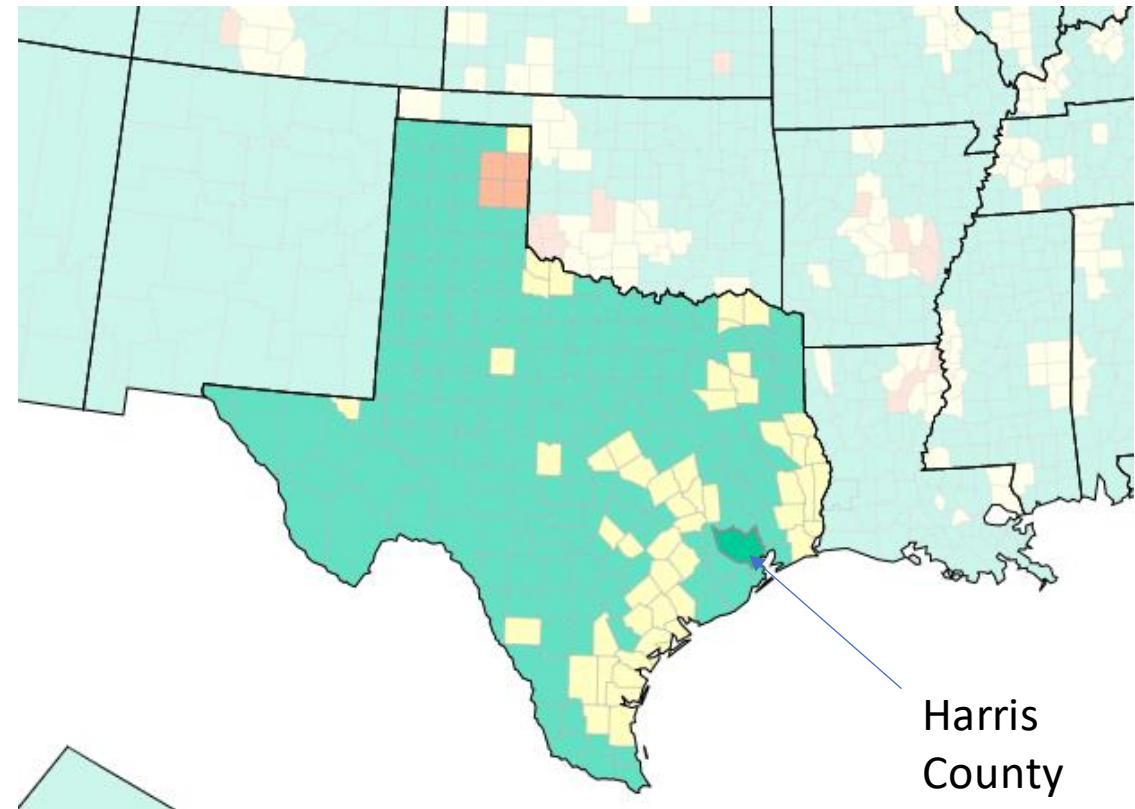
Overview

Intro

- Harris County Public Health Overview

Early Phases of the Pandemic

Harris County: Big, Diverse, & Complex



Harris County is the third most populous county with over 4.7 million people spread over 1,778 square miles.

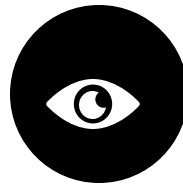
Harris County Public Health



Mission

- ❖ Promoting a Healthy and Safe Community
- ❖ Preventing Illness and Injury
- ❖ Protecting You

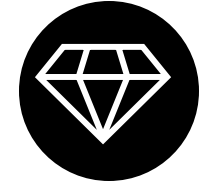
**"Harris County Public Health,
Your Department for Life"**



Vision

Healthy People, Healthy
Communities

...a Healthy Harris County



Values

- ❖ Innovation
- ❖ Engagement
- ❖ Equity

Early Phases of the Pandemic

Harris County

Local Response to COVID-19

2020



January 23, 2020
First COVID-19 in-person meeting



March 05, 2020
First 2 COVID-19 cases in Harris County



June 26, 2020
Harris Co. to red level

Original HCPH Response to COVID-19



- ❖ 159 HCPH employees are activated in the response
- ❖ Roughly 665 contractors working the response
- ❖ 121 Contact Tracing Staff
- ❖ The total number of staff working the response: 824

