

PRESENTATION:  
**COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS  
ASSESSMENTS**

Regional Advisory Council Chair  
Quarterly EMS/Trauma Meeting  
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What is a community health needs assessment?

...a useful information tool used to assist in improving community health.

- ✓ The focus of a community health needs assessment can range from **comprehensive** (focusing on many issues) to **specific** (focusing on one issue).
- ✓ Community health needs assessments can range from **extremely resource intensive** to **minimal resource requirements**.
- ✓ Don't expect to carry out a "perfect" community health needs assessment --- **there is no such thing**.

## Questions to Ask Before Developing a Community Health Needs Assessment:

- **Why do you need to do a community health needs assessment?**
- **What data/information do you need to obtain?**
- **Where and how can I obtain the needed data/information?**
- **Who can help?**

## Steps in Planning, Developing and Using a Community Health Needs Assessment:

1. **Form a Team;**
  2. **Develop Work Plan;**
  3. **Collect Data/Information;**
  4. **Review Data/Information;**
  5. **Identify Data/Information Priorities; and**
  6. **Communicate Data/Information Priorities.**
- ✓ Data/information priorities should **inform** activities to improve community health.

## Example Components of a Community Health Needs Assessment:

- **Introduction** (background and purpose of the assessment);
- **Executive Summary** (brief highlights from the report);
- **Survey Results** (feedback from individuals who completed a survey);
- **Community Meeting Results** (feedback received from individuals who participated in the community meetings);
- **Demographic & Epidemiological Information** (population and health data/information on the county, surrounding counties and Texas);
- **Resource Inventory** (information about health-related services in the county); and
- **Conclusions & Recommendations** (recommendations that should be considered regarding post-assessment activities).

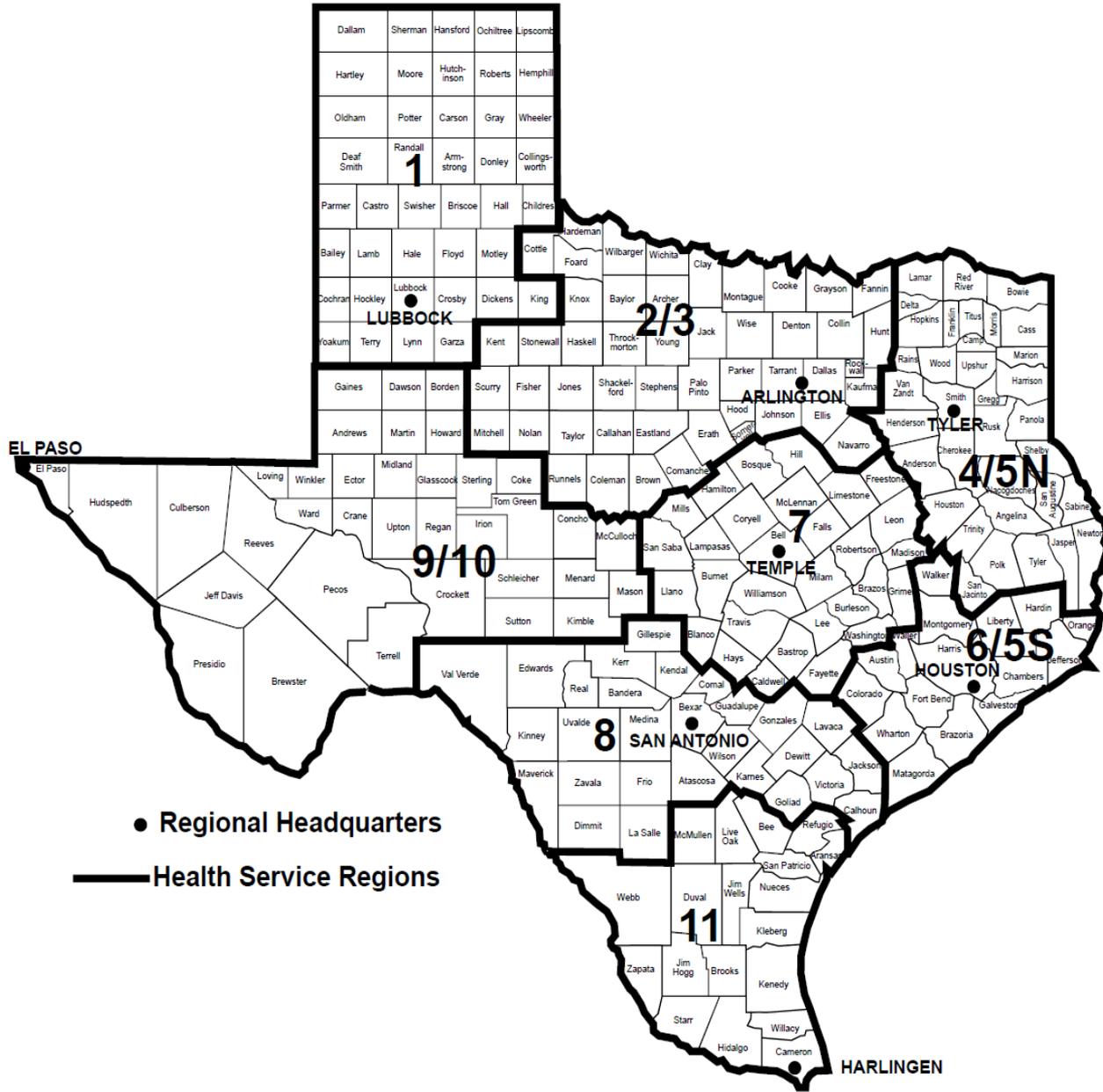
## Possible Community Health Needs Assessment Resources:

- **Public Health Improvement Staff (DSHS)** (community health coalitions);
- **Injury Surveillance Data Sources (DSHS)** – Ryan Beal (08/19/10);
- **Nonprofit Hospitals;**
- **Center for Health Statistics (DSHS);**
- **Community Health Needs Assessments (DSHS); and**
- **Potentially Preventable Hospitalizations Project (DSHS).**

## Public Health Improvement Staff by DSHS Health Service Regions (HSR):

- **HSR 1:** Devon Casey and Don Nicholson
- **HSR 2/3:** Susan Senn, Jane Schwarz and Sandra Cobb
- **HSR 4/5N:** Derrick Choice, Drue Evans and LaJuan Scott
- **HSR 6/5S:** Haley Jackson, Kim Beam and Tiffany Carrethers
- **HSR 7:** Joleen Eiklenborg and Terri Kemp
- **HSR 8:** Griselda Stevenson
- **HSR 9/10:** Joy Leos and Yuri Orozco
- **HSR 11:** Maria Canales and Mauro Ruiz

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## **Nonprofit Hospitals in Texas:**

...The Affordable Care Act requires non-profit hospitals to conduct a community needs assessment every three years and adopt an implementation strategy to meet identified needs, adopt and widely publicize a financial assistance policy, limit charges to patients who qualify for financial assistance to the amount generally billed to insured patients, and make reasonable attempts to determine eligibility for financial assistance before undertaking extraordinary collection actions.

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/hosp/utilrep08.pdf>

## Center for Health Statistics (DSHS):

[www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs)

### Texas Health Currents

([www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/healthcurrents](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/healthcurrents))

...**Demographic** – Population, Population Change...

...**Death** – Unintentional Injury, Motor Vehicle Injury...

...**Birth** – Births, Prenatal Care, Births to Adolescents...

...**Health Resources** – Hospitals, Health Professions...

...**Communicable Diseases** – STDs, TB...

...**Socioeconomic** – Health Insurance, Poverty

(Data is available by county, HSR and Texas.)

## DSHS Community Health Needs Assessments:

- **Childress County** ([www.dshs.state.tx.us/childress](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/childress));
- **Chambers County** ([www.dshs.state.tx.us/chambers](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chambers));
- **Lamb County** ([www.dshs.state.tx.us/lamb](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/lamb));
- **Limestone County** ([www.dshs.state.tx.us/limestone](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/limestone));
- **Freestone County** ([www.dshs.state.tx.us/freestone](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/freestone)); and
- **East Texas** ([www.dshs.state.tx.us/easttexas](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/easttexas)).

## Potentially Preventable Hospitalizations Project (DSHS)

([www.dshs.state.tx.us/ph](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/ph))

Hospitalizations for the following ten conditions are called “**potentially preventable**,” because if the individual had access to **and** cooperated with outpatient health care, the hospitalization would likely not have happened:

- o Bacterial Pneumonia;
- o Dehydration;
- o Urinary Tract Infection;
- o Angina (without Procedures);
- o Congestive Heart Failure;
- o Hypertension (High Blood Pressure);
- o Asthma;
- o Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease;
- o Diabetes Short-Term Complications; and
- o Diabetes Long-Term Complications.

## Potentially Preventable Hospitalizations Project

([www.dshs.state.tx.us/ph](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/ph))

- Profiles on all 254 counties in Texas;
- Clinical Interventions; and
- Maps illustrating the impact of the ten adult potentially preventable hospitalization conditions.

Contact:

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