

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE October 14, 2020

TO Honorable Members of the Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance

SUBJECT **Update on City of Dallas Ongoing Efforts to Address COVID-19 Health Access Disparities**

On Thursday May 28, 2020, Chair Thomas requested a special-called meeting as a follow-up from the Monday, May 11, 2020, Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee briefing where the Office of Equity and Office of Resilience addressed COVID-19 critical needs and equitable health access. During this meeting, it was requested that a monthly briefing memo with updates on the City of Dallas's continuous efforts be provided. The following information highlights the ongoing efforts to address COVID-19 health access disparities:

COVID-19 Data by Race/Ethnicity:

COVID-19 reported cases as of September 29, 2020:

Race/Ethnicity	Patient Count	% of Total
African American*	6578	8%
Asian	1289	2%
Hispanic**	34212	42%
White	8613	10%
Other***	540	1%
Not Reported	30929	37%
Total	82161	100%

Race/Ethnicity as reported by individuals via data provided by DCHHS

*African American includes African American; Black; Black, Non-Hispanic

** Hispanic includes Hispanic; White, Hispanic; Black, Hispanic; Pacific-Islander, Hispanic

***Other includes Non-Hispanic; Two or more races reported; American Indian, Non-Hispanic

Characteristics of cumulative hospitalized confirmed COVID-19 cases, Dallas County, March 10 – October 6, 2020:

Race/Ethnicity	Hospitalized Cases	%
	N = 7950	10% of Total Cases
White	1288	16%*
Hispanic	4154	52%*
Black	1716	22%*
Other	280	4%*
Not Reported/Unknown	512	6%

*Percentages can also be calculated to exclude cases for which race/ethnicity was not reported

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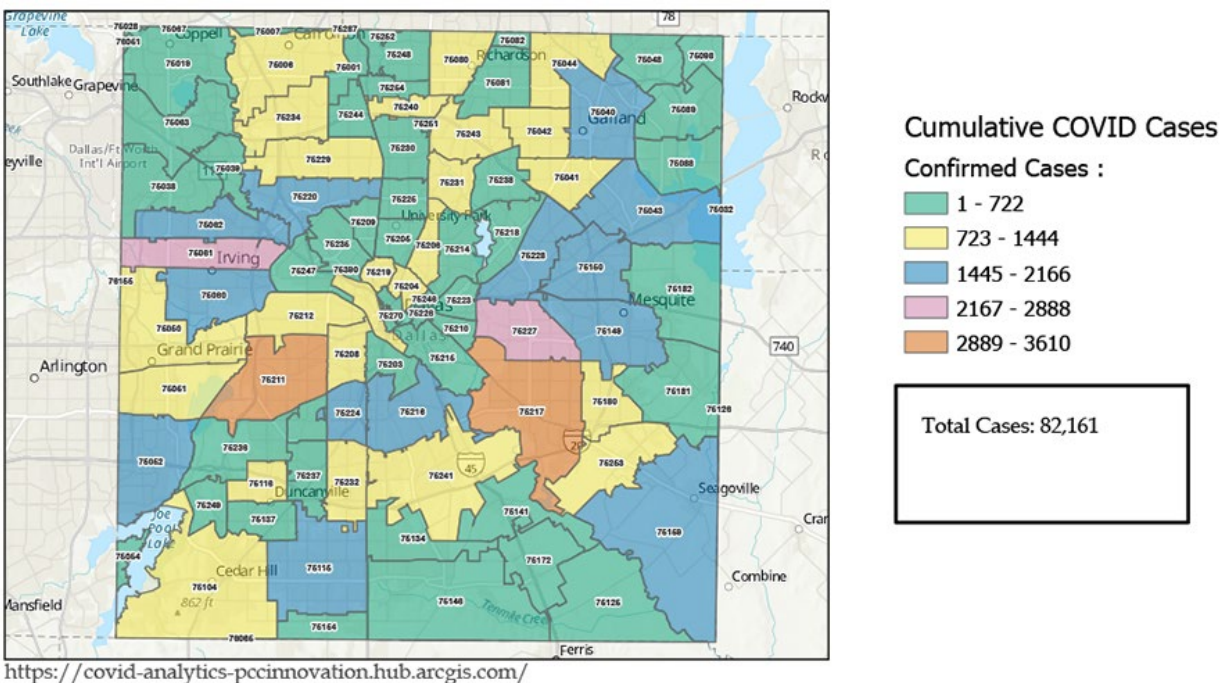
Characteristics of cumulative confirmed COVID-19 deaths, Dallas County, March 10 – October 6, 2020:

Race/Ethnicity	Confirmed Deaths	%*
	N = 1038	1.2% of Total Cases
White	266	26% (29% of population)
Hispanic	477	46% (41% of population)
Black	252	24% (24% of population)
Asian	30	3% (7% of population)

Death classified as confirmed if decedent was a Dallas County resident with a positive molecular test. Data are obtained from ME office, hospitals, and vital statistics.

*Percentages calculated among those with known underlying health conditions or race/ethnicity as reported by medical provider

**2019 U.S. Census population estimates for Dallas County



Testing: The Office of Emergency Management, in coordination with Dallas County Health and Human Services, and the Texas Division of Emergency Management continues to support free, equitable access to COVID-19 testing in our community. All city, county, and state sites will remain operational at least until the end of October. Spanish language services are available at all sites and additional language services are being provided at Sam Tasby. An updated list of operational COVID-19 testing sites including the new **Southeast Dallas Health Center site** is attached (Attachment A).

