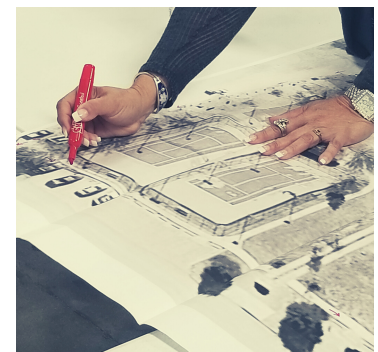
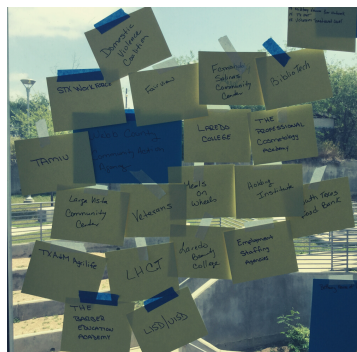
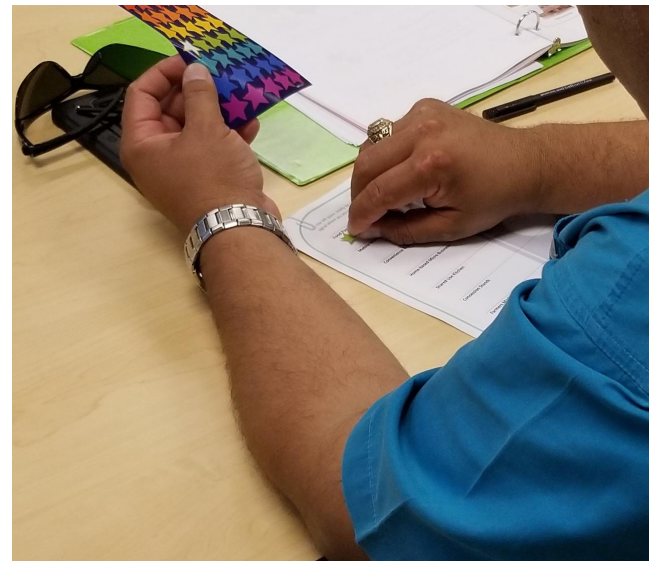




WORKING ON WELLNESS ENVIRONMENTS

The Texas A&M AgriLife Working on Wellness Environments program was started in September of 2018 as part of an initiative building on previous AgriLife PSE work and funded in part by the 1809 HOP program. The program employs a Participatory Action Research (PAR) framework with local stakeholders to assess, improve, and maintain healthy places utilizing policy, system, and environmental changes to transform local communities.

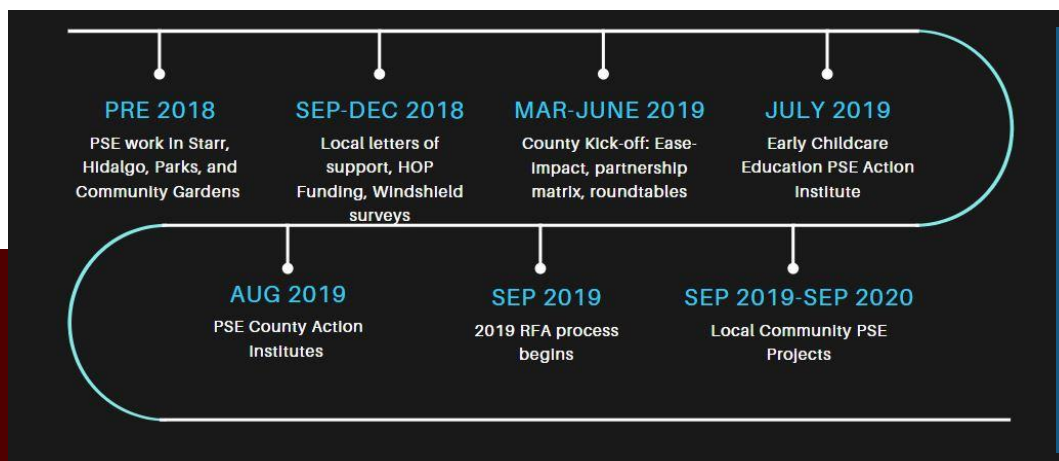




PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGE

Hudspeth, Maverick, Starr, and Webb counties are predominantly Hispanic, and many communities within them are often described as underserved with respect to access to resources that can promote health and reduce disease risk. All four counties have an obesity rate over 40%. Additional health disparities related to obesity are prevalent such as limited access to infrastructure, food deserts, physical inactivity, poverty, lack of social interactions and medical care, and low levels of educational attainment. All four counties have a growing population and their geographic spread, makes it challenging to address these issues. Their combined population is 394,601. Of the 242 Texas counties that have been ranked, Hudspeth, Maverick, Starr, and Webb currently rank 234th, 236th, 242nd, and 240th in targeted health factors.

OVERVIEW



- 4 County windshield surveys
- 4 County PSE kick-offs
- 8 local coalition meetings
- 4 County PSE Action Institutes
- 5 local workshops
- 1 Early Childcare PSE Action Institute
- Approximately 7 Zoom calls including 4 counties
- ~186 attendees representing 63 partner organizations



APPROACH

With partial support from funding from the 1809 HOP program and in response to the CDC implementation guide, AgriLife Subject Matter Experts developed transformative educational resources, Participatory Action processes, and a micro-support program to develop local engagement streams empowering change in all four counties.

I LOVE GETTING
THE WOW-E
NEWSLETTER, I
CAN'T WAIT TO
CLICK & LEARN
--TISSA

Site Visits

- RGC Library
- RT Barrera School Garden
- RGC Downtown
- Fort Ringgold
- Escobares Community Gardens
- TAMIU Gardens
- TAMIU Food Pantry
- Webb Community Gardens
- Hudspeth Park
- Hudspeth Town (walking area)
- Hudspeth Green House
- Hudspeth Gas station
- Hudspeth Community Bld.

Materials Developed

- Windshield Story Maps
- Ease-impact Assessment
- Partnership mapping
- Roundtable Discussions
- Action institute PSE Guidebook
- RFA process
- Wayfinding Toolkit
- PAR Framework
- ECE Policy Action Institute
- ECE Policy Resource Binder
- ECE nutrition policy online course
- Business Planning video
- Business Planning guide
- Business Planning online course
- Aquaponic reading packets and videos
- User Count Quick Brief (4)
- Storywalk Quick Brief



RESULTS

RFAs

- 10 RFAs in 3 counties in food systems and walkability

Communication Plan

- 8 newsletters
- 10 blog posts
- 100 Facebook posts
- 39 Twitter posts
- Newsletter being read & utilized by 35 organizations

Early Childcare Education

- 5 ECEs with policies serving 120 children
 - COVID Update: approximately 2 ECEs with approximately 30 children

Walkability

- 1 Walkability demonstration/1 downtown walkability plan reaching 1327 single families, 199 multi-family homes
- 2 walking audits
- 48 everyday places
- 2 site inventories

Related Outcomes & Efforts

- Story Walk
- Slow Streets
- Farm-to-School
- NRCS grant (RTB)
- TRAPS & SOS presentations
- NACDEP Award
- National Presentation on PA
- CDC Communication Panel
- Multiple state-level partners: Prairie View A&M Extension, Texas Transportation Institute, TXDOT, Texas Recreation and Park Society



Leveraged funds \$78,820

For more information visit
wowe.tamu.edu

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