

Project Abstract Summary

This Project Abstract Summary form must be submitted or the application will be considered incomplete. Ensure the Project Abstract field succinctly describes the project in plain language that the public can understand and use without the full proposal. Use 4,000 characters or less. Do not include personally identifiable, sensitive or proprietary information. Refer to Agency instructions for any additional Project Abstract field requirements. If the application is funded, your project abstract information (as submitted) will be made available to public websites and/or databases including USAspending.gov.

Funding Opportunity Number

CP-VGB-24-001

CFDA(s)

Applicant Name

Fort Bend County Health and Human Services

Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project

Fort Bend County Pool Safety Grant Program 2024

Project Abstract

Project Title: Pool Safety Grant Program
Applicant Name: Fort Bend County Health and Human Services
Pool Safety Grant Program (PSGP) and FOA: CP-VGB-24-001
Program Director: Michael Schaffer, MPH, CPO – Director of Environmental Health
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<https://www.fortbendcountytexas.gov/government/departments/health-and-human-services/environmental-health>
Congressional District(s) Served by the Project Site: TX-022
Projected Start Date: August 2024
Projected End Date: August 2026

There are well over 600 pools and spas in unincorporated Fort Bend County. Within the last year, Fort Bend County adopted Swimming Pool Regulations. However, with the county's exponential growth, additional commercial swimming pools are being developed. The objective is to improve pool and spa safety and decrease the prevalence of accidental drowning. These measures include enforcing state pool safety regulations and the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Safety Act, which was designed to prevent hidden hazards of drain entrapment and eviscerations in pools and spas. The program currently has two (2) full-time staff to enforce the state and federal legislation regarding drain entrapment hazards, enclosure requirements, and other imminent health and safety hazards associated with swimming pools and spas. The Pool Safety Grant Program (PSGP) will enable the immediate expansion of the current program and allow it to:

- Continue to develop a system where inspections are completed in a routine and timely manner,
- Partner with pool and spa operators to assure facilities are built according to state standards,
- Partner with pool and spa operators to assure existing facilities are maintained according to state standards,
- Utilize FBCHHS outreach team to enhance the educational efforts of our pool program to educate the community, including high-risk populations, on drowning hazards and prevention,
- Ensure that all safety vacuum release device (SVRD) devices are working as intended, which currently does not exist,
- Begin documenting all main drain expiration dates to ensure compliance.

The Pool Safety Grant Program Objectives

- To reduce and prevent accidental drownings in Fort bend County,
- To prevent and eliminate public health hazards associated with operating pools and spas,
- Improve awareness of accidental drownings in high-risk populations.