



WILLIAMSON COUNTY AND CITIES HEALTH DISTRICT NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Deb Strahler
512-248-7629

Williamson County and Cities Health District Achieves National Accreditation

The Williamson County and Cities Health District (WCCHD) is honored to announce that it has achieved national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). The national accreditation program works to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing and ultimately transforming the quality and performance of the nation's state, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments.

“We are pleased to be recognized for achieving national standards that promote continuous quality improvement,” said John Teel, Executive Director of WCCHD “The accreditation process helps to ensure that the programs and services we provide are as responsive as possible to the needs of our community. With accreditation, WCCHD is demonstrating increased accountability and credibility to the public, funders, elected officials and partner organizations with which we work.”

Public health departments play a critical role in protecting and improving the health of people and communities. In counties, cities, towns, and states across the nation, health departments provide a range of services aimed at promoting healthy behaviors; preventing diseases and injuries; ensuring access to safe food, water and life-saving immunizations; and preparing for and responding to public health emergencies.

PHAB, jointly supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, sets standards against which the nation's more than 3,000 governmental public health departments can continuously improve the quality of their services and performance.

“This achievement validates the dedication and hard work of our staff, the extraordinary support of our eight member governments, community partners, and the commitment of our Board of Health to improving the health and quality of life in Williamson County,” added Teel.

Serving a county population of over 500,000 residents, WCCHD joins the health departments of Austin/Travis, Houston and Tarrant County as accredited public health departments in Texas. Accreditation status is an on-going process with re-accreditation every five years. Williamson County has ranked as one of the top three healthiest counties in Texas for the past seven years, according to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's County Health Rankings.

For more information on the Public Health Accreditation Board please visit www.phaboard.org.

To learn more about visit www.wcchd.org.