Integrated Teams

- ❖ COVID-19 Director
- ❖ Call Center
- ❖ Intake
- ❖ Case Investigators
- ❖ Contact Tracers
- ❖ Epidemiology Liaisons
- ❖ Team Leads
- ❖ Emerging Infectious Disease Epidemiologists
- ❖ Long Term Impacts Team
- ❖ Wastewater Surveillance



Harris County & City of Houston COVID-19 Data Tracking

Community Level- Low

Community Level Low which Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines. Get tested if you have symptoms



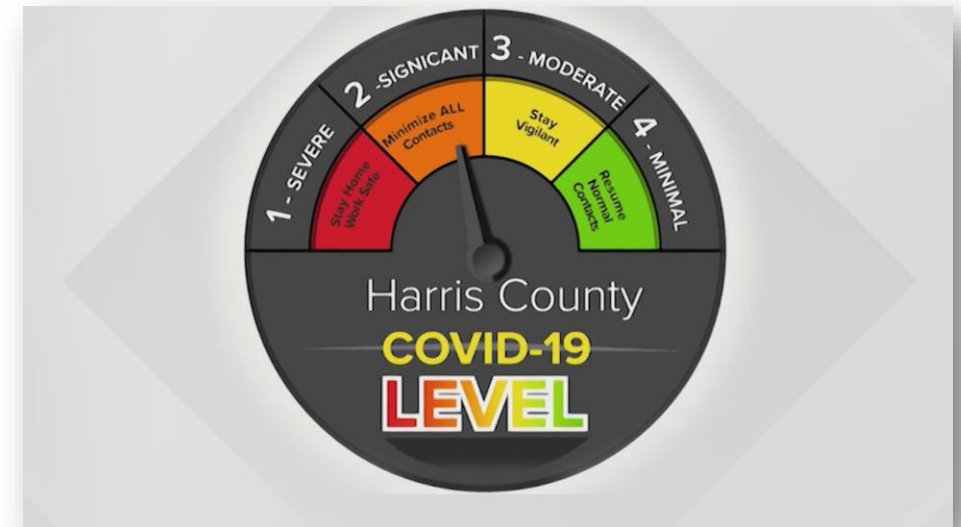
With the end of public health emergency, CDC will be removing the levels soon.

Hospital Population Trends *ICU = ICU Bed *GEN = General Bed	+0.43 ICU* beds/day -0.24 GEN* beds/day
Hospital Usage *ICU = ICU Bed *GEN = General Bed	3.22% ICU* beds 2.08% GEN* beds
New Cases Trend	-4.97 cases/day 14-day Average
Positivity Rate 14-day average of COVID-19 test positivity rate	5.2%
Wastewater Positivity Rate This reflects the 14-day moving average COVID-19 positivity rate for the City of Houston, as of the latest wastewater sample date: April 17, 2023	6%
Wastewater Viral Load This reflects the total amount of COVID-19 virus in the City of Houston wastewater treatment plants. The measurement is compared to a previous benchmarking date (July 6, 2020) as selected by the Houston Health Department for having especially high COVID-19 positivity rates.	75% In comparison to July 6, 2020

<https://covid-harriscounty.hub.arcgis.com/#hospital-population-trend>

Contact Tracing and Case Investigations

- Each contact tracing and case investigation team was divided into pods with a pod leader who reported to a team lead
- There were several hundred contact tracers and case investigators





COVID-19 Vaccinations

Vaccine Distribution by Harris County Public Health

Data shown is for COVID-19 vaccines administered by vaccination sites operated by Harris County Public Health (HCPH).

