

## Our Vision for SAFE, HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

WE ENVISION safe, healthy people in the Coastal Bend where residents enjoy active, wholesome lifestyles that increase community wellness and wellbeing. The Coastal Bend is well prepared for major emergencies and is a safe and secure place for all its residents and visitors. Improved law enforcement programs have greatly reduced crime, enhancing the safety of neighborhoods, schools, streets, parks and urban areas. Education, prevention and treatment programs have helped reduce poverty, homelessness and untreated mental illness. All Coastal Bend neighborhoods have a greater sense of safety and pride, promoting litter control, building renovation and cleanup, while fostering greater ownership in and responsibility for our community. We nurture and support our families, youth and seniors. Parental education and improved activities for children and young people make the Coastal Bend a wonderful place for our kids to grow and thrive.

- CRIME AND SAFETY
- POVERTY AND SOCIAL WELFARE
- QUALITY OF LIFE AND LIVABILITY
- COMMUNITY PRIDE, APPEARANCE AND CLEANLINESS
- HEALTH AND WELLNESS
- RECREATION
- SENIORS, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

# Safe, Healthy Communities

## Safe, Healthy Communities: Crime and Safety

Strategy SHC 1	A Safe Region for All. Promote a safe region for all Coastal Bend residents and visitors, with safe streets, schools, neighborhoods, parks and urban areas.	Lead Partner	Suggested Supporting Partners	Timeline			
				Less Than 1 Year	1 – 2 Years	3 – 5 Years	6+ Years
Action SHC 1.1	Expansion of Neighborhood Watch Programs. Expand Neighborhood Watch programs throughout the Coastal Bend.	City of Corpus Christi Police Department	Nueces County, San Patricio County, local law enforcement agencies		X		

Strategy SHC 2	Emergency Preparedness. Encourage Coastal Bend institutions and residents to be well prepared for major emergencies, including natural disasters, pandemic illness, industrial accidents or other crises.	Lead Partner	Suggested Supporting Partners	Timeline			
				Less Than 1 Year	1 – 2 Years	3 – 5 Years	6+ Years
Action SHC 2.1	Hazards Preparedness Awareness Campaign. Design a community awareness campaign to distribute all-hazards information throughout the Coastal Bend targeting new residents and families, to promote emergency preparedness and emphasize advance preparations and disaster recovery plans.	City of Corpus Christi Fire Department - Emergency Operations Center	Local Emergency Planning Committee, Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster, Corpus Christi Association of Realtors, American Red Cross Coastal Bend – Texas Chapter, San Patricio County		X		

<p><i>Action SHC 2.2</i></p>	<p><b>Small Business Hazards Preparedness Workshops.</b> Hold informational workshops for small business owners in the Coastal Bend to help them prepare for emergencies and assist with recovery efforts.</p>	<p>Del Mar College Center for Economic Development, American Red Cross Coastal Bend – Texas Chapter</p>	<p>Local Emergency Planning Committee, Corpus Christi, Hispanic, and Black Chambers of Commerce (Small Business Councils)</p>	<p>X</p>			
<p><i>Action SHC 2.3</i></p>	<p><b>Neighborhood Block Captain System.</b> Establish a neighborhood block captain system, utilizing existing voting precinct boundaries, to promote emergency preparedness. Enhance the 2-1-1 system, identifying residents with special needs who require assistance before, during, or after an emergency.</p>	<p>City of Corpus Christi Police Department</p>	<p>Emergency Management System, City of Corpus Christi Neighborhood Services Department, regional police and fire departments, neighborhood associations</p>	<p>X</p>			

<p><i>Strategy SHC 3</i></p>	<p><b>Enhanced Law Enforcement.</b> Enhance law enforcement training, presence and collaboration throughout the Coastal Bend to reduce crime in specific areas including burglaries, robberies, gang activity, and graffiti, and encourage children and youth to lead crime-free lives.</p>	<p><i>Lead Partner</i></p>	<p><i>Suggested Supporting Partners</i></p>	<p>Timeline</p>			
				<p>Less Than 1 Year</p>	<p>1 – 2 Years</p>	<p>3 – 5 Years</p>	<p>6+ Years</p>
<p><i>Action SHC 3.1</i></p>	<p><b>Regional Crime Response Commission.</b> Form a regional crime response commission to design and promote crime reduction strategies for the region, including auto, home and business burglaries and robberies.</p>	<p>San Patricio County Judge, Nueces County Sheriff's Department</p>	<p>Mayor's Commission on Crime, local and area mayors, regional law enforcement agencies</p>	<p>X</p>			

