



# HOUSTON HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Houston Health Department

## Overview

[HoustonHealth.org](http://HoustonHealth.org)



Director: *Stephen L. Williams*

## »» **Mission**

The mission of the Houston Health Department is to work in partnership with the community to promote and protect the health and social well-being of Houstonians and the environment in which they live.

## »» **Vision**

Self-sufficient families and individuals in safe and healthy communities.

## »» **Accreditation**

The Houston Health Department is accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board.

# HHD Values



# HHD Priorities



## ➤ Office of the Director and Divisions

### Director's Office

The Houston Health Department Director's Office oversees and administers all department infrastructure, programs, operations, and functions.

- **Stephen L. Williams – Director**  
(832) 393-5169  
stephen.williams@houstontx.gov

### Executive Leadership Team

#### Chief of Staff/Deputy Director –

HHD's Chief of Staff/Deputy Director supports the Director's office by facilitating and monitoring strategic and interdisciplinary initiatives and commitments, providing executive level support to system initiatives, and serving as an adviser to ensure goals and objectives are being achieved and priorities are communicated effectively.

- **Judy Harris – Deputy Chief Policy Officer,**  
(832) 393-4345  
judy.harris@houstontx.gov

#### My Brother's Keeper

HHD's My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Houston initiative is a transformative program committed to addressing the disparities Houston's young men of color face. Inspired by President



Obama's nationwide initiative, MBK strives to create opportunities and remove barriers for these young men to achieve their full potential. By fostering partnerships with community organizations, educational institutions, and local businesses, My Brother's Keeper seeks to empower and uplift young men of color, creating a more equitable and promising future for them and the entire Houston community.

## Public Health Preparedness

HHD's Public Health (PHP) Preparedness Bureau focuses on programs to protect the City of Houston from disease outbreaks and respond to public health disasters through planning, outreach, training, exercise, and response.

## Access & Equity

HHD's Access and Equity Program promotes and ensures equal access to preventive, promotive, and curative health services to the whole population, irrespective of residence, gender, caste, economic strata, and other factors.

## OPERE

HHD's Office of Planning, Evaluation and Research for Effectiveness (OPERE) provides guidance and technical assistance and comprises epidemiologists, statisticians, and GIS analysts who collaborate with multiple partners to research, analyze, interpret and share information on the health issues that affect our communities.

## Organizational Development

HHD's Organizational Development Bureau promotes HHD's vision of excellence by offering timely and customized resources, support, guidance, coaching or training. The bureau's focus is to assist managers and staff to enhance other skills and capabilities.



## **Nursing Services**

HHD's Nursing Services are guided by a set of overarching goals aimed at improving the health and well-being of Houston residents. Services go beyond medical care with the team actively contributing toward a healthier, stronger, and more resilient Houston by providing information and services including, reducing TB in highly vulnerable populations, the incidence of HIV cases, vaccine-preventable diseases, improving low-income women's reproductive health provide referrals to community partners and help link clients to services.

## **Community Engagement**

HHD's Community Engagement Service extends all over Houston and engages individuals across the communities to join in helping organize and spread the knowledge about the Department's services.

- Public Health AmeriCorps
- Internship Program
- Volunteer Program

## **Public Health Authority**

HHD's Public Health Division is a vital component of the city's public health infrastructure, which focuses on a broad spectrum of public health initiatives and services. From immunization services, maternal and child health, infectious disease control, environmental health, chronic disease prevention, health education, disease prevention and control to health promotion and community outreach. Emphasizing data-driven decision-making and community engagement, to enhance the overall health outcomes of residents and address the unique health challenges they face empowering individuals to make informed decisions about their well-being.

- **Dr. David Persse – Local Health Authority**  
(832) 394-6818  
david.persse@houstontx.gov
- **Dr. Janeana White – Deputy Local Public Health Authority,**  
janeana.white@houstontx.gov

## Communications

HHD's Office of Communications and Public Relations plays a crucial role in disseminating data-driven information, updates, and news to its stakeholders, including Houston area residents and businesses. During emergencies, it takes charge of crisis communication to provide vital information and safety measures to the community.

