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Region 6

Healthcare Preparedness

Pandemonium at Public Health

Emergency Response Exercise Extremely Successful

Whitney Taylor

PHSKC Training & Exercise Program Manager



In mid-November Public Health – Seattle & King County and Washington State Department of Health co-sponsored a full scale exercise testing our pandemic influenza response plans. Over 280 Public Health staff participated in the four day exercise. Some of the objectives tested included Emergency Communications, Emergency Medical Screening and EMS response, Emergency Operations Center Activation and Management, Epidemiological Surveillance and Investigation, Medical Supplies Management, Tracking and Distribution, Activation of, Alternate Medical Facilities, Mobilization of Volunteer Staff, and On-site Incident Management.

Exercise activities occurred at multiple locations in Seattle. Public Health activated and tested several capabilities during the exercise including a new information management system (WATRAC) to document incident information, and a tool for tracking beds and communicating with the hospitals.

On the final day of the exercise, Public Health staff and volunteers set up and activated an Alternate Care Facility at Seattle Center’s Exhibition Hall. Serving as a field hospital to treat patients during disasters, this site was equipped, staffed and ready for patients in just over six hours. Tours were conducted of this facility for healthcare executives and elected officials, local media, emergency response organizations, hospital staff within and outside King County, state agencies and federal officials.

This exercise relied upon close coordination and active participation among partner agencies including fire departments, law enforcement, hospitals (all King County hospitals participated in the exercise), local emergency management, policy leaders, and community based organizations. Public Health Reserve Corp Volunteers participated in two days of the four day event.



Winter Storm Season is Just Starting: Prepare Now for Heavy Rainfall

King County Office of Emergency Management | January 7, 2009



The best time to prepare for rain and its impact is before you feel the first drop. To avoid personal injury and property damage due to flooding, King County urges citizens to prepare now by following these safety tips:

- Know if you are in a flood prone area. Floodplain mapping is available at <http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/flooding/maps.aspx>

- Have an emergency plan and basic food, personal and emergency supplies on hand.
- Learn the safest route from your home or business to high ground.
- Agree on meeting places and phone numbers in case family members are separated by rising flood waters.
- Minimize flood damage by storing valuables at higher elevations, such as a second story, and buy sand and sandbags ahead of time. Sandbags and sand are generally available at hardware warehouse stores and co-ops.
- Keep street drains, storm grates and flap gates free of debris to minimize urban flooding.

For more information and preparedness tips, contact King County Office of Emergency Management at 206-296-3830 or visit www.kingcounty.gov/safety/prepare.aspx

For updated road closure information see: <http://wsdot.wa.gov/traffic/trafficalerts/>

For a complete list of weather alerts see: <http://www.weather.gov/alerts-beta/wa.php?x=1>

Public Health Mutual Aid Agreement

In the past year, a workgroup with representatives and their legal counsels from Public Health Seattle and King County, Snohomish Health District, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, and Kitsap County Health District, have worked together to develop a Public Health Mutual Aid Agreement. During this process, the statewide team of practitioners, attorneys, public health officials, and others, examined and analyzed which state laws and

regulations might be waived during a public health related emergency. Risk managers, insurance providers, internal administrative committees, decision makers, and some local emergency management provided review. Although the initial work was to develop a mutual aid agreement for the Puget Sound area local health jurisdictions (LHJs), other LHJs across the state had expressed interest in signing on. The resulting MAA is now applicable for all LHJs. Currently nine additional LHJs are considering signing.

To date the following jurisdictions have signed on: Public Health Seattle and King County, Snohomish Health District, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, Kitsap County Health District, Whatcom County Health Department, Yakima Health District, Grant County Health District, Benton Franklin Health District, Chelan-Douglas Health District, and Walla Walla County Health Department.

In a parallel project, the Olympic Peninsula tribes are working with Region 2 Public Health to create a model mutual aid agreement to share resources during an emergency. The tribes include the Suquamish, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Jamestown S'Klallam, Makah, Hoh, Lower Elwha Klallam, and Quileute tribes. Each of these eight tribes is independent and has a separate governance structure, but all share a common unified Public Health system.