<p><i>Action SHC 3.2</i></p>	<p><b>Graffiti Elimination.</b> Design and promote a regional strategy to eradicate graffiti that includes prevention, prosecution, and removal.</p>	<p>City of Corpus Christi Graffiti Task Force</p>	<p>Law enforcement agencies and district attorneys in Nueces and San Patricio Counties, Juvenile Justice Center, Clean City Commission, City of Corpus Christi Solid Waste and Neighborhood Services Departments</p>	<p>X</p>			
<p><i>Action SHC 3.3</i></p>	<p><b>Public Safety Museum.</b> Design, fund and develop a museum dedicated to the theme of public safety, utilizing the old City of Corpus Christi jail located at 1616 Martin Luther King Dr.</p>	<p>City of Corpus Christi Police Department's Citizens Police Academy Alumni, City of Corpus Christi Fire Department</p>	<p>Mayor's Commission on Children and Youth, local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, area police and sheriff's departments</p>			<p>X</p>	
<p><i>Action SHC 3.4</i></p>	<p><b>Gang Intervention Program.</b> Design and implement an anti-gang intervention program that identifies at-risk youth and develops an intervention process with family members to prevent gang involvement. Share with San Patricio County.</p>	<p>City of Corpus Christi Police Department</p>	<p>Faith-based organizations, City of Corpus Christi Parks and Recreation Department, Nueces County Juvenile Justice Center, Nueces County Court #5</p>	<p>X</p>			

**Safe, Healthy Communities: Poverty and Social Welfare**

<p><i>Strategy SHC 4</i></p>	<p><b>Reduction of Poverty, Homelessness and Mental Illness.</b> Respond to the region's most needy residents, with continual efforts to reduce or eliminate poverty, homelessness and untreated mental illness.</p> <p><b><i>No supporting actions are proposed at this time.</i></b></p>		
------------------------------	--	--	--

Strategy SHC 5	Food, Shelter and Supportive Services. Promote appropriate food, shelter and supportive services for indigent and domestic violence victims, ensuring no one has to sleep on the streets.	Lead Partner	Suggested Supporting Partners	Timeline			
				Less Than 1 Year	1 – 2 Years	3 – 5 Years	6+ Years
Action SHC 5.1	<b>Mentally Ill and Homeless Intervention Team.</b> Create an advocacy team of representatives from public and private agencies, the courts, health care and advocacy to directly intervene with homeless, mentally ill community members who are in constant contact with the law and would benefit from direct interaction with caring professionals.	CHRISTUS Spohn Health System	Corpus Christi Police Department, assigned judge, Mental Health & Mental Retardation (MHMR), Sheriff's Department		X		
Action SHC 5.2	<b>Community Support To Reduce Homelessness.</b> Convene a regional forum of Coastal Bend agencies serving the homeless to encourage the community to become involved in and support reduction of homelessness.	Homeless Issues Partnership (HIP)	City of Corpus Christi Neighborhood Services Dept., San Patricio County, Catholic Charities, Mother Teresa Shelter, Metro Ministries, and other shelters serving the homeless	X			
Action SHC 5.3	<b>Domestic Abuse Reduction.</b> Expand free-of-charge core services for domestic violence victims, including shelter, case management, legal advocacy, counseling, and services for youth. Increase primary prevention programs to change social attitudes that condone violence against women.	Women's Shelter of South Texas	Corpus Christi Medical Society, CHRISTUS Spohn Health System, City-County Health Department, law enforcement and judiciary agencies	X			

Strategy SHC 6	<p><b>Poverty Prevention Education.</b> Enhance educational programs and economic development activities in the Coastal Bend to reduce and prevent conditions that create poverty.</p> <p><i>No supporting actions are proposed at this time.</i></p>		
-------------------	---	--	--