Vaccines Allocated	1st Dose Administered	Final Doses Administered	Transferred to Partners
1,059,784	424,710 This does NOT include Johnson & Johnson.	387,427 This includes Johnson & Johnson.	135,213

Harris County COVID-19 Vaccine

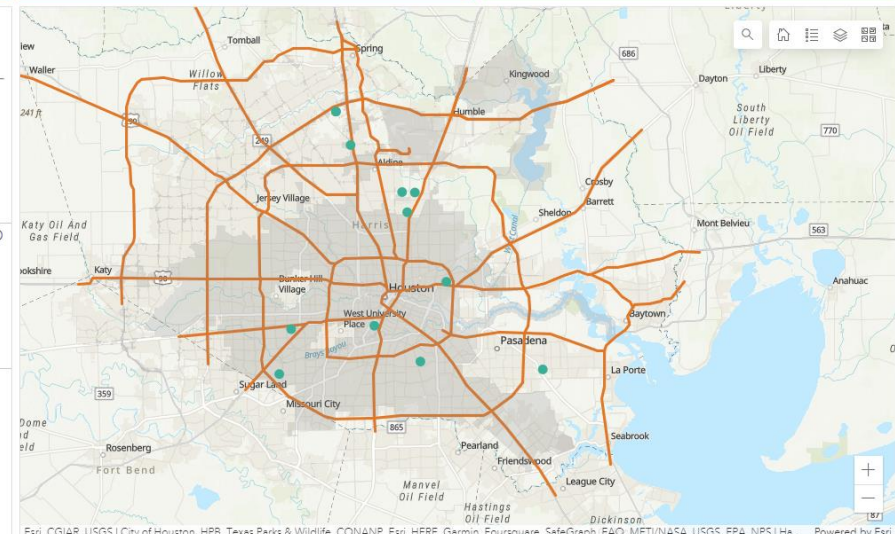
[Launch Mobile Version](#)
[Schedule Your Vaccine Appointment](#)
[Find Other Local Providers](#)

Upcoming Vaccine Sites

Scroll down for more available dates. Please note that the [VacsTrac registration website](#) is not compatible with Internet Explorer.

Monday, Wednesday- Friday, Saturday | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM,
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM, 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM
PCT 2 NE Community Center
10918 1/2 Bentley Houston, TX 77093
● Vaccine Administered: Multiple
Dose: Multiple
Register at <https://vacstrac.hctx.net/landing> or call 832-927-8787.

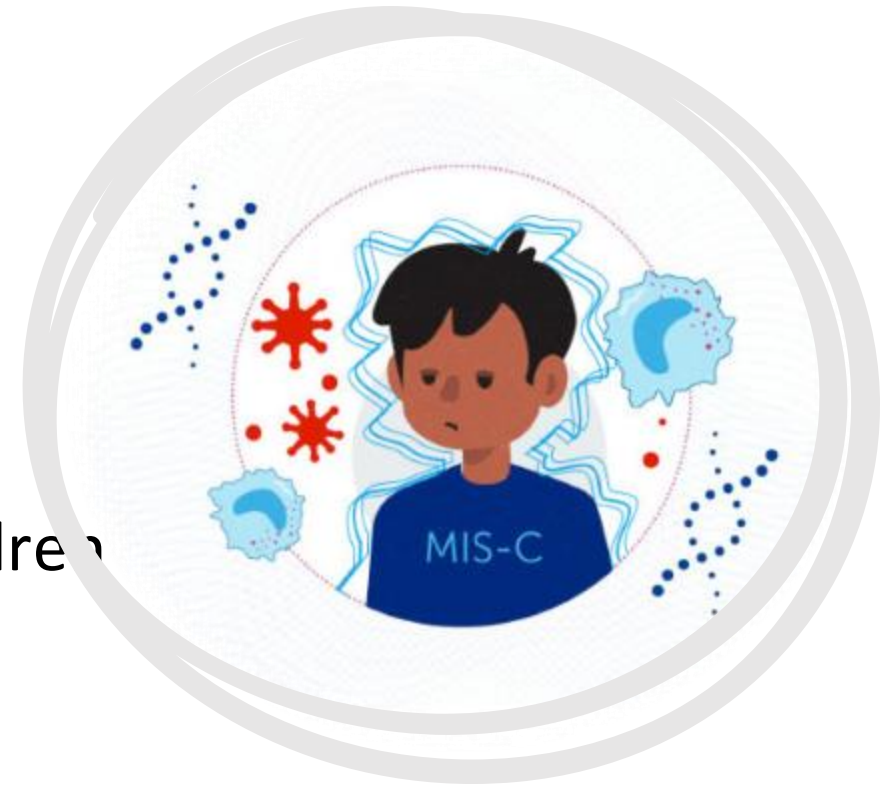
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday - Friday, Saturday | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM,
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM, 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM
PCT 2 East HC Activity Center
7340 Spencer Hwy Pasadena, TX 77505
● Vaccine Administered: Multiple
Dose: Multiple
Register at <https://vacstrac.hctx.net/landing> or call 832-927-8787.