King County is collecting Small Business Administration (SBA) Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) worksheets.

Many businesses were inaccessible or had to close during the storm event (anytime during Dec 12-26, 2008), and may be experiencing economic loss.

Affected businesses should fill in the form found here:

<http://www.seattle.gov/emergency/news/flivers/Business%20Economic%20Injury%20Worksheet%20new%209-2007.pdf>

Fax the completed form to King County Emergency Management.

Fax numbers are 206-205-4056 or 206-296-3838.

Ready Relief: Local Health Care System Benefits from New Emergency Medical Capacity

Disaster exercise testing ability to mobilize emergency Health Care Center

Seattle & King County Public Health News Release

KING COUNTY, WA – In one of the first exercises of its kind in the nation, Public Health - Seattle & King County, the King County Health Care Coalition, the City of Seattle and partners from throughout the region are demonstrating their ability to mobilize and operate an emergency Health Care Center, also known as an Alternate Care Facility (ACF). The purpose of the emergency Health Care Center is to relieve pressure on the local health care system by adding extra medical capacity during a disaster.

Hosted by the Seattle Center at its Exhibition Hall, the exercise is designed to test how this facility, when combined with adjacent McCaw Hall, will accommodate up to 250 inpatient beds and many more outpatients in an emergency.



Dr. David Fleming addresses healthcare partners on a tour of the Health Care Center on November 18, 2008.

"In the midst of hazards such as earthquakes and epidemics, our community's immediate medical needs may overwhelm available medical resources," said Dr. David Fleming, Director and Health Officer for Public Health – Seattle & King County. "This facility will provide rapid surge capacity to support the delivery of critical health care services."

In a disaster, an emergency Health Care Center could provide a wide range of outpatient and inpatient medical services to people of all ages. Examples include:

- Treating injury or illness requiring immediate care but not an emergency room visit
- Sheltering for patients with home medical devices who must evacuate during disasters
- Oral and intravenous hydration
- Antimicrobial and vaccine administration
- Inpatient monitoring and support
- Palliative care



Participants include 300 staff and volunteers from Public Health – Seattle & King County, King County Health Care Coalition, Seattle Center, Seattle Fire Department, Seattle Police Department, Seattle Office of Emergency Management, King County Office of Emergency Management, Bellevue Fire Department, Washington State Department of Health, Washington State Patrol, Public Health - Seattle & King County Medical Reserve Corps, Carnation Duval Medical Reserve Corps, Vashon Medical Reserve Corps, Snohomish and Pierce County Medical Reserve Corps, and Washington and Oregon Disaster Medical Assistance Teams.

Planning for and supplying this new emergency resource has been a significant part of Public Health's ongoing emergency planning. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Washington State Department of Health, and Public Health – Seattle & King County contributed a combined total of \$100,000 to conduct the exercise. An additional \$1.1 million in durable medical items, such as beds, defibrillators, suture kits and trauma supplies have been purchased with contributions from DHS, King County and other sources. The equipment will be available for a wide range of disaster events as a regional cache on an ongoing basis.

Pandemic Influenza Vaccine Partnership

Puget Sound Business Journal (Seattle) | December 2008

Seattle-based nonprofit health organization PATH said it will partner with biotech Lentigen Corp. to try and develop a vaccine for pandemic influenza. PATH will pay the Gaithersburg, Md.-based company \$3 million over 27 months to work on the vaccine, which will be based on a virus-like particle (VLP) prototype. PATH officials say VLP-based vaccines can be produced more effectively and economically than traditional influenza vaccines. "Lentigen's technology is versatile and economical, and could be transferred to manufacturers in multiple locations to achieve our goal of developing a pandemic influenza vaccine to meet the needs of people in low-resource countries," said Dr. Kathleen Neuzil, director of PATH's influenza vaccine development project, in a statement.