**Safe, Healthy Communities: Quality of Life and Livability**

Strategy SHC 7	<p><b>Clean, Affordable, Livable Communities.</b> Promote clean, livable and affordable places in our communities, where people are able to meet their economic, educational, health and cultural needs.</p> <p><i>No supporting actions are proposed at this time.</i></p>		
-------------------	---	--	--

**Safe, Healthy Communities: Community Pride, Appearance and Cleanliness**

Strategy SHC 8	Neighborhood Health, Safety and Pride. Establish a greater sense of health, safety and pride in all neighborhoods, promoting ownership in and responsibility for our community.	Lead Partner	Suggested Supporting Partners	Timeline			
				Less Than 1 Year	1 – 2 Years	3 – 5 Years	6+ Years
Action SHC 8.1	<p><b>Homeowner Educational Campaign.</b> Develop an educational campaign helping homeowners to "Know the Code!" and utilize the public access channel for "Did You Know?" segments so that they understand homeowner maintenance requirements identified in the Housing Code.</p>	City of Corpus Christi Public Information Office	City of Corpus Christi Neighborhood Services Department	X			
Action SHC 8.2	<p><b>PRIDE Campaign.</b> Develop a PRIDE campaign component that establishes residential and homeowners' involvement, stewardship, and ownership of their neighborhoods.</p>	City of Corpus Christi Neighborhood Services Department	PRIDE Committee, neighborhood associations	X			

Strategy SHC 9	<p><b>Elimination of Litter.</b> Eliminate litter on streets and beaches, with accessible public trash cans and responsible residents who dispose of trash properly.</p> <p><b>No supporting actions are proposed at this time.</b></p>		
----------------	---	--	--

**Safe, Healthy Communities: Health and Wellness**

Strategy SHC 10	<p><b>Healthy Lifestyles.</b> Encourage and promote healthy lifestyles for all Coastal Bend residents, promoting outdoor activities, exercise and fitness, and working to reduce incidents of obesity, diabetes, and related health issues.</p>	Lead Partner	Suggested Supporting Partners	Timeline			
				Less Than 1 Year	1 – 2 Years	3 – 5 Years	6+ Years
Action SHC 10.1	<p><b>Diabetes and Obesity Health Issues Plan.</b> Encourage existing coalitions in the Coastal Bend that are addressing diabetes and obesity issues to strengthen their efforts by partnering with restaurants and grocery/food stores to identify and promote food choices that have high nutritional quality. Develop a coordinated community awareness campaign. Recruit and promote participating business partners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an advertising campaign with a recognizable trademark/seal of approval that would allow easily identifiable food choices of high nutritional quality in area restaurants.</li> <li>• Partner with restaurants and stores to encourage better food choices and partner with stores to place better-quality items (such as 100 calorie packets) in the “impulse buy” area.</li> <li>• Partner with quick stop/convenience stores to provide fresh fruits and vegetables and other high quality items.</li> <li>• Develop a book and/or website with names of stores and restaurants that are participating partners in the program. Provide examples of healthy choices and other information. Allow stores that participate to use the trademark/seal of approval in their advertising.</li> </ul>	Coastal Bend Diabetes Community Coalition	Corpus Christi Food Bank, Texas AgriLife Extension Service, YMCA, YWCA, Coastal Bend Restaurant Association, local medical societies, key businesses		X		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote smaller food portions options for restaurant and food service providers.</li> </ul>						
<i>Action SHC 10.2</i>	<b>Obesity Issues and Community Planning.</b> Provide the Center for Disease Control (CDC) report titled <i>Recommended Community Strategies and Measurements to Prevent Obesity in the United States</i> (Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report MMWR, 58:RR-7, July 24, 2009) as an electronic download to local planning agencies and governments for their use in planning future construction.	San Patricio Health Advisory Committee	Local city and county governments, area school districts, planning boards, builders, engineering firms	X			
<i>Action SHC 10.3</i>	<b>Supermarket Availability.</b> Improve geographic availability of supermarkets in underserved areas in Nueces and San Patricio Counties.	<b>Lead Partner Pending</b>	San Patricio Economic Development Corporation, planning boards in the region, chambers of commerce				
<i>Action SHC 10.4</i>	<b>School Physical Education Requirement.</b> Increase youth physical activity by requiring Physical Education for each school grade and expand activity choices for life-long fitness skills.	Corpus Christi Independent School District	Local and area school districts, legislative delegation			X	

