



CEDAR HILL LEADS MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM FOR FIRST RESPONDERS & FAMILIES

The City of Cedar Hill, in partnership with Dr. Brenda Tillman and Dr. Erika Sallee of the Readiness Group, has developed a First Responder Mental Health Resiliency Program funded through the Victims of Crime Act Formula Grant Program. Intended to address the vicarious trauma that all first responders face on the job, this unique program will become the first of its kind in Texas and will provide services to first responders and their families in the following cities: Cedar Hill, Desoto, Duncanville, Grand Prairie, Lancaster, Midlothian, Mansfield, Red Oak and Waxahachie.

Often first responders experience vicarious trauma through exposure to criminal activities while on the job. First responder training provides very little insight into how they process and deal with trauma. The First Responder Peer Support program will provide a scientific understanding and approach to peer support and other resources for police, firefighters, dispatch, and family members.

"We see the worst in peoples' lives, and we're supposed to just shrug it off and move on, and it accumulates," said Cedar Hill Fire Captain Jason O'Neill. "We need to know that it is okay to have normal emotions about things that are abnormal."

Cedar Hill EMS Chief Kevin Cunningham said the program is the most important thing he's ever done. "It's going to do great things... It truly is. This program — it's going to save a life, it's going to save a marriage, it's going to save somebody from alcohol or drug abuse," Cunningham said.



OCTOBER 2019

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CEDAR HILL

PEOPLE MAKE IT A COMMUNITY



Members of the Cedar Hill Fire Department participated in the Dallas 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb in remembrance and commemoration of the first responders lost on 9/11.



Volunteers participated in a work day at the Community Garden at the Zula B. Wylie Public Library.



Council Member Chad McCurdy presents a proclamation designating September 23-29, 2019 as Deaf Awareness Week in Cedar Hill.

MEET THE CHIEF: Q&A WITH POLICE CHIEF ELY REYES

Police Chief Ely Reyes joined the Cedar Hill Police Department in April 2019. Prior to his appointment, he served in numerous capacities with the Austin Police Department for more than 20 years. Six months into the job, we sat down with the Chief to learn more about him.

Q: Why did you choose Cedar Hill?

A: I chose Cedar Hill because of the strength of the relationships between the community and the police department. I have two young children, and Cedar Hill is a great place to raise a family.

Q: What's your favorite thing about Cedar Hill?

A: The people. Everyone is friendly and supportive. I enjoy the community involvement and relationship-building opportunities here.

Q: What do you do for fun?

A: I love to go camping with my family. We like to go mountain biking and travel together - we just got back from Disney World.

Q: What are the biggest challenges facing law enforcement agencies?

A: Probably two of the biggest challenges are building positive relationships and gaining trust in the community; and understanding the impact of mental health and how it can affect police response to community members.

Q: Where can people find you around town?

A: People can find me many mornings at Starbucks or White Rhino coffee shops. We spend a lot of time at Virginia Weaver Park - my kids love the new playground there. We also eat a lot of sushi, so you can probably find us at any of the sushi restaurants in town.



SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE NEW OUTDOOR POOL

Take advantage of several opportunities in October to share your feedback on amenities and programming you'd like to see in the new outdoor pool to be built at Virginia Weaver Park.

In November 2017, voters approved funding to build a new outdoor pool to replace the existing pool at Crawford Park. After assessing environmental conditions, potential impacts to existing programs and amenities, and other site-specific considerations, Virginia Weaver Park was selected as the location for the pool.

The Parks department will host several input opportunities for pool users and residents throughout October:

- **Party in the Park**

October 26 from 10 a.m. to noon
Virginia Weaver Park (631 Somerset Dr.)

- **Public Input Meeting**

October 29 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Alan E. Sims Recreation Center

- **Online Survey**

October 1-31
Letstalkcedarhill.com/pool

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

City Council Meetings

Oct 22; Nov 12 at 7 p.m.
Cedar Hill Government Center
285 Uptown Blvd.