COVID-19 Epi Case Investigation

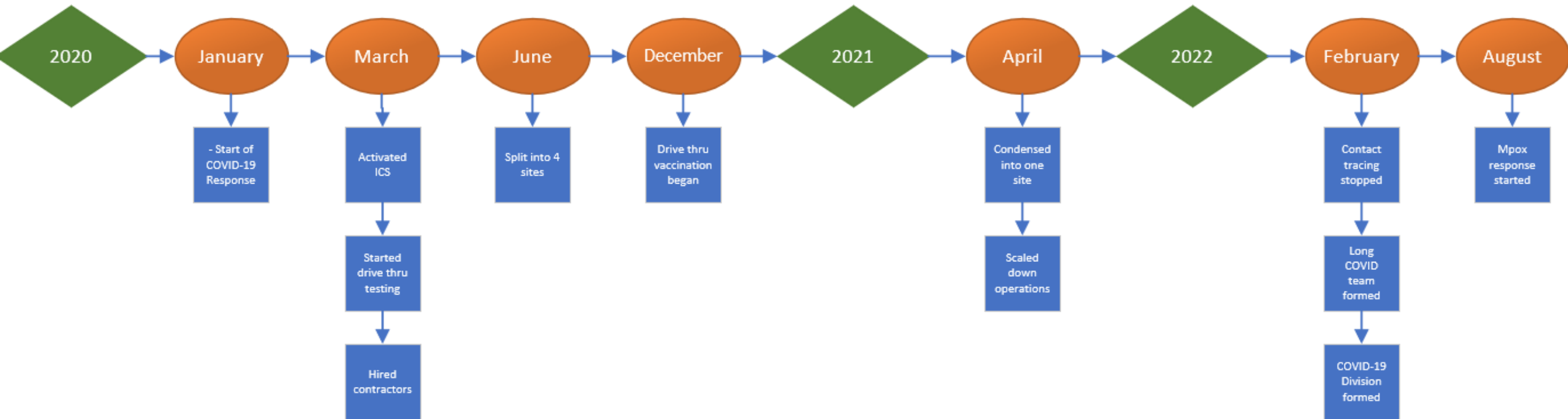
Priority Investigations Include:

- ❖ Outbreaks
- ❖ Congregate Settings
- ❖ Others
 - ❖ ECC Calls
 - ❖ Variants
 - ❖ Vaccine Breakthroughs
 - ❖ Multisystem inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)
 - ❖ Reinfections