<i>Strategy SHC 11</i>	<b>Improved Health Care Access.</b> Improve healthcare services and public transportation to healthcare agencies for all Coastal Bend residents, specifically the elderly, residents in rural communities and outlying areas of Nueces and San Patricio counties, and expectant mothers.	<i>Lead Partner</i>	<i>Suggested Supporting Partners</i>	Timeline			
				<i>Less Than 1 Year</i>	<i>1 – 2 Years</i>	<i>3 – 5 Years</i>	<i>6+ Years</i>
<i>Action SHC 11.1</i>	<b>Medical and Medical Transportation Services Awareness.</b> Develop an educational campaign to strengthen communications and networking that improves awareness of medical and medical transportation services available to all residents.	Coastal Bend Council of Governments/ Transportation Coordination Network	Local and area churches and ministerial alliances, American Cancer Society, Health and Human Services agencies			X	

<p><i>Action SHC 11.2</i></p>	<p><b>Community Medical Providers Listing.</b> Research, prepare, and publish a listing of all health care facilities, including community clinics and other providers, that can be distributed in both Nueces and San Patricio Counties to educate residents and improve access to healthcare.</p>	<p>Coastal Bend Health Education Center, San Patricio County Medical Societies</p>	<p>Coastal Bend Council of Governments, United Way of the Coastal Bend, Chambers of Commerce, existing Health Advisory Committees</p>	<p>X</p>			
-------------------------------	---	--	---	----------	--	--	--

<p><i>Strategy SHC 12</i></p>	<p><b>Comprehensive Regional Healthcare Center.</b> Promote the formation and development of a comprehensive regional healthcare center in the Coastal Bend that provides a full range of medical services, reducing the need for local residents to travel to other cities for medical care.</p> <p><b>No supporting actions are proposed at this time.</b></p>		
-------------------------------	--	--	--

<p><i>Strategy SHC 13</i></p>	<p><b>Reduced Teen Pregnancy, Drug Use and STDs.</b> Reduce the incidence of teen pregnancy, drug use, sexually transmitted diseases, and related diseases and illness.</p>	<p><i>Lead Partner</i></p>	<p><i>Suggested Supporting Partners</i></p>	<p>Timeline</p>			
				<p>Less Than 1 Year</p>	<p>1 – 2 Years</p>	<p>3 – 5 Years</p>	<p>6+ Years</p>
<p><i>Action SHC 13.1</i></p>	<p><b>Teenage Health Coalition.</b> Convene a coalition of local agencies to develop ways to combat teen pregnancy, drug use, and sexually transmitted diseases in a more effective manner.</p>	<p>City-County Health Department, San Patricio County Health Advisory Committee</p>	<p>Planned Parenthood of South Texas (prevention), Communities in Schools (prevention), CCISD Parent Education Program</p>		<p>X</p>		

**Safe, Healthy Communities: Recreation**

Strategy SHC 14	<b>Recreational Facilities.</b> Increase the number of recreational facilities and playing fields, including hiking and biking trails located throughout the Coastal Bend region.	Lead Partner	Suggested Supporting Partners	Timeline			
				Less Than 1 Year	1 – 2 Years	3 – 5 Years	6+ Years
Action SHC 14.1	<b>Regional Hike and Bike Trail.</b> Form a regional advisory committee to review current hike/bike trails plans to assess possible interconnections with existing trails. Develop and promote city-wide and regional trails to encourage community health.	City of Corpus Christi Parks and Recreation Department	Corpus Christi Convention and Visitors Bureau, bicycling clubs, Beach to Bay organization, Conquer the Coast bicycling club, Nueces and San Patricio Counties			X	

Strategy SHC 15	<b>Outdoor Adventure Opportunities.</b> Encourage Coastal Bend residents to take full advantage of wellness opportunities based on outdoor adventures and our natural environment.  <b>No supporting actions are suggested at this time.</b>		
--------------------	--	--	--

