

BRIDGE THE GAP

Community Surge and Resiliency Satellite Conference and Live Webcast

Thursday, July 24, 2008 • 2:00-4:00 p.m. (Central Time)
3:00-5:00 p.m. (Eastern) • 1:00-3:00 p.m. (Mountain) • 12:00-2:00 p.m. (Pacific)

The emergency plans are all on paper, the guidelines are all in place and the practice drills have all been completed with flying colors. You're ready for whatever disaster comes your way – or are you? Unfortunately, no one really knows, until disaster actually hits.

In the last 15 months several towns in Alabama and surrounding states have come face-to-face with various disasters: for instance, a tornado, a hurricane and a horrific school bus accident. Each event left devastating marks on communities, businesses and families. Though no community ever wants a major disaster to hit home, those emergency plans are all right there on paper for a reason.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has five national preparedness guidelines for communities to adhere to in the wake of a disaster. They are preparedness, prevention, protection, response and recovery. How do you restore security, power and calm to a neighborhood or school destroyed by a tornado? How do you provide critical health care, emergency services or life saving measures when your hospital has been flooded and damaged? How do you calm, treat and transport 44 fifth graders whose bus has just flipped over on the interstate?

Preparedness is a continuous learning process that requires coordination among organizations at all levels. Community leaders and response personnel from these communities will highlight best practices of how they responded to their disaster and how they have since updated their plans based on lessons learned. Each presenter will illustrate how they have used the DHS preparedness guidelines to facilitate their response to their respective disasters. What worked, what didn't, what has changed but perhaps more importantly, what can you learn and take back with you to improve your community's own emergency preparedness plan?

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

1. Identify potential modifications needed to emergency response plans in order to maintain essential functions during and following a pandemic.
2. Review past disasters in Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi and discuss the local emergency responses and best practices.
3. Discuss ways to collaborate with multiple local public and private partners to ensure an optimal response and recovery to a community event.

FACULTY:

Various city officials, school leaders, hospital administrators, first responders and volunteers who have been affected by major disasters:

Tornado

High School (Enterprise, AL)

Commercial & Residential (Prattville, AL)

Hospital (Americus, GA)

Hurricane

Medical Center (Bay St. Louis, MS)

Vehicle Accident

School Bus (Springfield, AL)

SATELLITE CONFERENCE AND WEBCAST DETAILS:

Target Audience: Emergency/first responders, emergency management professionals, public health professionals, environmental health professionals, educators, school counselors, community leaders/planners, hospitals, federal, state & local law enforcement officers/officials, command & control personnel, 9-1-1 dispatchers, elected officials, nursing homes, faith based organizations, volunteer organizations and all other response partners.

Registration: www.adph.org/alphntn

Cost: There is no cost to view.

CEUs Approved: None for this program.

Satellite Technical Information: Ku & C bands.

Webcast Information: Register at www.adph.org/alphntn. To view the webcast, you need RealPlayer. Test your computer before the day of the program from the "test connection" link at www.adph.org/alphntn. On the day of the program, go to www.adph.org/alphntn. Click on the "view webcast" link.

Conference Materials: Posted on our website approximately one week before the program.

Questions For Faculty: If you have questions that you want addressed during the conference, you may fax or email those questions and a response will be given during the program.

Email: alphntnquestions@adph.state.al.us or fax: 334-206-5640.

Conference Detail Questions: If you have questions about any of these conference details, call 334-206-5618 or email: alphntn@adph.state.al.us