

Stephen L. Williams, MEd, MPA

Houston Health Department
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Stephen serves as the Director for the Houston Health Department (HHD), a full-service public health department with 1300+ employees serving the 2.3 million residents of Houston while also overseeing a \$166 million budget.

Stephen is actively involved in Public Health issues at the local, state, and national levels. Under Stephen's leadership, HHD has become more visible and the citizens of Houston have been afforded a better quality of life. Stephen currently serves on the COVID-19 Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel (EVAP) to develop vaccine allocation strategies as recommendations to the Texas Commissioner of Health for the state of Texas. This panel develop and apply guiding principles on equitable distributions across urban and rural communities. He has spear-headed the implementation and institution of several programs in HHD such as *See to Succeed, Assessment, Intervention and Mobilization (AIM), Project Saving Smiles* and pioneering the Affordable Care Act outreach and enrollment efforts through the Enroll Gulf Coast collaborative. The collaboration allowed stakeholders across the Gulf Coast to work together as partners with a common strategy and organization to provide outreach and enrollment to the region's estimated 1.4 million uninsured while also gaining national attention and White House support.

Stephen received his Master's in Public Administration from Baruch College, City University New York, Master of Education from the Auburn University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology/Social Work from Huntingdon College. He is an Alumnus of the American Leadership Forum, Houston/Gulf Coast Chapter/Medical Community Class, and is a graduate of the National Urban Fellowship Program and Executive Leadership Institute sponsored by the National Forum for Black Public Administrators.

Stephen L. Williams chairs the Texas Department of State Health Services Public Health Funding and Policy Committee (Senate Bill 969), is the past Board President of the Coalition of the Homeless of Houston/Harris County, and a former Chair of the Harris County System of Hope. He is an Adjunct Professor at the UT School of Public Health and serves on the National Commission on Prevention Priorities, National Health Law Program Board of Directors, Texas A&M School of Rural Public Health External Advisory Board, Texas Agri-Life Extension Services Urban Advisory Board and Texas Health Improvement Network Advisory Board Council.

He is a member of the National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO), Texas Association of City and County Health Officials (TACCHO), American Public Health Association (APHA), Rotary Club of Houston and the National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA).

Prior to serving as the Health Director in Houston, Stephen also served as Administrator of Public Health and Deputy Director of Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department and Executive Manager, Travis County Health Human Services and Veterans Services.