Public Health Preparedness and Epidemiology

- Work closely with local officials to develop and exercise plans for public health & medical emergency response.
- Provide regional coordination of public health and medical response and recovery efforts during emergencies.
- Provide training, education, and guidance on public health emergency response, preparedness, and infectious disease prevention and control.
- Conduct disease surveillance and monitor trends of notifiable infectious diseases.
- Coordinate reporting of and investigate notifiable conditions.
- Respond to public health emergencies and outbreaks.

Local Health Departments

Austin Public Health
www.austintexas.gov/department/health

Bell County Public Health District
www.bellcountyhealth.org

Brazos County Health Department
www.brazoshealth.org/

Hays County Local Health Department
www.co.hays.tx.us/local-health-department.aspx

Milam County Health Department
www.milamcounty.net/healthdepartment.html

Waco-McLennan County Public Health District
www.waco-texas.com/cms-healthdepartment/

Williamson County & Cities Health District
www.wccbd.org/

Services provided at most of these field locations include:

- Immunizations, emergency preparedness information, health education, as well as, communicable disease prevention, treatment, and referral.

Please call ahead for office hours and services.

Visit our website
www.dshs.texas.gov/region7/default.shtm
Public Health is the art and science of preventing disease, promoting physical and mental well-being, and prolonging life through organized community efforts.

Our staff is dedicated to raising the level of health and to making public health services more accessible and available to all people who live in the region.

Region 7 Programs and Services

Public Health Nursing
- Provide immunizations for infants, children, adolescents & adults.
- Conduct disease investigation, case management, client treatment, and clinical services.
- Participate in audiometer loan program.
- Participate in community planning, community health fairs and immunizations clinics.
- Provide education on various health topics.
- Support emergency preparedness.
- Provide free STD testing.

HIV/STD
Our mission is to prevent, treat, and/or control the spread of HIV and STDs to protect the health of the people of Texas. In pursuit of this mission we:
- Provide HIV/STD education and information.
- Provide referrals for HIV and STD testing and treatment.
- Collect, analyze, and distribute data relating to HIV and STDs.
- Provide guidance to those who provide HIV and STD services.
We make every effort to assure that the people of Texas receive quality HIV/STD services.

Tuberculosis Elimination Division
The mission of the Tuberculosis Elimination Division is to prevent, control, and eliminate tuberculosis among the people of Public Health Region 7. We do this through coordinating the efforts of local health departments, health care providers and communities to develop, implement and assure compliance with effective tuberculosis strategies, standards, and policies.

Specialized Health and Social Services
Specialized Health and Social Services (SHSS) provides free in-home comprehensive case management services across all of Region 7’s 30 counties. These services are provided to some of our most vulnerable Texans – including adults with Cystic Fibrosis, high risk pregnant women, and children ages 0 to 20 who have chronic conditions that range from Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), asthma, diabetes, to debilitating genetic disorders, childhood cancers, mental illness and traumatic injuries resulting from events such as Shaken-Baby Syndrome, car accidents or near drowning.

SHSS programs include:
- Case Management for Children and Pregnant Women: Licensed social workers conduct home visits to assess the medical, social, educational, and other medically necessary services in coordination with the family to address the needs of the eligible child and/or adult.
- CSHCN-Children with Special Health Care Needs insurance program: Eligibility staff work with families to complete applications and determine eligibility, with social workers conducting home visits and family needs assessments.
- PCS-Personal Care Services and Community First Choice: The PCS program is a Medicaid benefit that allows parents of qualifying special needs children to hire an attendant who can assist the child, age birth through 20 years, with the activities of daily living.
- Tobacco Prevention and Control
Our goals are to:
- Eliminate exposure to environmental tobacco smoke.
- Promote tobacco cessation among adults and youth.
- Prevent initiation of tobacco use by youth.
- Identify and eliminate disparities among diverse and special populations.

Immunizations
Our mission is to increase immunization levels and improve health by providing vaccines, education, disease intervention, and assistance. We encourage volunteerism and teamwork between the public, professional and private sectors.

Public Sanitation and Retail Food Safety
Our mission is to protect the public health through the efficient operation of a comprehensive, progressive retail food safety protection program. We work with schools, retail food establishments, temporary food vendors, youth camps, and mass gatherings.

Zoonosis
The Public Health Region 7 Zoonosis Control Program exists to prevent and reduce the impact of zoonotic diseases on human endeavors in Central Texas. Zoonoses are diseases transmissible between people and animals causing illness which adversely affect the patient. Program activities are comprised of disease investigation and reporting, animal contact risk assessments, disease consultation, education, and field surveillance.