



Meeting minutes- San Patricio Health Equity Task Force Meeting #8

Date/Time: May 14, 2024, 10:30 am – 11:30 pm central time

Attendees:

Janna Shoe

Caryn Bingham

Sara Williams

Viola Monrreal

Meeting Facilitators:

- Christina Alfaro
- Dee Grimm
- Dawn Skaggs
- Kimberly Watson

Executive Summary:

- Challenges reaching elderly, disabled, and those with limited digital access
- Possibility of providing paper surveys or assistance to complete digital surveys
- Goal discussed of reaching 50-700 survey responses (around 10% of 70,000 population)
- Barriers accessing information/resources: digital divide, language/literacy, transportation
- Isolation, housing, job loss challenges during pandemic
- Difficulty identifying populations with needs not registered in STEER system
- Lack of participation from local entities like schools, businesses for evacuation planning
- Limited capacity/resources of emergency management office for public outreach
- Continued discussion on inequities and emergency planning
- Potential public education campaign on evacuation before hurricane season
- Seeking dedicated personnel for improved public communication capacity

Meeting Notes:

Survey Participation and Distribution

- Current survey responses are low (11 client/consumer, 16 practitioner/partner)
- Challenges reaching elderly, disabled, those with limited digital access
- Need to expand outreach through local channels like libraries, community centers, schools, food pantries etc.
- Possibility of providing paper surveys or assistance to complete digital surveys
- Coordinating with community organizations to help distribute and get surveys completed
- Goal discussed of reaching 50-700 survey responses (around 10% of 70,000 population)

COVID-19 Impacts and Inequities

- Barriers accessing information/resources: digital divide, language/literacy, transportation
- Impacts on vulnerable groups like elderly, disabled, low-income
- Vaccine hesitancy due to mistrust, misinformation
- Isolation, housing, job loss challenges during pandemic
- Difficulty identifying and reaching populations with access and functional needs
- Lack of local buy-in to support emergency planning and evacuation

Emergency Preparedness and Evacuation Challenges

- Difficulty identifying populations with needs not registered in STEER system
- Lack of participation from local entities like schools, businesses for evacuation planning
- Limited capacity/resources of emergency management office for public outreach

Next Steps

- Task force to assist with survey distribution in their networks
- Explore accessing other recent community assessment data
- Continued discussion on inequities and emergency planning
- Potential public education campaign on evacuation before hurricane season
- Seeking dedicated personnel for improved public communication capacity

End of Meeting Minutes