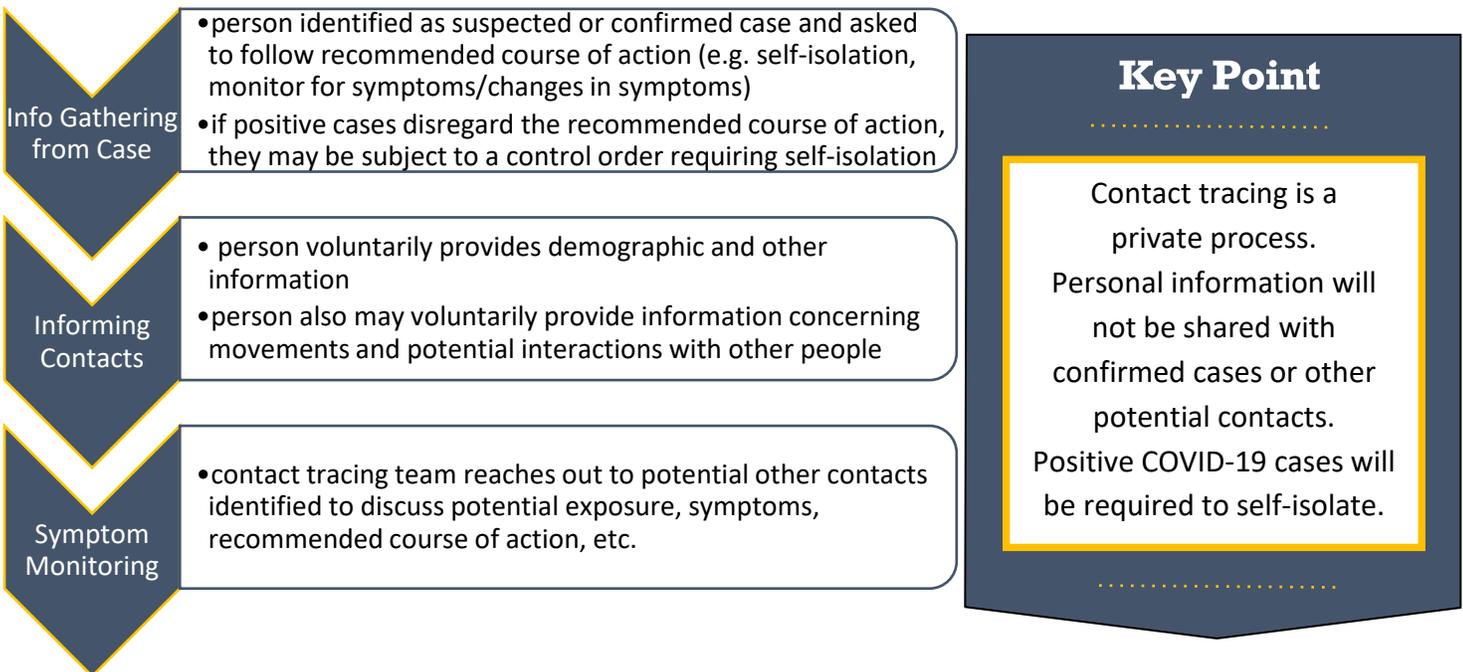




### Contact Tracing Overview

- Contact tracing is a fundamental element of public health when responding to infectious disease outbreaks.
- Contact tracing involves the voluntary participation of a person suspected or confirmed to have an infectious disease.
- DSHS and some local health departments employ contact tracing teams on a regular basis to respond to outbreaks.
- COVID-19 requires a systematic, statewide contact tracing response of an unprecedented scale.
- DSHS is establishing an infrastructure to scale up resources needed to respond to COVID-19 through contact tracing.
- Texas Health Trace, the statewide program, involves the cooperation of state and local health entities, institutions of higher education, and private partners to quickly and safely respond to COVID-19.
- Planned communications strategies will promote awareness, importance, and adoption of contact tracing to track and contain the spread of COVID-19.

