For 2021-2022, the Southern Region’s approach includes:

• Funding a collaborative grant in Erath County 76401, 76402, 76446 to address depression, anxiety, and food insecurity in low-income adults age 40+.

• Funding development grants in Johnson County 76031, 76033, 76059, and Kaufman County 75143, 75147, 75161, to enhance community capacity.

CHI is expanding educational opportunities by collaborating with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agents serving Kaufman, Johnson and Erath Counties.

The first phase will connect Healthy Education and Lifestyles Program (HELP) patients to AgriLife diabetes health education programs.

Cross referrals will be made between HELP patients and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension education workshops.

Leveraging resources to serve the underserved and high-risk populations will help fill gaps and improve access in our Southern Region rural communities.

Helping Hands in our Southern Region

In February, David Swearingen, a kidney transplant recipient and well-known Erath County resident, received his first COVID-19 vaccination dose. As a volunteer at the recently activated Erath County vaccine hub, Dana Worrell, Texas Health Community Health Improvement Program Manager for Erath, Hood, and Johnson Counties, was able to bear witness to this blessing. “I’ve been serving at the vaccination clinics within our Texas Health hospitals in Cleburne, Fort Worth, and Stephenville since June 2020,” said Dana. “Now I get to help with the community clinics in Erath and Johnson Counties, and it continues to be a rewarding experience.”

On the east side of the Southern Region, fellow Community Health Improvement Program Manager for Ellis and Kaufman Counties, Susan Huffman, has been supporting the newly activated Kaufman County vaccine hub. “The county is grateful for Texas Health pitching in,” said Susan. “We’ve been able to collaborate to process improve for vaccine registration and delivery, as well as bring in additional Texas Health volunteers.”

Thanks to Texas Health team members like Dana and Susan, more Southern Region residents like David are receiving the vaccine. They are truly living our Mission of improving the health of the people in the communities we serve.

Faith Community Nursing (FCN)

FCN has remained active in the Southern Region even with churches closed for COVID.

• The Southern Region has 11 covenant faith communities with 11 faith community nurses and 6 faith community health promoters

• In 2020:
  o 6,382 people were cared for
  o 1,674 nursing hours provided by FCNs
  o 257 flu vaccines were given at 5 drive through clinics
  o $1,015,298 documented cost avoidance and savings (healthcare & social determinants of health)

Faith Community Nursing (FCN)

For more details (for example, a breakdown of the data) please contact Genevieve Boak at: GenevieveBoak@texashealth.org.