



“PROTECT TEXAS Volunteers”

Emergency Public Health Response in Texas



PROTECT TEXAS VOLUNTEERS

ProtectTexas™
Department of State Health Services



How Do Texans Help Protect Texas?

To make sure these supplies reach people quickly, the Texas Department of State Health Services & Local Health Departments need volunteer assistance from health & medical professionals, people with special skills & abilities, & all interested, concerned citizens –

People who will work alongside public health staff & others as

PROTECT TEXAS Volunteers.

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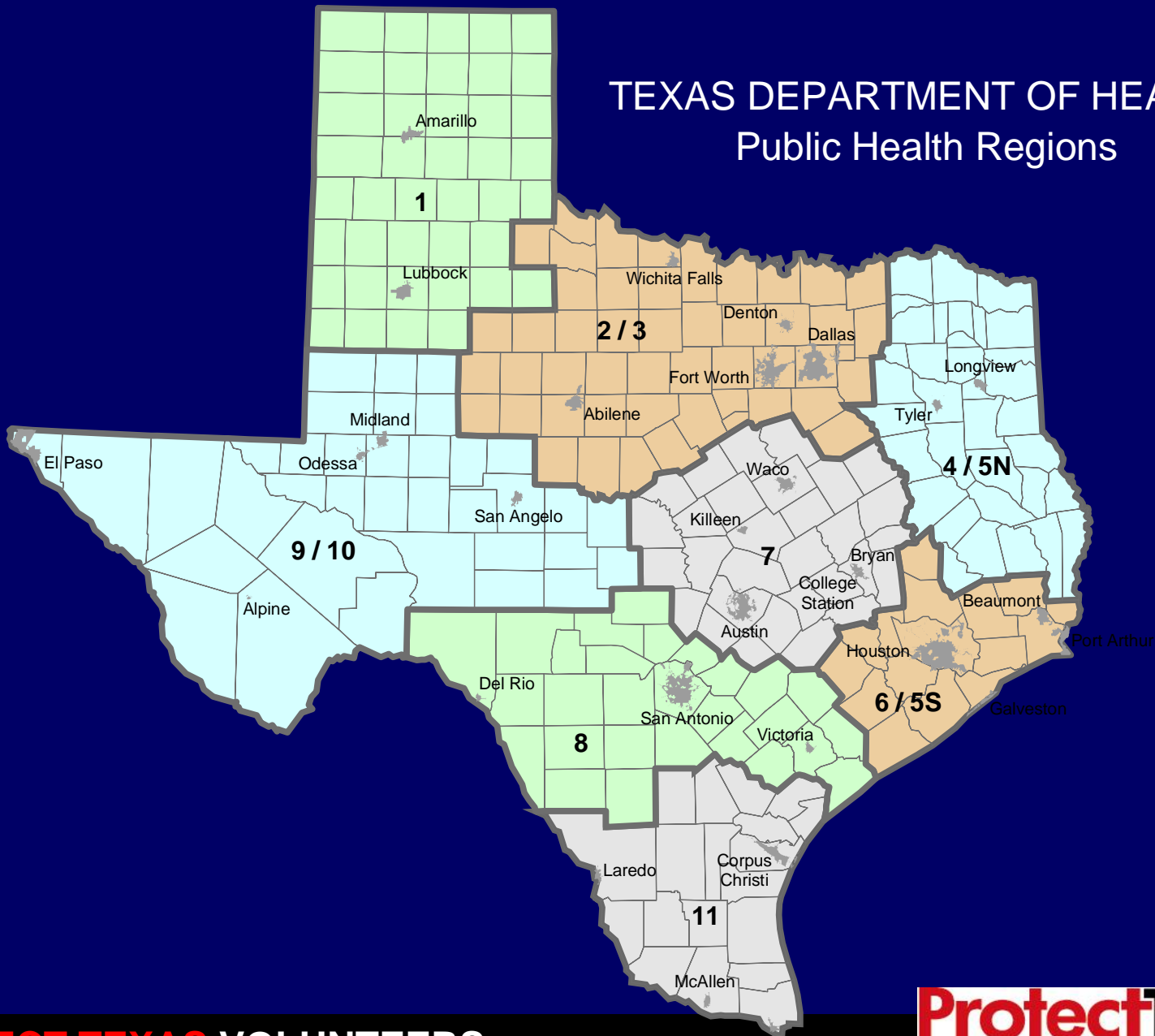


PROTECT TEXAS Volunteer Program

- Volunteer Program Coordinators at DSHS and Local Health Departments and training activities
 - Recruit
 - Orient
 - Train
- Program Coordinators work routinely with concerned
 - Health education, emergency management and other experts
 - Disaster response and other community organizations
 - City and county officials
- Overall coordination of the PROTECT TEXAS Volunteer Program is at the state level of DSHS



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH Public Health Regions



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Mass Medication Dispensing – Greatest Volunteer Need –

There is a critical need for large numbers of volunteers who could help meet staffing needs for any number of mass medication dispensing sites in an affected area.

We need people who can assist with:

Medical Services

Non-medical Services

Site Support Services

Other Specialized Services

Stress Management





Volunteer Roles

Medical Services

- Nurses
 - Medical screening, assessment, triage
- Doctors
 - Medical evaluations
- Pharmacists
 - Repackaging, compounding, special needs
- “Other”
 - Dispensing site managers
 - Mental health counselors (staff & public)
 - Triage assistants





Volunteer Roles

Non-Medical Services

- Site flow assistants
- Interpreters (spoken & sign language)
- Health Screening assistants
 - Forms completion, review, collection
- Clerks
 - Restocking supplies, data entry
- Runners
 - Errands, supplies checks, copying
- Multi-purpose, ‘float’ staff
 - Answer phones, transmit messages





Volunteer Roles

Site Support Services

- Greeters
 - Welcome the public, distribute forms, share information
- Traffic flow, parking direction
- Unload distribution trucks
- Child care assistance
- Facilities maintenance





Volunteer Roles

Specialized Support Services

- Volunteer support
 - Provide food, other support
 - Transport volunteers in “surge”
- “Special populations” support
 - Deliver medications to home-bound individuals
 - Help notify those without media access where to get medicine
 - Assist those with access needs related to physical disability, literacy, hearing or vision impairment, etc.





Can you help?

In a public health emergency, we may need large numbers of volunteers in order to reach people quickly – to help save lives and reduce suffering.

We recognize that service to your community follows safety for yourself and for your family.

And you may already volunteer with a disaster response organization that would serve in such an emergency.

PROTECT TEXAS Volunteers provides orientation, training, skills exercises and other resources to support your vital service.



Take An Active Role!

To apply as a PROTECT TEXAS Volunteer, or indicate your interest in learning more:

Contact

Your Local Health Department

Or Contact

Sandra Byrd, DSHS HSR 9/10 SNS Coordinator

915 – 834-7753 / Sandra.Byrd@dshs.state.tx.us

Or

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/comprep/protect/default.shtm>

Thank You!