CCDHHS: Environmental Health Division

GUSTAVO OLIVARES, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR
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OPERATION CONTINUING THE FIGHT
Cameron County

Cameron County is where?

- Located in Deep South Texas area commonly known as the Rio Grande Valley
- County Judge: Eddie Treviño, Jr.
- Population of approximately 422,000 (3.9% Increase from 2010)
  - 87.7% Hispanic Population
- 16 Municipalities including Harlingen, Brownsville, and South Padre Island
- 9 Independent School Districts
- 3 International Border Crossings to Mexico
  - Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico Population: ~520,000
  - 250,000 monthly crossings
Zika Virus Cases in Cameron County
January 1, 2016 – June 1, 2017

CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS BY THE NUMBERS

27
Confirmed Zika Virus Disease Cases

6
Locally Acquired (Brownsville)

21
Travel Related

4
Current Cases Under Investigation
Constructing Response Team(s)

- **Environmental Health**
  - Home Assessments
  - Household/Residential Spraying
  - Removal of mosquito breeding sites
  - Abatement Program
  - Mosquito Trapping

- **Clinical/Specimen Collection**
  - Urine Analysis Survey
  - Epidemiology Follow-Up Visits
  - Epidemiology Surveillance & Investigation
    - Blood/Serum Collection during follow-up visits

- **Education**
  - Educational material shared with residents
  - Explain the importance of removing potential breeding sites
Environmental Health Challenges & Considerations

- Trained staff on effective home assessments
  - Minimize breeding sites
  - Educate residents
  - Assign responsibilities and coordinate response with local municipality

- Chemical Resistance Testing & Effectiveness

- Spraying Techniques (Trapping vs. Spraying)
  - Aerial Spraying

- Bi-National Considerations

- Equipment, Man-Power, & Daily Operations

- Mosquito Population Testing
Boots on the Ground: 
Cameron County Response
Thank You!

Operation Continuing the Fight Partners
City of Brownsville, Texas
Department of State Health Services
DSHS Region 11
Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
Cameron County Emergency Management
Women’s Health and Family Planning Association of Texas
Questions?

Cameron County Department of Health & Human Services

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