Article Reference:

<http://www.bizjournals.com/seattle/stories/2008/12/01/daily23.html>

For more information on the flu vaccine, please read the Vaccine Information Statements:

Inactivated flu vaccine

<http://www.immunize.org/vis/2flu.pdf>

Live intranasal vaccine

<http://www.immunize.org/vis/livflu.pdf>



Researching Personal Protective Equipment

Two recent studies raise important questions about the best use of PPE by healthcare workers and should prompt further study and examination of current recommendations, policies, and readiness.

To View studies go to:

http://www.upmc-cbn.org/report_archive/2008/12/December_2008/cbnreport_12192008.html

Widespread Appeal and Success of Pandemic Flu Comic Book

Public Health HealthBeat | Nicole Sadow-Hasenberg

Public Health-Seattle & King County distributed over 50,000 "No Ordinary Flu" comic books throughout King County. The comic book was advertised in the Vulnerable Populations Action Team's Community Communications Network (CCN) and in local ethnic media as well as to other important regional partners. Comics have been distributed to faith-based organizations, community based organizations, hospitals, schools, libraries, public health clinics, mental health clinics, and individual homes.

Praise and requests for the comic book have come from many local organizations, and as far away as New York from the Pandemic Awareness Coordinator at the United Nations. Department of Health and Office of Superintendent of Public Institutions printed 310,000 copies for distribution to middle school students in public schools throughout the state.

In fall 2008 the comic book will be translated into an additional nine languages, for a total of 21, including English.

No Ordinary Flu is available online:

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/preparedness/pandemicflu/comicbook.aspx>

UK Hospital Exercise Shows Need for More Basic PPE during a Pandemic

Center for BioSecurity | Crystal Franco | December 2008

In its November online edition, the *Journal of Hospital Infection* published a report on a hospital pandemic drill conducted by Wirral University Teaching Hospital of the UK. The hospital found that the use of complicated, high-level personal protective equipment (PPE) will slow hospital operations during a pandemic. In addition, basic PPE, including gloves and surgical masks, will be depleted much more quickly than previously anticipated. This report concludes that pandemic planning should place greater emphasis on stockpiling adequate amounts of basic PPE than on stockpiling high-level PPE.

Full Article found:

http://www.upmc-biosecurity.org/website/biosecurity_briefing/archive/avian_pandemic_flu/2008/2008-12-10-ukneedmoreppe.html

New Model Estimates Emergency Evacuation Needs

Press Release | Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality | December 2008

A model to help federal, state, and local emergency planners estimate the vehicles, drivers, road capacity and other resources they will need to evacuate patients and others from health care facilities in disaster areas was released today by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

The Web-based *Mass Evacuation Transportation Planning Model* is designed to be used prior to an emergency to help answer such questions as:

1. How long will it take to move patients from one facility to another?
2. How many transport vehicles, such as ambulances, wheelchair vans and buses, are required to complete the evacuation within a certain time period?
3. How might the location and other attributes of the evacuating and receiving facilities affect evacuation plans?

Emergency planners can enter into the model any number of evacuating and receiving facilities and specific conditions that could affect transportation plans. The model will estimate the resources and hours needed to move patients from evacuating facilities to receiving facilities, based on assumptions that the planner specifies. The model was pilot tested in New York City and Los Angeles and is available for use at <http://massevacmodel.ahrq.gov/>

Development of the model was led by AHRQ and the Department of Defense with funding from the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Health and Human Service's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response.

For more details on the model or other AHRQ tools, contact: Jennifer Felsher at 301-427-1859 or Jennifer.Felsher@ahrq.hhs.gov.



When the flood waters rose last December, Kelley Jones received a phone call. As a Medical Reserve Corps volunteer in Thurston County, she was asked to assist the relief effort in rural communities west of Centralia. Kelley and another volunteer went door to door asking residents if they needed help. The flood survivors she met were trying to meet their most basic needs while they grappled with the loss of livestock, homes, and treasured possessions.

