



HEALTHY PEOPLE. HEALTHY COMMUNITIES.

Dorothy F. Teeter, MHA, *Interim Director and Health Officer*

Dear Colleague,

We are writing to invite you to an important breakfast meeting of local hospital and major medical group leaders to discuss the formation of a King County Healthcare Emergency Coalition. The Coalition is intended to enhance coordination and communication within the healthcare community in responding to the health effects of a major emergency or disaster. The meeting will be held on DATE at TIME, at Location X. Please RSVP to Person X at (XXX) XXX-XXXX or via email at EMAIL ADDRESS by DATE.

If you are not able to attend, we ask that you please ensure that an executive level designee attends to represent you. Space is limited and attendance is by invitation only.

In light of Hurricane Katrina, which devastated the health care infrastructure in New Orleans, and with growing concerns about the possibility of a worldwide influenza pandemic, we feel that our healthcare community must take greater steps to prepare for public health disasters. We are proposing to form a Healthcare Emergency Coalition that can increase our health system's capacity to respond to a major disaster through collaborative planning, timely communication and information sharing, and effective resource coordination.

At the meeting, we will provide the latest information about health-related emergency preparedness planning in our community and we will present a proposal for strengthening the health system's ability to respond to emergencies. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about the meeting. We look forward to working with you and your team to create a truly coordinated, effective health system response to any catastrophe that could affect the health of the residents of King County.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Teeter, MHA
Interim Director and Health Officer
Public Health-Seattle & King County

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