Community Outreach: Communications, Outreach, and Marketing (COM) has continued to address health access disparities across the City through collaborative efforts with the La Alianza, Black COVID-19 task force led by Chair Thomas, and the Dallas COVID-19 Alliance led by Dr. Baggett. The following are the highlights discussed in the various groups:

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- People of color are more likely to live in multigenerational and higher-density households with less space for physical distancing from those who may be at highest risk for COVID-19 due to underlying health conditions or because of increased risk of on-the-job exposure.
- Those who do not have the option to work remotely are at high risk for not only the health but also the economic consequences of COVID-19, especially if they have school-aged children in their household and cannot afford childcare or assist their students with online learning.
- Uninsured or underinsured people are also more likely to fear, as they cannot afford *not* to work – even if only for a few days between getting tested and getting results, and even if their employment may increase their exposure to COVID-19.
- People reliant on public transit to get to school, work, or medical care will more keenly feel the economic consequences of COVID-19 when routes are cut or services are reduced, because they can least afford alternatives.
- Families of mixed documentation status may not avail themselves of free Community Based Testing Site services because contact tracing is perceived to threaten their privacy, safety and security.
- The most trusted messengers to persuade people to follow best practices to slow the spread of COVID-19 are not friends, family, celebrities, or social media influencers but medical professionals – doctors, nurses, and promotoras – who they find relatable.

Internet Access:

- Short Term Approaches:
 - Digital Navigators – City Council will vote on October 28, 2020 to authorize agreements to deploy the digital navigators program. Please see the memorandum included in the Ad Hoc Committee materials.
 - Texas Education Agency (TEA) Matching Funds – On October 1, 2020 staff provided a briefing memorandum related to the matching funds allocated to Dallas ISD, Richardson ISD, and Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD to the Ad Hoc Committee. The TEA extended the deadline to submit match fund requests to October 15, 2020. Since the briefing on October 1st, staff received a matching funds request from A+ Charter Schools, Inc. Staff recommends the following funding allocations:
 - Dallas ISD: \$500,000
 - Richardson ISD: \$53,000
 - Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD: \$260,000
 - A+ Charter Schools, Inc.: \$22,400The City Council will vote on approving the allocation on the November 11, 2020 voting agenda.
- Medium Term Approaches
 - Strategic Engineering Plan – City staff have begun to engage with CTC Technology and Energy Consultants to begin providing necessary data to support their efforts in developing recommendations for technologies to bridge the digital divide.
- Long Term Approaches
 - Economic Development Administration (EDA) Funding – Led by the Office of Economic Development, staff have met with EDA representatives and met with CTC Technology and Energy Consultants, separately, to develop a grant application and proposal.

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Food Security: As part of the CARES Act-Funded Making Food Accessible Program, the Office of Community Care has entered into contracts with five subrecipients to administer food distribution services. The providers are targeting low-income clients and communities of concentrated poverty. In addition, to communities identified highly impacted by COVID-19 in accordance to the Office of Equity and Inclusion's COVID-19 Equity Impact Assessment Tool. Each of the subrecipients offer slightly different programming and seek to reach different target communities, but collectively reach a broad range of Dallas residents experiencing food insecurity due to financial and health impacts of COVID.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me at liz.cedillopereira@dallascityhall.com if you have any questions about these efforts.



M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira
Chief of Equity and Inclusion

[Attachment]

c:	Honorable Mayor and City Council Members T.C. Broadnax, City Manager Chris Caso, City Attorney Mark Swann, City Auditor Biliera Johnson, City Secretary Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager	Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer Directors and Assistant Directors
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Attachment A

City/County Sites:

Ellis Davis Field House

9191 S Polk St.

Dallas, Texas 75232

Dallas city and county residents only. Address verification required

Monday to Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Inquiries related to test results, please contact: covidresults@phhs.org

Eastfield College

3737 Motley Dr.

Mesquite, Texas 75150, Lot P8

Testing entry is on La Prada Dr. side of the campus.

Dallas city and county residents only. Address verification required (utility bill or library card).

Monday to Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Inquiries related to test results, please contact: covidresults@phhs.org

State Sites

Mountain View College

4849 W. Illinois Ave.

Dallas, Texas 75211

No residency or ID requirements, open to all.

Wednesday to Friday, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Inquiries related to test results, please contact: Covid19help@honumg.com or call 844-778-2455

Paul Quinn College

4849 W. Illinois Ave.

Dallas, Texas 75211

No residency or ID requirements, open to all.

Tuesday & Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Inquiries related to test results, please contact: Covid19help@honumg.com or call 844-778-2455

Good Street

3110 Bonnie View Road

Dallas, Texas 75216

No residency or ID requirements, open to all.

Monday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Walk-up locations: Must be a Dallas city or county resident. Address verification required (utility bill or library card).

Goodwill Industries/Los Barrios

3020 North Westmoreland Road

Dallas, Texas 75212

Monday to Saturday

7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Inquiries related to test results, please contact: covidresults@phhs.org

Sam Tasby Middle School

7001 Fair Oaks Ave., Dallas TX 75231

Monday to Saturday

7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (or until the testing limit is reached)

Inquiries related to test results, please contact: covidresults@phhs.org

Salvation Army/Pleasant Grove Corps Community Center

8341 Elam Road, Dallas TX 75217

Monday to Friday

7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (or until the testing limit is reached)

Inquiries related to test results, please contact: covidresults@phhs.org

Southeast Dallas Health Center

9202 Elam Road, Dallas TX 75217

Monday to Saturday

7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (or until the testing limit is reached)

Inquiries related to test results, please contact: covidresults@phhs.org

Mobile Testing:

Mobile testing is now available. Appointments can be scheduled between the hours of 9 a.m. and 9 p.m., 7 days a week through the UrgentCare2GO screening line by calling 1-888-601-0568. View additional requirements [here](#).