Southeast Regional Pediatric Disaster Surge Response Network

Satellite Conference and Live Webcast
Wednesday, February 3, 2010
12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Central Time

Produced by the Alabama Department of Public Health
Video Communications and Distance Learning Division

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Purpose of the Network

- To support the emergency and disaster response needs of pediatric populations in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Northwest Florida

Activities of the Network

- The Network advocates for improving the "pediatric friendliness" of existing response procedures, acts as a liaison for staff and supply needs, and serves as an information broker related to pediatric specific response planning

Mission

- *The Southeastern Regional Pediatric Disaster is a voluntary agreement among health care and emergency responders for the purpose of providing pediatric care mutual aid at the time of an emergency or disaster*

Vision

- *A high-reliability, highly collaborative regional network of hospitals, public health agencies, emergency management agencies, emergency responders, private practitioners, volunteer agencies that will meet the medical care needs of the region's pediatric populations during an emergency or disaster*

Considerations

- Limited regional medical surge capacity for children during emergencies and disasters
- Participants provide additional surge capacity and resources in the context of the National Incident Management System (NIMS)
- Must have the characteristics of high reliability organizations (HROs)
- Requires interagency collaboration

Project Plan

- Stage 1 – recruit participants for the planning process
- Stage 2 – conduct six face-to-face planning workshops to formalize a plan for network coordination, network finances, credentialing, operations (roles and responsibilities of network participants), logistics, and public information

Project Plan

- Stage 3 – draft and edit a formal plan for the Southeastern Pediatric Disaster Surge Network (this formal plan evolved into the Network Handbook)
- Stage 4 – conduct a face-to-face workshop to finalize the formal plan
- Stage 5 – distribute formal plan to stakeholders for acceptance and commitment

Types of Issues Requiring Resolution

- Activation and deactivation
- Maintenance of situational awareness
- Network incident command
- Unified command
- Role of adult hospitals

Types of Issues Requiring Resolution

- Role of volunteers
- Institutional communication outside of an event
- Procurement procedure and authority
- Assessment of resource availability

Types of Issues Requiring Resolution

- **Determination of need for non-governmental agency assistance**
- **Assessment of need for support functions**
- **Identification of agency planning partners**
- **Support and medical staff**
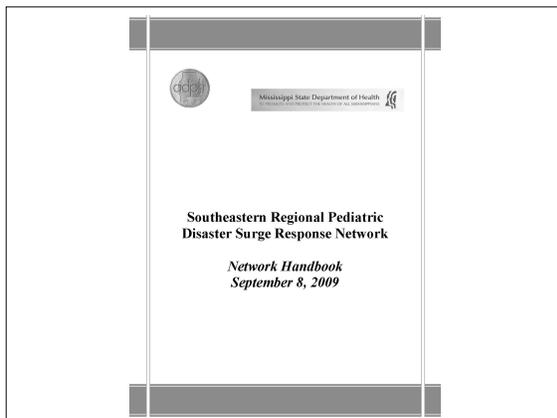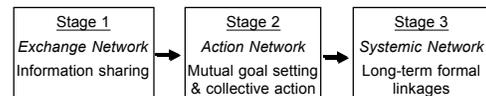
Types of Issues Requiring Resolution

- **Licensing and credentialing**
- **Common language and coding**
- **Release of personnel**
- **Funding**
- **Monitoring multiple sources of funds**
- **Financial controls**

Characteristics of High Reliability Organizations (HROs)

1. **HROs aggressively seek to know what they do not know**
2. **HROs balance efficiency and effectiveness**
3. **HROs communicate the big picture to everyone**

Interagency Collaboration

Stages of Network Development

Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
Exchange Network	*Action Network*	*Systemic Network*
Information sharing	Mutual goal setting & collective action	Long-term formal linkages

Mississippi State Department of Health

Southeastern Regional Pediatric Disaster Surge Response Network

Network Handbook
September 8, 2009

Challenges

- **Ensuring long-term commitment to the Network**
- **Participant Self-Interest versus Network Effectiveness**
- **Aggregation of High Reliability Organization characteristics into a High Reliability Network**