Bridge the Gap

Community Surge & Resiliency

Satellite Conference and Live Webcast Thursday, July 24, 2008 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. (Central Time)

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

Faculty

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Objectives

- Identify potential modifications needed to emergency response plans in order to maintain essential functions during and following a pandemic.
- Review past disasters in Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi and discuss the local emergency responses and best practices.

Objectives

 Discuss ways to collaborate with multiple local public and private partners to ensure an optimal response and recovery to a community event.

Today's Sponsor

- Alabama Department of Health
 - www.adph.org
- Center for Emergency Preparedness
 - 334-206-3394
 - www.adph.org/cep
- Funding from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

How?

- Sharing response and recovery stories of our neighbors
- · What did they plan for?
- What did they use?
- · What will they do in the future?

Framework

- Department of Homeland Security's 2007 Planning Guidelines:
 - -Preparedness
 - -Prevention
 - -Protection
 - -Response
 - -Recovery

Preparedness

- Coordination among government, private sector and non government agencies to:
 - Identify threats
 - Determine vulnerabilities
 - Identify required resources

Prevention

- Actions to protect lives and property
- Countermeasures for deterrence
- Improved surveillance and security
- Immunizations, isolation or quarantine
- Law enforcement

Protection

- Reduce vulnerability of critical infrastructure and key resources
- Coordination at all levels of government
- Awareness elevation
- Promotion of sector protection practices
- Security information sharing

Response

- Immediate actions to save lives, protect property and meet human needs
- Execute emergency plans and mitigation procedures
- Increase security
- Immunizations, isolation and quarantine
- Preempt illegal activity

Recovery

- Reconstitution of government operations
- Restoration plans
- Public assistance
- Social, political, environmental and economic restoration
- Development of mitigation strategies

Real Disasters

- August 29, 2005 Bay St. Louis, Mississippi Hurricane Katrina
- March 1, 2007 Enterprise, Alabama Tornado
- March 1, 2007 Americus, Georgia Tornado
- February 17, 2008 Prattville, Alabama Tornado
- March 28, 2008 Springville, Alabama School Bus Accident

August 29, 2005 Hurricane Katrina Strikes Mississippi Gulf Coast

- The most destructive hurricane to strike the U.S. in terms of economic terms, made landfall as a Category 3 hurricane on August 29, 2005
- A storm surge of 30 feet came ashore at Bay St. Louis and traveled the 1.75 miles to Hancock Medical Center

March 1, 2007 Tornadoes

- Beginning mid-day and continuing into morning hours of March 2, the Tallahassee, FL National Weather Service issued 57 warnings of which 35 were tornado warnings
- Deadliest was the first that struck Enterprise, Alabama at 1:05 p.m. Central Time

March 1, 2007 Tornadoes

- EF-4 (Enhanced Fujita Scale) tornado with wind speeds between 165 and 175 mph struck Enterprise High School, nearly destroyed an elementary school and caused severe damage to downtown areas
- Tornado path was 10 miles long and up to 500 yards wide
- –Nine deaths

March 1, 2007 Tornadoes

- Estimated \$250 million dollars in damage
- At approximately 9:26 p.m. Eastern Time, Americus, Georgia is struck by the same storm system
- EF-3 tornado with winds of 136-165 mph
- Sumter Regional Hospital suffers
 debilitating damage

2008 Alabama Emergencies

- February 17, 2008
 - EF-3 Tornado strikes Prattville
 - -864 homes suffer damage
 - -80 homes totally destroyed
 - -No deaths

2008 Alabama Emergencies

- March 28, 2008
 Elementary School Bus Accident
 - -44 students, one teacher and one assistant
 - -2 serious injuries

What Did We Learn?

- Preparedness
 - Conduct a Hazard Threat
 Vulnerability Assessment of your organization; update it yearly
 - Compare your needs with those of your response partners and the critical infrastructure in your area
 - Educate response staff in Incident Command (ICS) and select ICS staff

What Did We Learn?

- Prevention
 - Improve response communication systems
 - Build redundancy and interoperability with response partners and the local critical infrastructure
 - Identify training and equipment needs – and, meet those needs

What Did We Learn?

- Protection
 - Become an active partner at the local emergency preparedness planning committee
 - Build relationships NOW so they will be there when you need them
 - Formalize vendor relationships through Mutual Aid Agreements or Memorandums of Understanding

What Did We Learn?

- Response
 - Be certain you are represented at the local Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during an emergency
 - Maintain Incident Command System
 - Provide timely and accurate information through "one voice"
 - -Keep staff informed at all times
 - Channel volunteer efforts to your advantage

What Did We Learn?

Recovery

- Be in tune to emotional and physical needs of your staff
- Never forget, but get back to the "new normal" as quickly as possible
- Conduct an after action review to learn from your experiences

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Public Health Resources

- Deployable Equipment
- Deployable Teams
- Incident Tracking Systems
- Downloadable Templates, Fact Sheets, Order Forms, Publications and Training Opportunities at www.adph.org/cep

Public Health Deployable Equipment

- Mortuary Services
 - -2 mobile mortuary units
 - –4 refrigerated trucks
- Medical Stations
 - -7 units of 50 beds each with supplies

Public Health Deployable Equipment

- Cots/Linens/Supplies
 - -6 units of 100 beds with trailer
 - 1 unit of 100 adult beds and 50 pediatric beds
- Bus Conversion Kits (about 100) for patient transport, evacuation or decedent transportation

Public Health Teams

- Area Emergency Preparedness Teams – 11
- Central Office Medical Needs Response Teams - 8
- Central Office Administrative Response Teams – 8
- Radiation Response Teams 11

Public Health Teams

- Medical Station Set Up Teams 11
- Statewide Shelter Teams 44
 - -Note some teams or portions of teams are available for deployment via the Emergency Medical Assistance Compact (EMAC)

Public Health Databases Available to Border States

- AIMS (Alabama Incident Management System)
 - free situational awareness for hospitals, community health centers, EMS, medical needs shelters and nursing homes
 - https://www.al.aimslive.org

Public Health Databases Available to Border States

- ALERT (Alabama Emergency Response Technology)
 - Secure role and profile driven messaging system
 - -Responder document library
 - -Border states can participate

Public Health Community Resources

- Comfort Care Centers
 - Business, community or faith based organization
 - Organization has written plan & signs an MOU:
 - Organization provides non medical supplies and staff

Public Health Community Resources

- Public Health provides medical supplies for supportive care for 50 adults & 10 children
- FREE Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - -N95 Masks
 - Hand Gel
 - Cleaning Supplies

Public Health Community Resources

 ANY organization with a written preparedness plan and receives preparedness training from a Public Health EP Team member

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