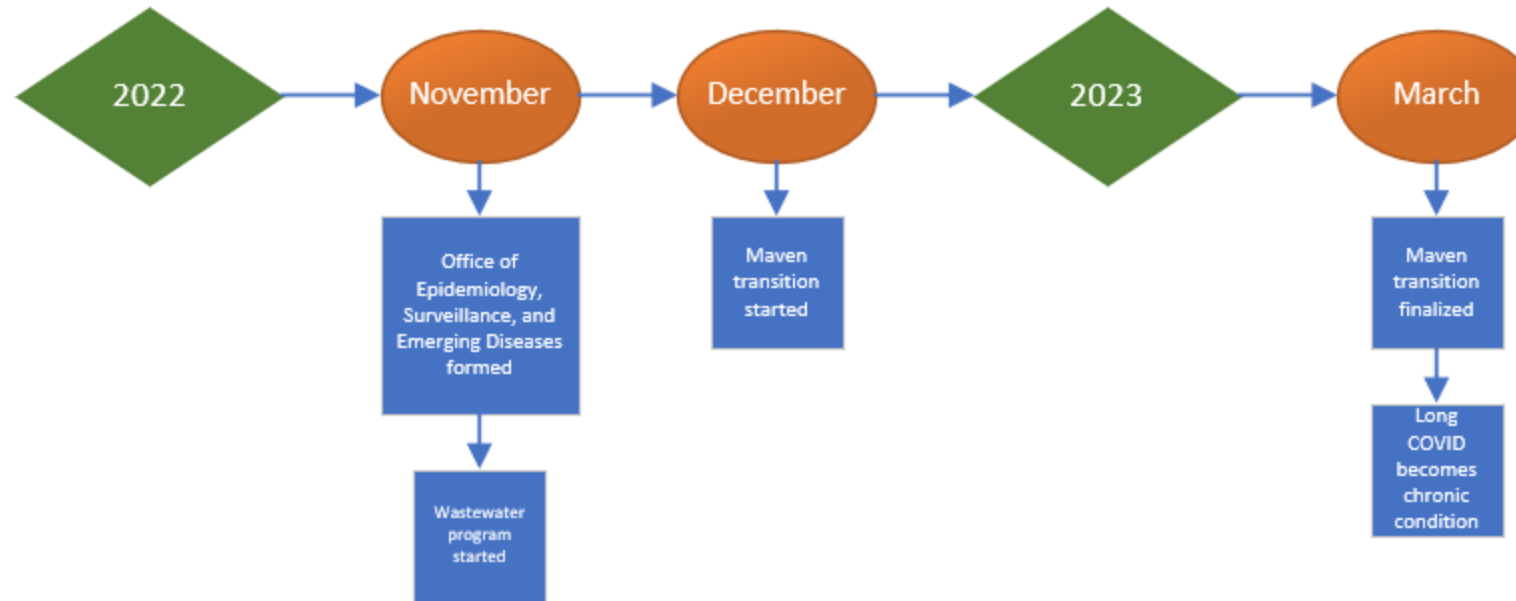
Throughout the response, HCPH has always prioritized case investigations that have the greatest public health impact

Timeline



Current Operations

Current Activities



Transition from Response to Division

- ❖ Office of Epidemiology, Surveillance, and Emerging Diseases
 - ❖ Non-Communicable Diseases
 - ❖ Communicable Diseases
 - ❖ Emerging Diseases



Transfer of COVID-19 Data from CRP to MAVEN

Harris County Electronic Disease Surveillance System



Enter Case ID

Search

Alisha Merchant



Workflows

Workflow Queue	Events
GCD New Priority Case Not Assigned	1 (0)
C19 HIGH PRIORITY Congregate Setting Assignments	1258 (0)
C19 Hospitalized Case Assignments	766 (0)
C19 Recent Specimen Case Assignments	130 (0)
C19 Remaining Case Assignments	1257 (0)

More ...

Tasks

Type	Priority	Name	Disease
No tasks to display			

More ...

Recent Cases

Event ID	Name	Disease
		Covid-19 (Novel Coronavirus)
		Covid-19 (Novel Coronavirus)
		Covid-19 (Novel Coronavirus)
		Covid-19 (Novel Coronavirus)
		Covid-19 (Novel Coronavirus)
		Covid-19 (Novel Coronavirus)

More ...

Welcome To Harris County Electronic Disease Surveillance System

This is customizable area for deployment specific dashboard content.
To get started, please review the latest [user guide](#).

