



Williamson County and Cities Health District
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WILLIAMSON COUNTY AND CITIES HEALTH DISTRICT PROTECTS COMMUNITY FROM EMERGENCIES AND DISASTERS THROUGH “PUBLIC HEALTH READY” RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The Williamson County and Cities Health District (WCCHD) has been recognized by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) for its ability to plan for, respond to, and recover from public health emergencies. WCCHD is the first local public health department in Texas that has been dually accredited by NACCHO for both Accreditation, which signifies that a health department is meeting national standards for ensuring that essential public health services are provided in the community, and Project Public Health Ready (PPHR), which encompasses all-hazards preparedness planning, workforce capacity development, and demonstration of readiness through exercises or real events.

WCCHD joins a cohort of more than 450 local health departments across the country that have been distinguished for excellence in preparedness through PPHR, either individually or as part of a region.

“This community is a leader in emergency preparedness—in public health, in public safety, and in other disciplines. Still, the most important factor in determining whether we succeed in responding to an emergency will be the cooperation among community, state and local partners, and helping each other in a time of duress,” said John Teel, WCCHD Executive Director.

Local health departments recognized by PPHR undergo a rigorous evaluation by peer review to assess their ability to meet a set of national standards for public health preparedness. These standards align with federal government requirements and other national best practices.

“Local health departments play a critical role in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from public health emergencies,” said Dr. William Barnes, NACCHO Interim Executive Director & Chief Program Officer. “NACCHO commends the Williamson County and Cities Health District for being a model of public health emergency preparedness.”

For information about the Williamson County and Cities Health District, visit your public health department website at www.wcchd.org or call 512-943-3600.

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