- **Tucker Wilson – Deputy Assistant Director Communications**  
(832) 393-5045  
tucker.wilson@houstontx.gov

## Finance/Budget

HHD's Office of Finance and Budgeting handles all functions related to HHD's financial well-being. The Finance/Budget team is responsible for a variety of tasks – including accounting, recordkeeping, administrative work, and cash flow.

- **Darren Asher – Deputy Assistant Director (Finance, Business & Logistical Support)**  
(832) 393-4346  
darren.asher@houstontx.gov

## Human Services

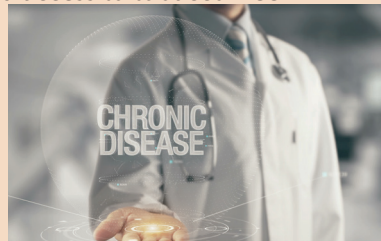
HHD's Office of Human Services maintains and oversees all HHD's systems' performance and stability and ensuring efficiency to support business functions and operations.

- **Deborah Moore – Assistant Director, Human Services/MCH Consultant**  
(832) 393-4410  
deboraha.moore@houstontx.gov

## Bureau:

### Chronic Disease & Health Education

HHD's Chronic Disease & Health Education Bureau works with partners to improve the health of all Houstonians by increasing opportunities for chronic disease prevention, health education and self-management, access to healthy foods and beverages, opportunities for active living, and access to tobacco-free environments.



## ➤ HHD Divisions

### Division of Public Health Science and Surveillance

HHD's Division of Public Health Services provides oversight to the areas of Laboratory Services, Epidemiology, and Outbreak Management.

- **Roger Sealy – Assistant Director – Public Health Services**  
(832) 393-3943  
roger.sealy@houstontx.gov

### Bureaus:

#### Epidemiology

HHD's Bureau of Epidemiology prevents sickness and death from infectious diseases and environmental hazards through data analysis, education, surveillance, investigation, and health policy change.

#### Laboratory Services

HHD's Bureau of Laboratory Services plays a crucial role in the city's public health infrastructure, through high-

quality clinical and environmental laboratory support. The bureau provides timely laboratory testing that enables the health department to proactively address the health threats, protect and promote the overall well-being of Houstonians. Key responsibilities include Disease Surveillance and Detection, testing and analysis, environmental testing, notifiable disease reporting, and more.

#### Outbreak Management

HHD's Bureau of Outbreak Management protects public health by identifying the source and implementing control measures to prevent further spread or recurrence of the infection.





## Units:

### Data Services

HHD's Data Services Unit gathers, analyzes and links information about people and their health to improve healthcare for all. Using health data for research to better understand diseases and health conditions, such as understanding their causes and symptoms or knowing how many people are affected.

### Division of Family Services (WIC, Maternal, Child, Family Health & Human Services)

HHD's Division of Family Services promotes and provides services throughout Houston for women of childbearing age, infants and children.

- **Patricia Watson – Assistant Director - Maternal, Child, Family Health & Human Services**  
832-393-6684  
patricia.watson@houstontx.gov

## Bureaus:

### Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

HHD's Harris County Area Agency on Aging (AAA) provides federally funded social services for the elderly, as authorized by the Grants for Community Programs on Aging, Title III, Older Americans Act of 1965.

### Human Services

HHD's Human Services Bureau helps Houstonians find stability and can include provision of basic needs such as food and shelter to offering counseling, guidance, and substance abuse treatment with the goal of promoting self-sufficiency and content in people's lives.

### Women Infant Children (WIC)

HHD's WIC Bureau safeguards the health of low-income pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, infants, and children up to age 5 who are at nutritional risk by providing nutritious foods to supplement

diets, information on healthy eating including breastfeeding promotion and support, and referrals to health care. including breastfeeding promotion and support, and referrals to health care.

