

COVID-19 Community Response and Equity Coalition Update

Community Health and Equity Committee
February 25, 2021



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT

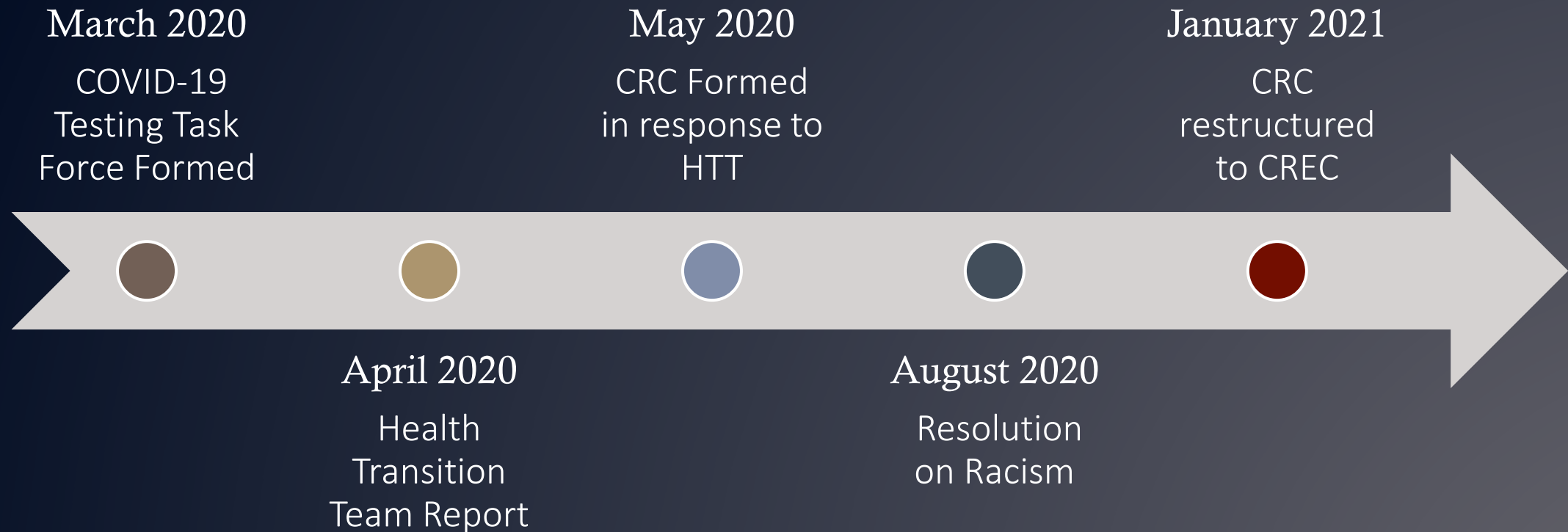
Presented by :

Barbara Taylor, M.D., M.S. Epidemiology
UT Health San Antonio, CREC Co-Chair

Kathy Shields
Metro Health, Public Health Administrator



COVID-19 Community Response Coalition Transition



What is Health Equity

Health Equity means that our policy-making, service delivery, and distribution of resources account for the different histories, challenges, and needs of the people we serve. Equity is achieved when one's identity and socio-economic status cannot predict one's health outcomes.

Equity in Action

- Prioritize the inclusion of race/ethnicity data in COVID case data
- Expand and increase free testing opportunities on the South side
- Walk Up Testing sites added
- Release of Weekly and Monthly Epidemiology Reports
- Periodic reports on racial disparities and COVID-19
- Community Health and Prevention team utilization of the equity index
- Targeting areas for vaccine registration by the equity index and health disparities



Community members outside of Las Palmas Library in line waiting for free COVID19 testing

Guiding Principles for Equity

Equity is about creating people-centered system level changes due to systemic racism

Be intentional about being inclusive – make getting the right people involved a high priority from the start! Who are the *real* experts?

Create space and opportunity to identify and focus on community-driven needs.

Center Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) and honor their historical and lived experiences.

Identify priority populations and associated racial, economic, social and health disparities. (Priority populations include individuals from all marginalized populations, who often experience intersectionality, including but are not limited to: LGBTQIA+ individuals, veterans, homeless and individuals with disabilities.)

Include individuals from priority population in all processes AND give them decision making power.

Create space for them to tell their story and identify their needs and solutions.

Honor the time needed to be authentically inclusive and don't rush the process.