Calendar

[Manage appointments](#)

Activity

Activity Summary as of 04/14/2023 08:49 AM

Type	# Last Week	# Average Last 4 Weeks	# Last 52 Weeks
Covid-19 (Novel Coronavirus)	3	2	16707
Candida auris	0	0	231
Ebola hemorrhagic fever	0	0	25
Hepatitis A, acute	0	1	74
Pertussis	0	0	35
Salmonella, non-Paratyphi/non-Typhi	0	0	312
Salmonellosis	0	0	34
Viral hemorrhagic fevers	0	0	2
Anthrax	0	0	1
Botulism, other/unspecified	0	0	1
Brucellosis	0	0	8
Campylobacteriosis	0	0	88
Chagas disease, Acute	0	0	13
Chagas, Chronic Indeterminate	0	0	1
CRE - carbapenem-resistant enterobacteriaceae	0	0	147
Cronobacter	0	0	1
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	26



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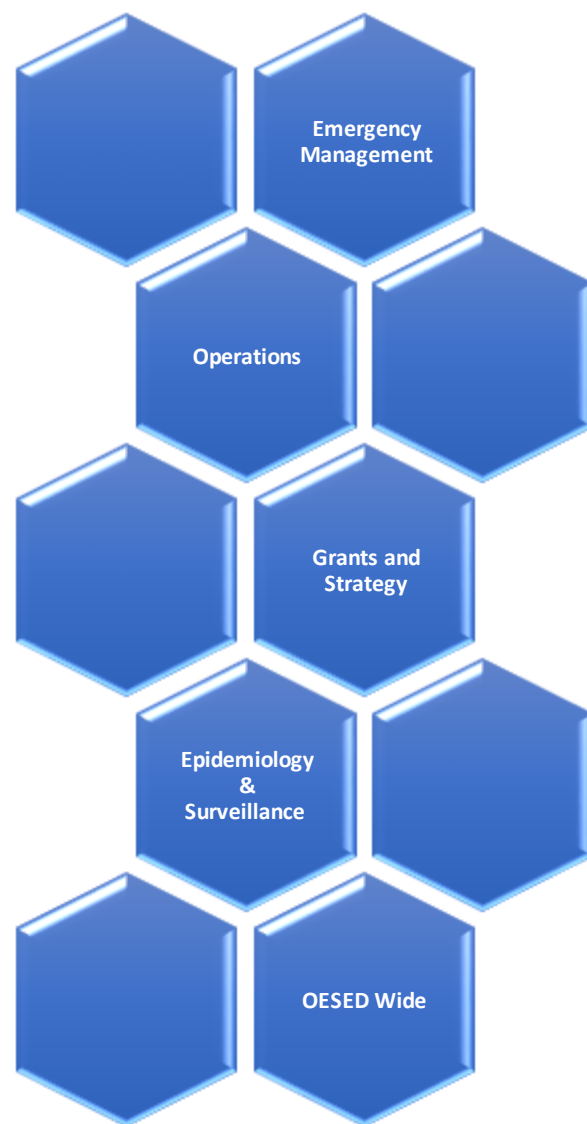
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Lessons Learned

Recovery Plan

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
Long COVID Surveillance	3
Purpose	4
Scope	5
Assumptions	5
Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities	5
Harris County Public Health (HCPH) Internal Offices Supporting COVID-19 Recovery	5
Harris County Public Health External Partners	6
HCPH Office of Epidemiology, Surveillance, and Emerging Disease	6
Emergency Management	7
Operations	7
Epidemiology Operations	7
Grants & Strategy	7
Outreach	7
OESED-Wide Recovery Operations	7
Equity and Resilience	8
Workforce Development	8
Development and Management of Community Partnerships	8
Summary of Recovery Strategies and Actions	9
References	11
Appendix	12



Community Education



Community Assessments and Partnerships



Key Insights



Upscale operations
quickly



Respond to
future
outbreaks



Rapidly update Maven
for new diseases



Deploy
mobile testing
&
vaccinations



Setup data collection
and gather metrics



Communicate
effectively to the
community

Questions?

E-mail and Follow up

Emerging Infectious Diseases:

✉ Alisha Merchant, BSN, RN, MPH, MSBS - Alisha.Merchant@phs.hctx.net

Non- Communicable Diseases

✉ Jordan Urrate - Jordan.Urrate@phs.hctx.net