## Adolescent Health

HHD's Adolescent Health Division promotes adolescent health through comprehensive and age-appropriate programs and services. It aims to empower young individuals to make informed choices, build resilience, and lead healthy and fulfilling lives.

### Programs:

#### Community Re-Entry Program

HHD's Community Re-Entry Program forms a partnership with the community in creating strategies to reduce recidivism, increase public safety and successfully assist and support former offenders in transitioning to becoming productive and contributing members the Houston community.

- Anger Management
- Texas Drug Offender Education

- Peer Support Group
- Moral Reconciliation Therapy

## See to Succeed

HHD's See to Succeed (S2S) is a visionary program that aims to improve the visual health and academic success of Houston area school children. It collaborates with schools, healthcare providers, and community partners, to ensure that children receive early detection and treatment of vision problems, which can significantly impact their learning and overall well-being. S2S removes barriers and equips children with the tools they need for a successful academic future.

## Environmental Health

HHD's Environmental Health Division provides a variety of programs and services relating to air and water pollution, occupational health and food establishments.

- **Patrick Key – Assistant Director – Environmental Health**  
(832) 393-5130  
patrick.key@houstontx.gov

## Bureaus:

### Children's Environmental Health

HHD's Children's Environmental Health Bureau's mission is to protect the developing children of Houston from environmental health hazards and promote a healthier environment.

### Consumer Health

HHD's Consumer Health Bureau strives to protect the Houstonians through education and enforcement of local, state, and federal public health and environmental rules and standards as they relate to city-regulated waste, food safety, swimming pool safety, and ambulance services.

### Environmental & Data Services

HHD's Environmental & Data Services Bureau provides leadership on environmental studies and has reviewed proposed state, federal and local environmental policies impacting the Greater Houston Area.

### Pollution Control

HHD's Bureau of Pollution Control and Prevention was established in 1967 to decrease air pollution in Houston and expanded in 1973 when the Water Pollution Control Program was established. Since then, the bureau has grown to include Environmental Monitoring and Environmental Regulation Enforcement Divisions.

### Vital Statistics

HHD's Bureau of Vital Statistics maintains records of births, deaths, and fetal deaths that occur in the incorporated city limits of Houston. Our core functions include records retention, serving as a liaison to the state, funeral home relations, and providing birth and death certificates to the public.



## Community Health Services & Disease Prevention/Control

HHD's Community Health Services and Disease Prevention/Control Division provides community-based health services program which includes mobile health (curbside) services and community health and wellness centers to provide affordable, convenient, high quality healthcare services to Houston residents most in need. They work in partnership with the community to assess, plan, and implement effective public health strategies to reduce the spread of infectious diseases.

- **Naomi Macias – Assistant Director – Community Health Services & Disease Prevention & Control**  
(832) 393-5113  
naomi.macias@houstontx.gov

### Bureaus:

#### HIV/STD and Viral Hepatitis

HHD's Bureau of HIV/STDs and Viral Hepatitis is focused on addressing and combatting the spread of



sexually transmitted infections (STIs), human immunodeficiency virus resilient community by reducing the incidence of HIV, STIs, and viral hepatitis while promoting informed decision-making, and supporting the well-being of individuals and families affected by these infections.

## Immunizations

HHD's Immunizations Bureau improves immunization coverage levels and protect Houston communities from vaccine-preventable diseases.

## Oral Health Services

HHD's Oral Health Services is a specialized division dedicated to promoting and ensuring the oral health and well-being of the community. This income-friendly service provides comprehensive care services, education, and preventive measures to improve the dental health of individuals across all age groups.

## Tuberculosis (TB)

HHD's Tuberculosis Bureau reduces the prevalence of tuberculosis in the greater-Houston area. Screens, identifies, and treats individuals with TB as well as partner with TB providers to ensure optimal TB care.

## Area Operations Support (Multi-Service Centers)

**Multi-Service Centers** Located around Houston, Houston Health Department's 12 Multi-Service Centers (MSC) offer spacious areas for public and private events for the surrounding communities. In partnership with collaborating agencies, HHD provides a variety of public services including educational resources, direct services, referrals, access to basic needs, and other social service needs.





