Hurricane Harvey’s Known Impact

• Costliest storm in US history- $125 Billion in damage
• Over 700,000 registered for assistance from FEMA
• Flooded 800 wastewater treatment facilities and 13 Superfund sites
• 88 Harvey related deaths
• How did the spread of toxic chemicals, sewage, and other contaminants impact the health of residents in the region?
• How did the long term recovery and the cleanup of homes impact the physical and mental health of residents?
• How did Hurricane Harvey impact the economic condition of residents?
• What was the true human cost of Hurricane Harvey?
Collaboration aimed at better preparing the region for future storms and uplifting communities by **examining the long-term impact of Hurricane Harvey** to residents’ physical health, mental health, housing and overall quality of life.
Who should complete the Registry’s survey?
- Any adult in the Harvey-impacted
- Whether Harvey impacted you severely, lightly, or not at all, it is important to share your Harvey experiences with the Registry

Why should you engage with the Registry?
- Research will help shape public health solutions by informing community members and stakeholders
- Registry will enable data-driven preparation for future weather events
- Hurricane Harvey Registry website also includes list of relevant recovery based resources
Results

Over 10,000 registrants to date
Hurricane Harvey’s Impact

• 45.86% of respondents had to leave home
• 43.89% of respondents had homes that were flooded
• 55.7% of respondents experienced home damage
• 59.94% of respondents report contact with water during or right after Harvey
• 14.68% of respondents became ill as a result of Hurricane Harvey
• 22.69% of respondents problems concentrating
• 1.52% of respondents were hospitalized as a result of Harvey
Data Storage and Security

• The Hurricane Harvey Registry (HHR) survey runs from secure HIPAA-compliant web servers.

• The survey data are encrypted before being sent to the secure folders on the Urban Data Platform (UDP) servers.

• The UDP is a data library and secure computing environment which focuses on the Greater Houston Area. It is part of the Kinder Institute for Urban Research.

• Some UDP data are publicly accessible and downloadable while others, like the Hurricane Harvey Registry data, are restricted. The HHR data is cleaned and analyzed within the UDP secure computing environment.
Community Engagement

Building relationships

• Public officials: city councilors and staff, super neighborhood leaders, school districts
• Nonprofits: Baker Ripley, Citizens’ Environmental Coalition, local independent school districts

Inspiring trust

• Transparency with local communities
• Contextualizing Harvey Registry within larger concerns about hurricane preparedness and recovery

Remaining visible

• Public health fair events, canvassing and door to door outreach, large sporting events
Data Driven Outreach
Next Steps and Long-term Vision

• Our ultimate goal is to measure the long-term impact of Hurricane Harvey so that communities can heal, get the relief they need and better prepare for future storms. We hope to accomplish this by:
  • Working to make the Registry more representative of Houston as a whole (geographically, racially, economically) so that data can be useful for lawmakers and stakeholders.
  • Moving health department intervention programs forward
  • Building base of vetted resources to reach those still recovering

• Leveraging governmental relationships

• Preliminary report and press conference with Mayor Turner set for late February
• Offering expertise and guidance so that we can engage every district in a meaningful manner

• Leveraging connections within communities to reach residents
  • Social media, email lists, phone calls, and connecting us to relevant organizations
  • Block walking with councilmember in district
  • Invitation to district engagement events

• How can our platform and data better support the work that Houston City Council leads?
Questions?

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