### Contact Tracing Process



### Texas Health Trace Initiative Components





### Texas Health Trace Deployment Phases

Phase One	Phase Two	Phase Three
<p><b>Staffing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial contact tracing teams recruited, trained, mobilized</li> <li>Initiate communication with local health entities</li> </ul> <p><b>IT Solution:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Texas Health Trace online self-checker/self-reporter</li> </ul> <p><b>Call Center:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stand-up initial contact tracing call center</li> </ul>	<p><b>Staffing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and train additional contact tracers from: universities, AmeriCorps, local health departments, HHSC</li> </ul> <p><b>IT Solution:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deploy Texas Health Trace online self-checker/self-reporter</li> <li>Deploy Texas Health Trace Case Management functionality for contact tracers</li> <li>Initiate communication plan for self-reporting symptoms</li> </ul> <p><b>Launch call center</b></p>	<p><b>Staffing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mobilize contact tracing workforce</li> <li>Identify and train additional workforce through call center vendor</li> </ul> <p><b>IT Solution:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand Texas Health Trace for use by local health entities</li> </ul> <p><b>Call Center:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secure long-term call center solution</li> <li>Continued support of call center</li> </ul>
<p><b>Completion Date:</b> April 27, 2020 <b>Tracers Online:</b> 1,157</p>	<p><b>Start Date:</b> April 27, 2020 <b>Tracers to Recruit:</b> add'l 1,000</p>	<p><b>Start Date:</b> May 11, 2020 <b>Tracers to Recruit:</b> At least 4,000 total (2,004 currently in place)</p>

### Texas Health Trace Milestones





**Active and Planned Texas Health Trace Workforce**

<b>In Place on April 27, 2020</b>	<b>In Place as of May 11, 2020</b>	<b>Planned Workforce</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baseline Public Health – state &amp; local: 800</li> <li>• Additional DSHS Staff: 300</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HHSC Staff: 204</li> <li>• Additional Local Health Department Staff: 95</li> <li>• AmeriCorps: 405</li> <li>• Texas A&amp;M: 200</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UT Rio Grande Valley</li> <li>• Texas A&amp;M</li> <li>• Epi Lead Temp Staff</li> <li>• Call Center Operations</li> <li>• Anticipated Additional LHD staff</li> <li>• Additional Universities</li> </ul>
<b>April 27 Subtotal: 1,100</b>	<b>May 11 Subtotal: 904</b>	<b>Planned Workforce Subtotal: 1,996</b>

**Case Management Questions**

**Why Would Someone Be Contacted from Texas Health Trace?**

**Scenario 1:** A person who self-reports symptoms on the Texas Health Trace portal (If someone is assessed to meet tracing criteria and provides their contact information, a Texas Health Tracer will reach out to the person).

**Scenario 2:** A person with a positive test result that is reported to the Texas Health Trace portal.

**Scenario 3:** A person was identified by a suspected/confirmed case as a potential contact.

**What Happens When Someone is Contacted by Texas Health Trace?**

**What We Will Ask:**

COVID-19 positive patients:

- You will be informed of next steps about your illness and asked about your symptoms, your needs, whether we can connect you with resources, and a list of people that you have been around to inform them of their potential exposure.

Potential Contacts:

- We will tell you that you were potentially exposed to the virus.
- We will ask how you are feeling. We will also see if there is anything you need and connect you with resources.
- We will determine the next steps you should take based on any symptoms you may have.

**What We Will Not Ask or Provide:**

- For you to verify your identity by providing a social security number, bank account, or credit card information. Contact tracing is a completely free service.
- We will not release patient names when contacting potential contacts.

**How Will DSHS Ensure Patient and Contact Privacy?**

- Information shared with Texas Health Trace – online and in conversations with staff – is completely private and only used for public health purposes.
- All public use of Texas Health Trace is opt-in, consistent with the voluntary nature of contact tracing. Users are provided privacy notices and ultimately consent to use of the application.
- We do not release confidential information to the public. DSHS is working with HHSC IT and the contractor developing the system to ensure data is protected when it is sent to, housed on, and accessed from Texas Health Trace by utilizing appropriate standardized security protocols.