COVID-19 Community Response and Equity Coalition

Education
Workgroup

Policy and Advocacy
Workgroup

Advisory Committees

- * PreK-12 Consultation Group
- * Contact Tracing
- * Health Alerts
- * Testing and Lab Reporting
- * Indicator Monitoring

CREC Membership Survey

Sociodemographic factors:

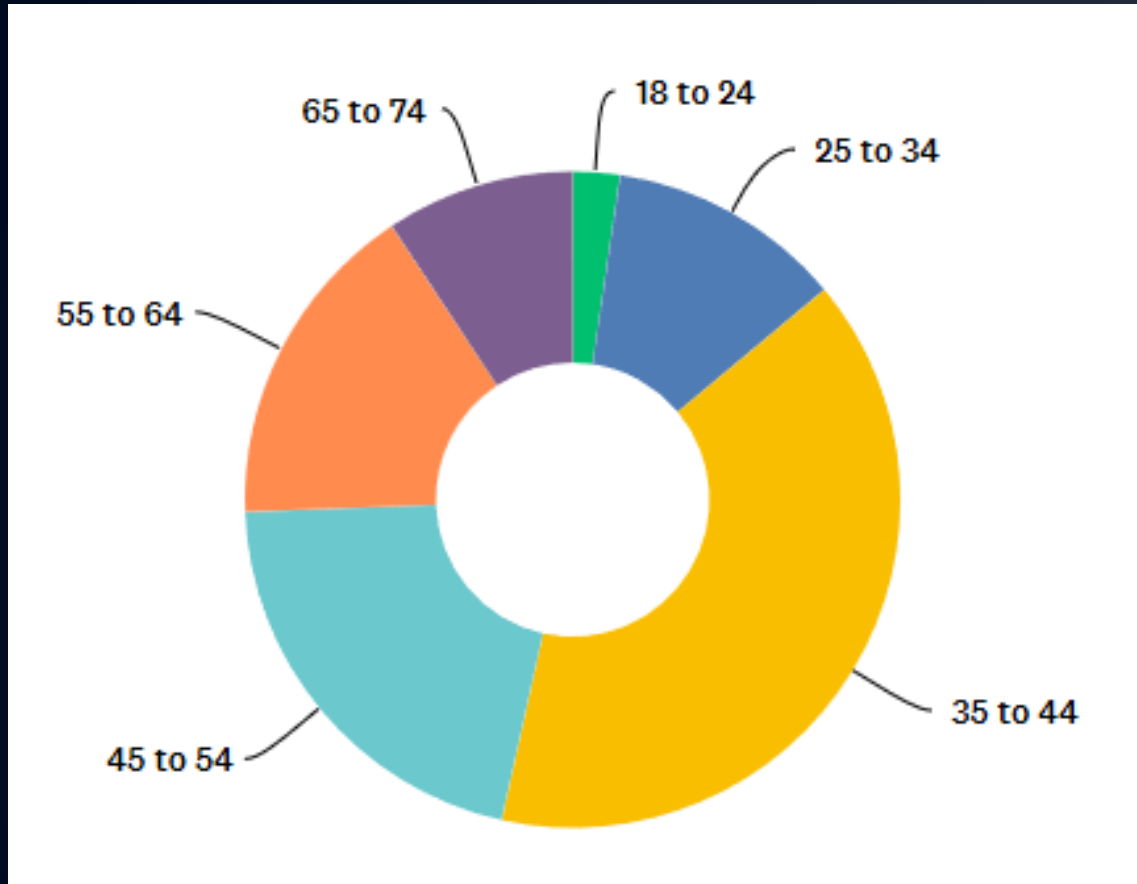
- Ethnicity
- Gender identity
- Age range
- Sexual orientation
- Underlying health conditions
- Zip code
- Household income
- Highest level of education attained
- Current employment status
- Disabilities

COVID specific information:

- Have you personally tested positive for COVID-19?
- Have you had a family member test positive for COVID-19?
- Have you had a family member pass away due to COVID-19?
- Have you received the COVID-19 vaccine?
- If not, do you intend to receive the vaccine?
- Where do you currently get your information related to COVID-19?