[View agendas at cedarhilltx.com/agenda.](http://cedarhilltx.com/agenda)

Party in the Park

Oct 26 from 10 a.m. to noon
Virginia Weaver Park
631 Somerset Dr.

Enjoy free snacks and games and share your thoughts on the new outdoor pool at Virginia Weaver Park. Details at letstalkcedarhill.com.

Scare on the Square

Oct 31 from 6 to 8 p.m.
Historic Downtown
Don't miss the annual Scare on the Square in Downtown Cedar Hill. A free family event featuring a costume parade, trunk-or-treat, entertainment, giveaways and more Halloween fun!

IGNITE Business Conference

Nov 1 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Methodist Charlton Medical Center
3500 W. Wheatland Rd, Dallas
Register for the Cedar Hill Chamber of Commerce's IGNITE Business Conference at cedarhillchamber.org.

Holiday on the Hill

Dec 5 from 6 to 8 p.m.
Historic Downtown
Celebrate the holiday season at the annual Holiday on the Hill celebration in Downtown Cedar Hill. Enjoy kids activities, festive crafts, live performances, photos with Santa, and the official lighting of the City of Cedar Hill tree.

VIEW THE FULL CALENDAR AT CEDARHILLTX.COM, OR SUBSCRIBE TO 'THIS WEEK IN CEDAR HILL' AT CEDARHILLTX.COM/TWICH.

IT'S ALL TREATS AT ANNUAL SCARE ON THE SQUARE EVENT

Don't miss the annual Scare on the Square event in Downtown Cedar Hill. A free family event featuring a costume parade, trunk-or-treat, entertainment, giveaways and more Halloween fun!



A VIBRANT NEIGHBORHOOD STARTS WITH YOU

Strong neighborhoods are the foundation of the city council's vision for a premier City, and strong and vibrant neighborhoods are built one family at a time. You can start by making small strides in your community and maintaining your property to the community's standards listed below.

Grass must be mowed and no higher than 12 inches tall.

Yards must be well-kept, clean, and free of loose trash and debris.

Trees and vegetation should be well-maintained. All trees must be trimmed at least 8 feet above the sidewalk and 14 feet above streets and alleys.

Sidewalks must be free of trip hazards. It is the homeowner's responsibility to maintain the sidewalk in front of their property.

Junk and inoperable vehicles are not permitted. Vehicles must be in working condition, fully assembled, and have current license and registration information.

All vehicles must be parked on an improved surface. No vehicles are allowed to be parked in the grass or in the front or side yard.

Fences must be well-maintained and in vertical position. Incomplete fencing is not permitted.

Address numbers must be posted at the front and rear entry of the property for all homes. Numbers should be visible from the street.

Paint and siding must be well-maintained and intact, without chipping.

Outdoor items must be stored in a neat and orderly fashion. Indoor furniture, appliances, and trash may not be stored outside.

Trash cans may not be set out before sunset the day before collection, and must be removed from the curb by 8 p.m. on collection day.

Every resident can make a positive impact towards maintaining Cedar Hill as a safe and clean city. For questions about code compliance, visit cedarhilltx.com/code.

CONTACT CITY OF CEDAR HILL

Emergency 911

Administration (972) 293-1467

After Hours (972) 780-6643

Animal Control (972) 223-6111

Animal Shelter (972) 291-5335

Building (972) 291-5100
Inspections ext. 1090

City (972) 291-5100
Secretary ext. 1011

Code (972) 291-5100
Enforcement ext. 1111

Fire Dept. (972) 291-1011
(Non-Emergency)

Human (972) 291-5100
Resources ext. 1054

Library (972) 291-7323

Municipal (972) 291-5100
Court ext. 1041

Neighborhood (972) 291-5100
Services ext. 1099

Parks & (972) 291-5100
Recreation ext. 1500

Police Dept. (972) 291-5100
(Non-Emergency) ext. 2400

Public Works (972) 291-5126

Recreation Center (972) 293-5288

Senior Center (972) 291-5353

Tourism (972) 291-5100
ext. 1084

Trash & Recycling (800) 772-8653

Utility Billing (469) 272-2931

STAY CONNECTED

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