# BUILDING RESILIENCE FROM LIVED EXPERIENCE



#### NAME

# Brazos County (Texas) Health District (Barbara Jeffers)

### **SUMMARY**

In this series of video clips from a semi-structured interview, a local health agency staff member with a nursing background describes how their community's experience with the COVID-19 pandemic and spikes in respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) cases prompted the identification of young parents as a population group that was highly vulnerable to the impact of emergencies. They applied for and received state grant funding to develop and quickly roll out a program that provided educational opportunities and connections to resources, as well as "go bags" for families being distributed through trusted community organizations (e.g., daycare providers).

### **KEY WORDS**

Education and training | Resource provision | Emergency plans | Staff support | Community partnerships

#### SYSTEMIC FACTORS ADDRESSED

Health literacy | Language access | Community trust | Health infrastructure



#### LOCATION

Texas

# **EMERGENCY TYPE(S)**



Disease Outbreak

## **MAJOR TAKEAWAYS**



#### FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

Education is power. Health departments can share information to help you and your family prepare for the types of disasters your community is more likely to experience and know where to go for resources and support when emergencies occur.



#### FOR HEALTH AND RELATED SYSTEMS

Lean into lessons learned from previous emergency responses, the expertise of staff with different scopes of responsibility, and the strengths of community partners to develop and implement programs that can fill critical education and resource gaps.



#### FOR COMMUNITIES

Strong partnerships between government agencies and community organizations can be a protective factor when emergencies occur. They are conduits for identifying needs and efficiently and sustainably delivering programmatic solutions, such as education and critical resource dissemination.

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