King County is now recruiting volunteers like Kelley to lend a hand during emergencies. We're looking for nurses, doctors, pharmacists, EMTs, and other health care professionals to support our emergency health care centers. We're also seeking mental health counselors and volunteers without medical training. Volunteers hand out blankets or answer calls to our hotline. Chaplains and counselors sit with survivors to help them with the overwhelming emotions and stresses of the event. Interpreters provide essential information to those who don't speak English as a first language.

In an emergency, our volunteers save lives. They also help their communities recover more quickly. By registering with the Public Health Reserve Corps, volunteers receive emergency response training and are called to action as part of a coordinated community effort. Last December, the Reserve Corps in Kelley's area were alerted minutes after the floods were predicted. In an emergency, many of us find it difficult to sit in front of the television, and feel helpless because we're not sure how to lend a hand. Your community needs your skills and talents during a crisis. Hurricanes Ike and the tempests that have hit the Gulf Coast recently are almost unheard of in King County. But we are at risk for floods, wind storms, earthquakes, and disease outbreaks. Volunteering with the Public Health Reserve Corps means that you'll be helping the people who need it the most. We are doing everything we can to prepare for the worst. I hope you'll join us.

You can find out more at www.kingcounty.gov/health

**PUBLIC HEALTH
RESERVE CORPS**

Dedicated Volunteers Prepared To Respond

FEATURED RESOURCES

MEETING THE NEEDS OF VULNERABLE POPULATIONS EQUITY IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE

This toolkit provides time saving information about assessing, engaging and building relationships with key community based organizations that serve vulnerable populations. It will help local health jurisdictions embark in customizing their own coordinated planning efforts for all of the communities they serve.

<http://www.vulnerablepopulation.com/>

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TIPS FOR THOSE WITH FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

A comprehensive preparedness guide for senior citizens, people with physical limitations and those with other special needs that outlines important steps people with functional needs should take to stay safe when a disaster or emergency arises.

http://www.ready.illinois.gov/pdf/PreparednessTips_FunctionalNeeds.pdf

HHS Releases Guidance for Use and Stockpiling of Antiviral Drugs for Pandemic Influenza

Dept. of Health & Human Services Press Office | December 2008

Health care workers and emergency services personnel who could have direct contact with individuals who are ill during an influenza pandemic should be protected with antiviral drugs throughout the pandemic, even before these workers are exposed or become ill themselves, according to guidance released today by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Stockpiling these antiviral drugs and planning for their use is the responsibility of employers as part of comprehensive pandemic preparedness, the guidance said.

The guidance also recommends preventive antiviral drug use for certain individuals following exposure to someone who is sick with pandemic influenza. These individuals include people with weakened immune systems, as well as for health care and emergency services workers such as law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency services personnel who do not routinely come in contact with ill people, and for residents in nursing homes, prisons, and other group residential settings if an outbreak of pandemic illness occurs in the facility.

For a copy of the guidance, visit: www.pandemicflu.gov

Full Article Reference found:

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2008pres/12/20081216a.html>

CDC Launches Snap Shots of State Population Data (SNAPS) to Assist in Emergency Preparedness Planning

National Resource Center on Advancing Emergency Preparedness for Culturally Diverse Communities

The CDC has recently launched SNAPS to provide local-level community profiles consisting of key variables for developing and tailoring health education and risk communication efforts to ensure that diverse audiences receive critical public health messages that are accessible, understandable, and timely. Data is provided on variables such as race/ethnicity and primary language spoken at home.

To access the SNAPS data go to: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/snaps/>



**The Changing Face of
Preparedness:**
Building and Sustaining Public
Health Capacity for Disaster
Response

Public Health
Preparedness Summit  2009

The 4th Annual Public Health Preparedness Summit will be held in San Diego, California on February 18-20, 2009

The Summit is the largest conference for public health and emergency preparedness professionals offering a variety of plenary, panel, and poster presentations, roundtable discussions, and interactive workshops all focused on building, enhancing, and sustaining our nation's ability to plan for, respond to, and recover from disasters and other public health emergencies.



