



# **Hurricane Harvey Evacuation and Impacts to the State Operated Facilities**

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Commission

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# Interim Charge

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*“Review the state's response to Hurricane Harvey with a focus on public health efforts at the local and state level. The review should include an analysis of the state and local response related to ... the evacuation of vulnerable populations from state operated or regulated facilities, and coordination between all levels of government.”*

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# Hurricane Season Preparation

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Even before the first storm, the SOF Emergency Operations Center:

- Monitors weather daily
- Meets with the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)
- Establishes emergency management plans for each facility
- Develops evacuation plans and designates locations for evacuation
- Inventories transportation assets
- Trains facility and agency staff on preparedness



# Hurricane Harvey: Affected Facilities

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- Corpus Christi State Supported Living Center (SSLC)
- Richmond SSLC
- Brenham SSLC
- Lufkin SSLC

Facilities not directly in the path of the storm assisted the statewide effort by providing staff and resources.



# Hurricane Harvey: Deciding to Evacuate

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## **Tuesday 8/22** (72 hours before landfall/H-72):

- Projection for tropical depression and rain event
- Facilities prepare to shelter-in-place

## **Wednesday 8/23** (H-48):

- First National Hurricane Center warning issued for TX coast
- Facilities continue shelter-in-place preparations

## **Thursday 8/24:**

- Projections show tropical depression may grow to a category 3/4 hurricane
- H-34: HHS directs Corpus Christi SSLC and staff to begin immediate preparations to evacuate
- H-24: First group of residents leave the Corpus Christi SSLC accompanied by staff

## **Friday 8/25** (H-16):

- All Corpus Christi SSLC residents and staff are at the San Antonio SSLC





# A Speedy, and Safe, Evacuation



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# Hurricane Harvey: Corpus Christi SSLC Evacuation

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- 213 residents (102 non-ambulatory)
- 205 staff

## SOF transportation:

- 32 paratransit vehicles
- 3 tractor-trailers

## Other transportation:

- 5 CAP Metro buses
- 3 LeFleur vehicles
- TDEM contracted:
  - ❖ 20 coach buses
  - ❖ 13 paratransit vehicles
  - ❖ 2 ambulances





# Hurricane Harvey: Return Home

- August 26-28: HHSC assessed infrastructure and facility damage.
- August 31: Non-ambulatory residents and some staff returned to Corpus Christi.
- September 1: Remaining residents and staff returned to Corpus Christi.



# Evacuation Costs to SOF

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Approximately \$300,000, plus personnel costs:

- Transportation
- Supplies
- Lodging for evacuated staff
- Damage assessments
- Time and labor



# Impacts to Other Facilities

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## Richmond SSLC:

- Sheltered-in-place: 323 residents
- Sheltered other individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD) and medical needs

## Lufkin SSLC:

- Sheltered-in-place: 297 residents
- Sheltered 20 home and community-based services participants and 11 staff from the Spindletop local IDD authority

## Brenham SSLC:

- Sheltered-in-place: 259 residents



# Looking Ahead

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- Seek Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement
- Evaluate evacuation plans
- Continue drills and emergency preparedness planning





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**Thank you**

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