On February 16, 2019, HCPH conducted a Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) in northwest Harris County, in the community of Bear Creek, to assess public health needs.

The purpose of this CASPER was to conduct an analysis of recovery efforts and a needs assessment of the community. The data collected was utilized to better inform our own activities and shared with partners.

**COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHICS**

- 64% of the population are considered minorities
- 50% economically disadvantaged student population of CyFair ISD
- 92% of housing is characterized as single family homes

**COMMUNITY INTERACTIONS**

- 614 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 represent a population of more than 182,900 residents.

**KEY FINDINGS**

- 36% of households reported damage to their home
- 9 out of 10 households felt their home was safe to live in (94%)
- 12% of households had mold growth in their home

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

- County Judge Lina Hidalgo’s Office
- Commissioner’s Court
- Harris County Precinct 3
- Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- Harris County Sheriff’s Office
- Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD
- Texas A&M University School of Public Health
- University of Texas School of Public Health
- University of Houston
- Texas Women’s University
- University of New England
- Community Emergency Response Team
- Amateur Radio Emergency Service
29% of households have residents living with a chronic medical condition. Only 8% of those reported trouble obtaining supplies for that condition since the hurricane.

35% of households have an individual experiencing worsening symptoms:
- allergies
- asthma
- rash
- diabetes
- hypertension

18% of households reported changes in behavior or feelings of depression/anxiety, etc. Of those, 69% knew how to access mental health services; however, only 5% of households accessed those services.

79% of households have discussed what to do in future emergencies.

70% of households consider themselves to be a member of a community; of those, 53% cited involvement in a church or place of worship and 23% are involved in school activities.

Cellular phones are the most commonly reported form of communicating with friends and family during an emergency (98% of households).

62% of households reported that they would evacuate if asked to

5% of households reported that they would not evacuate if asked to

32% of households reported that they would decide whether or not to evacuate based on the situation

39% of households reported being at least “somewhat prepared” to handle another emergency.

86% of households receive disaster information from TV.

15% of households said they needed financial help with clean up/repairs.

54% of households said they still need repairs in order to get them back to the same state they were in before the storm.

6% of households said they needed general financial help.

Greatest Needs Reported

Harris County Public Health
Building a Healthy Community

@hcphtx

www.hcphtx.org

OSST/OPHR, July 2019