HURRICANE HARVEY SURVEY RESULTS

Aldine

BACKGROUND

On the evening of August 25, 2017, Hurricane Harvey made landfall as a Category 4 Hurricane near Rockport, Texas. The Harris County Flood Control District estimates that one trillion gallons of water rained on the county, and 70% was flooded by at least 1.5 feet of water.

On September 29 - 30, 2017, HCPH conducted a Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) in north central Harris County, in the community of Aldine, to assess public health needs. Over 100 staff and volunteers conducted the surveys; also providing health information, and public health services and resources to residents.

COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHICS

- 73% of the population live in Spanish-speaking households
- $35k is the median household income
- 69% of housing is characterized as single family homes

COMMUNITY INTERACTIONS

- 420 households were approached for a survey and provided public health resource information.
- Survey results were obtained by randomly selecting homes, as suggested by the CASPER model, and 200 interviews were completed.

KEY FINDINGS

- 63% of households reported damage to their home (35% of homes had been affected by a storm before)
- 7 out of 10 households felt their home was safe to live in (68%)
- 33% of households had mold growth in their home

Thank You to our partners who worked with us on this project:

- County Judge Ed Emmett’s Office
- Commissioner’s Court
- Harris County Precinct 4
- Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- Harris County Sheriff’s Office
- Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD
- Texas A&M Health Science Center
- University of Texas, School of Public Health
- Texas Women’s University
- Sam Houston State University
- Medical Reserve Corps
- Community Emergency Response Team
- Amateur Radio Emergency Service
HEALTH

38% of households have residents living with a chronic medical condition. 29% of those reported trouble obtaining their needed supplies.

Respiratory symptoms (35%) and allergies (36%) were the illnesses most frequently reported after the storm.

28% of households reported changes in behavior or feelings of depression/anxiety, etc. since the hurricane. Of those, 56% did not know how to access mental health services if needed.

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Of the 31% of households that evacuated, a majority (78%) stayed with friends/family.

More than half (54%) of households reported providing assistance to other community members, and 39% reported receiving assistance from the community.

Cellular phones were the most commonly reported form of communicating with friends and family during the storm (92% of households).

78% of households receive disaster information from TV.

GREATEST NEEDS REPORTED

28% of households said they needed financial help with clean up/repairs.

10% of households said they needed physical help for clean-up/repairs.

14% of households said they needed food.

EVACUATION PLANS

32% of households reported that they would evacuate if asked to.

33% of households reported that they would not evacuate if asked to.

35% of households reported that they would decide whether or not to evacuate based on the situation.

A majority of households had enough food (82%) and water (86%) before the storm.

36% of households reported being “well prepared”, and 42% reported being “somewhat prepared” to handle another emergency.