



Raquel Castillo, MPH
Environmental Health Director
Cameron County Department of Health and Human Services
Environmental Health Program

Raquel Castillo, MPH, joined the Cameron County Department of Health and Human Services (CCDHHS) in 1999 as a Health Educator and since then has held numerous positions within CCDHHS to include Interim Epidemiologist, Planner, and most recently (since October 2007), Environmental Health Director. Over the past four years, Ms. Castillo has worked alongside Public Health Emergency Preparedness staff as a Planner and overseen the Environmental Health Program as the Environmental Health Director. Over the past nine years, she has responded to numerous public health and environmental health emergencies including severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), West Nile, local infectious disease outbreaks (i.e. Hepatitis A Outbreak of 2004), H1N1, Hurricane Dolly, and the 2009 and 2011 Red Tides.

Ms. Castillo's professional career has focused on health education, infectious diseases, bioterrorism, and environmental health. She has served as an integral part in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of local health promotion and public health preparedness programs within CCDHHS including Project Salud, a Teen Pregnancy Initiative, tobacco awareness programs, and the Public Health Response Program. She has been involved in All Hazards Planning and is certified in ICS 700, 800, 100, 200, 300, and 400. She is also a member of the All Hazards Incident Management Team for the State of Texas. Ms. Castillo is a Certified Animal Control Officer, a licensed Non-Commercial Pesticide Applicator, and a certified On-Site Sewage Facilities Designated Representative for Cameron County.

Ms. Castillo received her MPH from the University of Texas Health Science Center (UTHSC) – Houston School of Public Health in May 1999. Before joining CCDHHS and while completing her thesis, Ms. Castillo worked with the Brownsville Independent School District as a Substitute Teacher. Prior to this she worked as a Graduate Assistant for the ENDOW Project at the UTHSC Houston School of Public Health and did a Project Internship at the Rusk Clinic in Houston. Ms. Castillo has a Bachelor of Science from the University of Texas at Brownsville where she majored in Biology and minored in Chemistry. She also has an Associate in Arts from Texas Southmost College in Brownsville.