After The Storm: Our Next Challenge
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Disaster Can Strike Any Time
• April 27, 2011
• Gulf oil spill, 2010
• H1N1, 2009
• Hurricane Gustav, 2008
• Enterprise tornado, 2007
• Hurricane Katrina, 2005
• Hurricane Ivan, 2004

Disaster Can Strike Any Time
• September 11, 2001
• And a host of other threats including CBRNE, flooding, earthquakes, man made disasters

ADPH Center for Emergency Preparedness
• Coordinates Alabama's health, medical, and social services in the event of public health threats and emergencies
Medical Assets for Emergency Preparedness

- Mobile medical asset
  - Mobile medical tents
- PI supplies
- Satellite communication systems
- Water purification systems
- SMORT

Medical Assets for Emergency Preparedness

- Strategic national stockpile
- Chempacks
- Other supplies
  - Cots, IV poles

Bus Conversion Kits

Water Purification Units

- Responder 60 gal/hr
- Recycler 2400 gal/hr
- Outpost 720 gal/hr
Responsibilities of The ADPH ESF-8

- Emergency Support Function 8
  - Includes all medical aspects of an emergency response
- ADPH is the lead agency in ESF 8 and the support agency for health care organizations that provide direct patient care

Local Preparedness

- All responses are local
- Eleven public health areas in Alabama
- Each public health area has an emergency preparedness team
- Each team coordinates with the Center for Emergency Preparedness along with local resources
Who Is Your Team?

Preparedness - All Hazards Approach

- As the concept of emergency preparedness has changed, so has the approach to planning
- All hazards concept allows for planning for common events in many kinds of disasters

Preparedness - All Hazards Approach

- Provides basic framework for planning, for example:
  - Emergency warning
  - Mass evacuation covered in general plan
- Plans are adaptable for circumstances

Alphabet Soup of Emergency Preparedness

- ALERT - Alabama Emergency Response Technology
- SHARE - Stakeholders Help, Advice, and Recommendation Exchange
- AIMS - Alabama Incident Management System
- PI - Pandemic Influenza

Alphabet Soup of Emergency Preparedness

- MMRS - Metropolitan Medical Response System
- CRI - Cities Readiness Initiative
- NEDSS - National Electronic Disease Surveillance System
- LCMS - Learning Content Management System
Disasters and You: Professional and Personal Preparation

- Contact your public health EP teams
- Visit ADPH website for information and links
- View emergency preparedness information and templates

Disasters and You: Professional and Personal Preparation

- Attend training sessions in your community
- Enhance your knowledge base by attending courses including disaster training information
- Become part of your state’s volunteer network

Some Immediate Concerns After Disasters

- Damage to structures and homes
  - Safety to occupy and/or clean up
- Disruption of utilities
  - Power, water, waste water
- Disruption of travel routes
- Disruption of fuel supply

Some Immediate Concerns After Disasters

- Disruption of food supply
- Disruption of medical care
- Dependence on emergency supplies
- Ability of local agencies to respond to increased needs/demands for services

Professional Responsibilities of ADPH in the Aftermath of Disasters

- Provide medical support if needed for triage
- Medical needs shelters if required
- Coordinate with responsible agencies on mass care shelters
Professional Responsibilities of ADPH in the Aftermath of Disasters

- Provide environmental support for food/water waste safety/vector control
- Disperse information to the public about health and environmental safety

Citizens’ Priorities for Preparedness

- Family/safety/security
- Shelter
- Power
- Drinking water
- Food
- Medications
- Ice

Personal Preparedness

- Take measures to be ready before the disaster strikes
  - Get 10 campaign
    - Water
    - Food
    - Can opener
    - Medications
    - First aid

Personal Preparedness

- Flashlight
- Radio
- Clothes
- Personal care items
- Important documents

When The Disaster Strikes, We Have To Communicate

- Systems of communication for disasters
  - National Incident Management System - NIMS
  - Incident Command System - ICS
Interoperable Communications

In The Eye of The Storm, We Have To Hold Hands and Stick Together
- ADPH
- EMA
- EMS
- Fire
- Police
- Hospitals/healthcare providers/long term care

In The Eye of The Storm, We Have To Hold Hands and Stick Together
- Mental Health
- DHR
- Education
- Industry/business/public service companies
- Faith based
- Other

Recovery – Will It Ever Come?
- Recovery has to start immediately
- Requires information gathering during the crisis and attention to accurate information
- Compile reports while the disaster is still fresh

Lessons Learned
- Planning and preparedness for other disasters served us well on and after April 27, 2011
- Communication systems were the most significant problems
- Use of volunteer registry and training made a difference
- www.servealabama.gov
Resources for Disaster Planning

- www.adph.org
- www.aap.org/disasters
- www.cdc.gov
- www.fema.gov
- www.ready.gov
- www.servealabama.gov
- www.ndlsf.org
- www.ahls.org

Tributes

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Photographs courtesy of Faith Landers