## Health Centers

HHD operates 4 Health Centers (HC) across the Houston metro area that provide services meant to protect the health and social well-being of all Houstonians through quality care, access, research and education. Services are offered to all, regardless of ability to pay, at discounted/sliding fee scales. Health Centers also offer telemedicine visits to existing HHD patients with an active OCHIN MyChart. Services offered at the 4 Health Centers include:

- Family planning and reproductive health
- STD/HIV Vaccinations
- Tuberculosis
- Immunizations
- Dental Care
- Joint Programs (shared with Houston Health Foundation)
  - Vision: See to Succeed
  - Dental: Project Saving Smiles

# Houston Multi-Service Centers

✦ **Alief Neighborhood Center**

11903 Bellaire Blvd.  
Houston, TX 77072-2310  
(832) 395-7075

✦ **Southwest Multi-Service Center**

6400 High Star Dr.  
Houston, TX 77074-5006  
(832) 395-9900

✦ **Sunnyside Health and Multi-Service Center**

4410 Reed Rd.  
Houston, TX 77051-2718  
(832) 395-0069

✦ **Third Ward Multi-Service Center**

3611 Ennis St.  
Houston, TX 77004-4407  
(832) 393-4051

✦ **West End Multi-Service Center**

170 Heights Blvd.  
Houston, TX 77020-3729  
(832) 393-5950

✦ **Acres Homes Multi-Service Center**

6719 W. Montgomery Rd.  
Houston, TX 77091  
(832) 393-4145

✦ **Denver Harbor Multi-Service Center**

6402 Market St.  
Houston, TX 77020  
(832) 395-0895

✦ **Fifth Ward Multi-Service Building**

4014 Market St.  
Houston, TX 77020  
(832) 393-3800

✦ **Hiram Clarke Multi-Service Center**

3810 W. Fuqua St.  
Houston, TX 77045-6402  
(832) 393-4240

✦ **Kashmere Multi-Service Center**

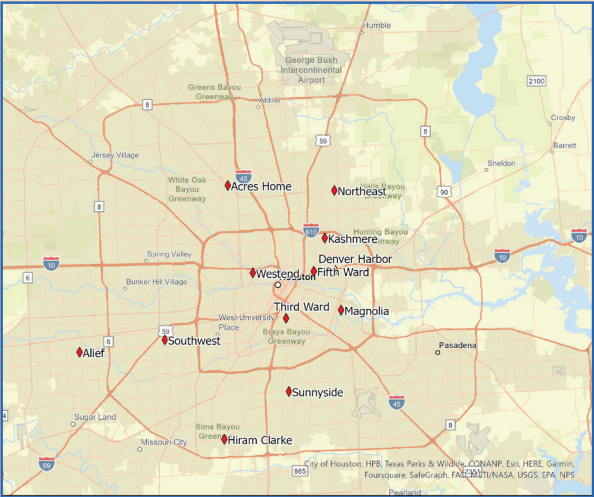
4802 Lockwood Dr.  
Houston, TX 77026-2941  
(832) 393-5503

✦ **Magnolia Multi-Service Center**

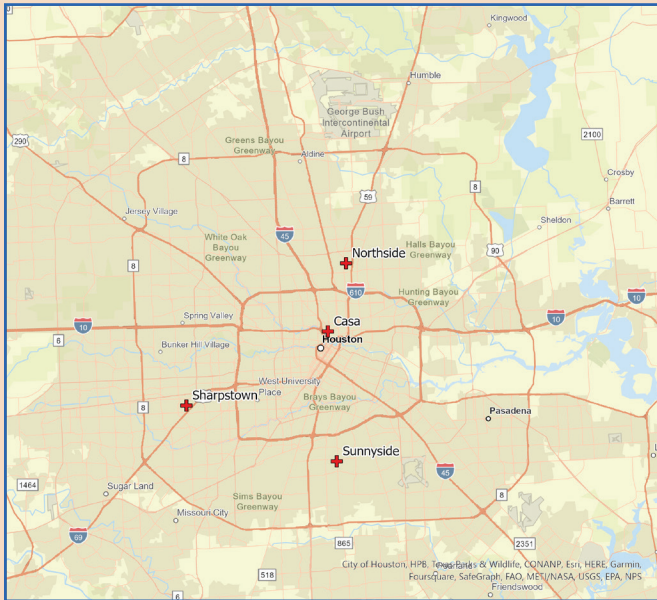
7037 Capitol St.  
Houston, TX 77011-4643  
(832) 395-3380