CREC Membership Profile

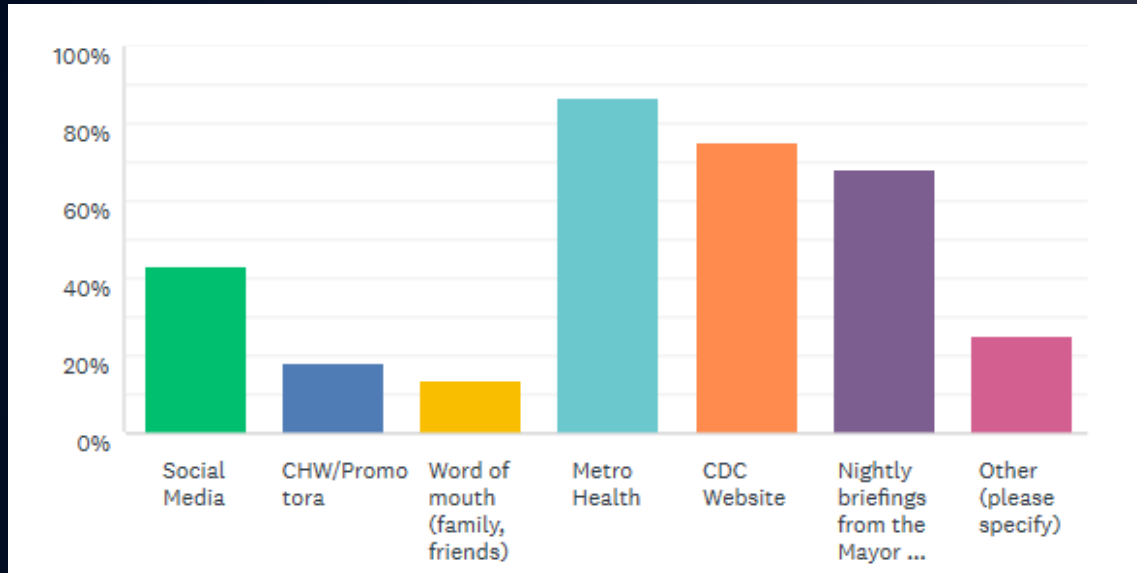
- Over 85% of the current CREC membership within the two active workgroups identify as either Hispanic or Caucasian
- Approximately 76% of members are between the ages of 35 – 64 years old
- Individuals who gender identify as women make up 65% of our current membership profile
- 32 out of 44 individuals surveyed identify as heterosexual
- Over 95% of CREC members are fully employed
- Household income ranged between \$25,000 to over \$200,000
- All individuals surveyed have completed at least one year of college



Age distribution of current CREC members

CREC Membership Profile

- Less than 5% of current CREC members polled have tested positive for COVID
- Approximately 36% of CREC members have had family members test positive for COVID
- 5 out of 44 respondents have experienced a loved one pass away due to COVID
- 50% of CREC members polled have already received the COVID vaccine
- Most of those individuals who have not received the vaccine plan to receive it
- Members receive most of their COVID19 updates and information from Metro Health, CDC, nightly briefings or social media



Main sources of COVID19 information for CREC members

Workgroup Updates

CREC Workgroups Progress

Education Workgroup

- Currently finalizing agenda items for the 2nd Community Health Worker Summit
- Developed Vaccine FAQ which has been listed on the [COVID19.sanantonio.gov](https://www.covid19.sanantonio.gov) and distributed to CHP team, and CHW Summit attendees
- Also developing post vaccine FAQ document to address additional FAQs from community members

COVID-19 Vaccine: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Why should I get the vaccine?

+

Who can get the vaccine?

+

Where can we go to get a vaccine?

+

How much does the vaccine cost?

+

Vaccine Safety

+

Myths about the Vaccine

+

Policy & Advocacy Workgroup

Convened community partners to identify policies that address inequitable impacts of COVID pandemic

Compiled policy priorities and recommendations from access to health services to transportation access

Promote priorities & solutions that address inequitable impacts of COVID pandemic

Build public understanding & broad-based support for these priorities

Identify tools and resources needed to address root causes of COVID disparities

Support coordinated action for equitable recovery



San Antonio Food Bank Drive Through at the Alamodome

Policy & Advocacy Workgroup Priorities

- I. Access to Health Services
- II. Housing Security
- III. Food Security
- IV. Social Support
- V. Economic Security
- VI. Digital Equity
- VII. Safe Spaces for Physical Activity
- VIII. Fair Policing and Justice Systems
- IX. Transportation Access

CREC Equity Plan of Action

Executive Summary

What will this plan do for us?

Why do we need a Plan of Action?

Define the Current State of Equity

What is our current situation?

How did we get to this point?

Define Our Equity Goal

What will we improve?

To what level will we improve it?

Identify Our Current and Potential Resources

Who are our Current Partners?

What new relationships must we establish?

CREC Equity Plan of Action

Recognize Our Challenges

What obstacles do we currently face?
What obstacles could we anticipate?

Establish Equity Priorities

Data, Inclusion, Access to Services,
Policies, Communications

Evaluate Our Performance

How do we measure our success?
How will we address areas needing improvement?

Plan for the Future

How will we assure that CREC Equity Continues?
What are the fiscal implications?

What's Next?

1. Carry out CHW summit #2 and facilitate outreach and strategic messaging around the Policy Priorities
2. Assure that equity is the foundation of the CREC and the Equity Action Plan
3. Prepare to initiate new strategies as the pandemic evolves
4. Strategize for Sustainability

COVID-19 Community Response and Equity Coalition Update

QUESTIONS?