



Bell County Public Health District

www.bellcountyhealth.org

Phone: 254-773-4457

Twitter: @BellCountyPUBH

Facebook: Bell County Public Health District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 1, 2017

Bell County, Texas— Bell County Public Health District staff aided Bell County Emergency Management in the response to Hurricane Harvey by supporting evacuees in local shelters. Our Public Health Emergency Preparedness Division was the most heavily involved with staff taking part in Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activities and our Epidemiologist diligently worked to monitor the shelters for any potential outbreaks of disease (none occurred). This work was done with the support of staff from multiple divisions of the Health District. This was a multiagency coordinated effort and the importance and value of pre-event coordination of agencies throughout the county and the state was reaffirmed throughout this response.

The WIC Program in Bell County also had a role in response in supporting displaced families in need of WIC services. WIC staff immediately responded to area shelters and temporary evacuee sites to assist families. WIC clinic staff made sure displaced WIC families had access to food and formula immediately. Staff were also able to serve many new families who found themselves needing WIC services due to being displaced. Families were able to get replacement WIC food and formula benefits and EBT cards.

Many families were grateful to have the WIC staff come to check on them and be able to provide immediate services. One family recently stated in the midst of the hurricane relief, A displaced pregnant mother who was assisted by WIC staff during the hurricane evacuations returned to the clinic once she had her baby a couple weeks later to say thank you and introduce her baby to the staff. BCPHD WIC Program performs outreach in the community regularly and providing excellent customer service and quality care is a priority.

For more information about any of the Bell County Public Health District Programs, visit our website at www.bellcountyhealth.org or for more information specifically pertaining to WIC resources, go to www.texaswic.org.