✦ **Northeast Multi-Service Center**

9720 Spaulding St.  
Houston, TX 77016-4841  
(832) 395-0472



# Houston Health Centers



- ✦ **La Nueva Casa de Amigos Health Center**  
1809 North Main Street  
Houston, Texas 77009-8301  
(832) 395-0570
- ✦ **Northside Health Center**  
8504 Schuller Rd.  
Houston, Texas 77093  
(832) 395-9100
- ✦ **Sharpstown Health Services**  
6201 Bonhomme Rd.  
Houston, Texas 77036  
(832) 395-9800
- ✦ **Sunnyside Health and Multi-Service Center**  
4410 Reed Rd.  
Houston, Texas 77051-2718  
(832) 395-0069



## ➤ Houston Health Foundation (HHF)



The Houston Health Foundation is a crucial and philanthropic entity dedicated to supporting HHD's public health initiatives and programs. It plays a pivotal role in raising funds, securing grants, and fostering community partnerships to help bolster the department's efforts in promoting health equity, disease prevention, and access to quality healthcare services. It uses strategic collaborations to help HHD to expand its reach and enhance its program's effectiveness.

### Community Nutrition

The goal of the Community Nutrition program is to provide sustainable alternatives for obesity prevention

by promoting healthy lifestyles in communities through increased access to healthy, nutritious food options.

Formerly known as **“Community Gardens”** or **“The Community Food Security Initiative”**

Helps individuals understand the connection between healthy eating and chronic illness, develop volunteers as champions for healthy eating especially in communities with food access barriers, strengthen the capacity of community organizations to develop their own health living programs, and identify and address policies that contribute to food deserts.



## My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Houston

- Founded in 2015
- Mission: MBK will work to eliminate the burdens and barriers facing boys and young men of color and improve access to better opportunities and brighter futures.

## See to Succeed

- Mission: Give children in need the power of sight for lifelong achievement
- Provides free vision exams and corrective eyewear for Houston area school children 6-18 years old with unresolved vision impairments.



## Project Saving Smiles



- Mission: Reduce dental cavities; decrease school absences due to oral health problems.
- Provides free dental screenings, dental sealants, fluoride varnish, oral health education, and bus transportation for Houston-area at-risk 2nd graders enrolled in schools with more than 70% of population in the Free and Reduced Lunch Program.
- Spearheaded by HHD.

## **Houston Health Department (HHD) Memberships**

- American Public Health Association (APHA)
- Big Cities Health Coalition (BCHC)
- National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)
- Texas Association of County and City Health Officials (TACCHO)

## **Individual Trainings and Recognitions**

- Artificial External Defibrillator Communications
- Benefits Counselor I and II/Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy (HICAP) Business Technology
- The Bravo Award
- City Accreditation Program for Supervisors (CAPS)
- Environmental Law Institute (ELI)
- Group Process Healthy Houston
- Information and Referrals Assistance (CRS)
- Office of Service Integration, Program Quality, and Effectiveness (IQUE)
- Labor Relations
- Lean Six Sigma Green Belt (LSSGB)
- National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA) National Urban Fellows (NUF)
- UH Public Health Certification
- UT Public Health Certification
- Workplace Violence Prevention Chronic Disease Self- Management



# HOUSTON HEALTH DEPARTMENT



**HOUSTONEMERGENCY.ORG**

Houston Health Department  
8000 North Stadium Drive, Houston, TX 77054 832-393-5169