**Safe, Healthy Communities: Seniors, Youth and Families**

Strategy SHC 16	<b>Increased Parent Education and Involvement.</b> Foster greater involvement of Coastal Bend parents with their families and children, promoting healthy early childhood development and strengthening local families.	Lead Partner	Suggested Supporting Partners	Timeline			
				Less Than 1 Year	1 – 2 Years	3 – 5 Years	6+ Years

<p><i>Action SHC 16.1</i></p>	<p><b>Volunteers for Healthy Children.</b> Recruit parent volunteers through the schools and PTAs to help promote and /or sponsor exercise and nutritional activities such as parent-child health fairs and physical activity events.</p>	<p>Corpus Christi Council of PTAs</p>	<p>Corpus Christi Independent School District, American Academy of Family Practice, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs, medical societies, YWCA, YMCA, Weight Watchers</p>		<p>X</p>		
<p><i>Action SHC 16.2</i></p>	<p><b>Guide for Healthy Children.</b> Develop a local guide to activities for healthy children, including nutritional and health-related parent-child activities, and learning opportunities that focus on specific at-risk groups and communities. Involve schools, PTAs and parent volunteers in planning and developing the guide.</p>	<p>Texas AgriLife Extension Service</p>	<p>Mayor’s Commission on Children and Youth, Boy/Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs, Corpus Christi Food Bank, coalition of parents, school officials, and representatives of youth groups, school districts and PTA/ PTO units</p>		<p>X</p>		
<p><i>Action SHC 16.3</i></p>	<p><b>Wellness/Fitness Events.</b> Plan, organize, and conduct regularly scheduled Wellness/Fitness Events for families and children, highlighting the importance of exercise, meal planning and food preparation, and physical activities that address obesity, diabetes and other health issues.</p>	<p>Corpus Christi Food Bank, CHRISTUS Spohn Health System</p>	<p>Nueces County and San Patricio County health departments, “Get Fit Portland” initiative/Portland Chamber of Commerce, Coastal Bend Diabetes Community Coalition</p>	<p>X</p>			

Strategy SHC 17	Activities for Children, Families and Youth. Promote and encourage development of safe, appropriate activities and entertainment venues for children, teenagers, and families throughout the Coastal Bend where their social, recreational and networking needs can be met.	Lead Partner	Suggested Supporting Partners	Timeline			
				Less Than 1 Year	1 – 2 Years	3 – 5 Years	6+ Years
Action SHC 17.1	<p><b>Youth Focus Groups on Recreation and Social Needs.</b> Conduct a series of youth focus groups (ages 10 to 21) in communities throughout the Coastal Bend to identify activities and venues that would better meet their recreational and social needs and enhance their quality of life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage interested businesses and organizations serving youth and other public entities to analyze youth focus groups' results and determine how recreational and social networking needs and expectations can be addressed in the arena of activities and venues for youth.</li> </ul>	Texas AgriLife Extension Service, City of Corpus Christi Mayor's Commission on Children and Youth, Communities in Schools, Inc.	Boys Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs in the region, 4H Clubs, middle schools and high schools in the region, area churches, YMCA, YWCA, Regional Transportation Authority	X			

Strategy SHC 18	Health and Safety of Children. Focus on ensuring the health and safety of children in the Coastal Bend.	Lead Partner	Suggested Supporting Partners	Timeline			
				Less Than 1 Year	1-2 years	3 – 5 Years	6+ Years
Action SHC 18.1	<b>Prenatal Care.</b> Develop and implement a comprehensive program to help ensure that all children born in the Coastal Bend receive adequate and appropriate prenatal care.	City-County Health Department	Medical societies, health advisory panels, Planned Parenthood				

<p>Strategy SHC 19</p>	<p><b>Supportive Lifestyle for Seniors.</b> Promote supportive lifestyles for senior citizens and retirees, including quality health care, affordable housing, active senior centers throughout the region, and related amenities, services and activities.</p> <p><b><i>No suggested plans are proposed at this time.</i></b></p>		
----------------------------	--	--	--