KING COUNTY HEALTHCARE COALITION

THE COALITION IS A NETWORK OF HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS & PROVIDERS THAT ARE COMMITTED TO COORDINATING THEIR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE ACTIVITIES. THE PURPOSE IS TO DEVELOP & MAINTAIN A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM THAT ASSURES COORDINATION, EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, & OPTIMAL USE OF AVAILABLE HEALTH RESOURCES IN RESPONSE TO EMERGENCIES & DISASTERS.

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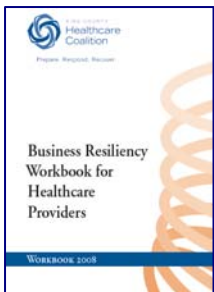
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THROUGH COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS, WE ARE BUILDING THE RELATIONSHIPS AND SYSTEMS NEEDED TO SUPPORT AN EFFECTIVE HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESPONSE DURING AN EMERGENCY

2008 HEALTHCARE COALITION ANNUAL REPORT

AVAILABLE FEBRUARY 2009

Preparedness Workbook for Healthcare Providers



Click to download
A free copy

Published by the King County Healthcare Coalition & NWCPHP

Public Health - Seattle & King County and the Healthcare Coalition in conjunction with the Northwest Center for Public Health Practice has recently developed an online workbook entitled, [Business Resiliency for Health Care Providers](#). The workbook is intended to help non-hospital healthcare agencies to enhance their resiliency in an emergency.

Coalition Workgroup & Project Updates

Outlined below are current updates for some of the Healthcare Coalition Committees & Workgroups. Please consult the Coalition website for additional information.

Coalition Calendar of Events

Region 6 Hospital Preparedness
January 22, 2009
7:30 – 10:00am

Hospital Seattle EOC Meeting
February 5, 2009
7:30 – 9:00am

Annual Executive Meeting
February 12, 2009
3:00 – 5:00pm

Palliative Care Committee
February 20, 2009
10:00 – 12:00pm

Vulnerable Populations Steering Committee
February 26, 2009
2:00 – 4:00pm

Region 6 Hospital Preparedness
February 26, 2009
7:30 – 10:00am

Alternate Care Facilities

- November 18th, 2008, King County completed a full scale exercise involving all aspects of site set-up, equipment familiarization and patient care. This exercise was staffed with volunteers, public health employees and members of our hospital coalition while being observed by members of the Centers for Disease Control, County leadership, and fellow healthcare executives and policy makers from around the United States. It was tremendously successful while providing an opportunity to capture gaps in our planning and care provision.
- Following the ACF full scale, requests to conduct planning and integration into city response plans has been overwhelming. Our short range goal is to complete planning and purchases for equipment to provide one 250 bed facility in each of King County's fire response zones.
- The CDC has requested the ACF program manager to present to 50-200 fellow planners in Atlanta on April 9th, 2009. This will provide a venue to those across the nation to see the level of work and how we have operationalized the concept. Thus, as an Advanced Practice Center, we will have the opportunity to share our work and answer questions.
- Lessons learned from our recent exercise point to the need of discharge planning and more mental health services. Staffing at all levels is difficult, but we see these areas as needing the most attention. Long term, we will need to develop the volunteer corps in order to meet continuous staffing needs.

Ambulatory Care

- An Ambulatory Care Workgroup met in November 2008 to begin discussions on future workgroup planning. This meeting reviewed WATrac and communication strategies, with the intent to reconvene in January of 2009 for Pandemic Influenza planning. During the Full Scale Exercise, Ambulatory Care Partners had an opportunity to respond to a test alert, allowing practice on our urgent regional email communications.
- A survey is underway in the Ambulatory Care Community to determine facility, staff, and patient numbers/demographics. This information will assist with winter preparedness planning. For more information about this survey contact Sarah Magill - Sarah.Magill@kingcounty.gov

Behavioral Health

- Members of the Public Health Medical Reserve Corps Behavioral Health Response Team participated in the Alternate Care Facility exercise. Four of our volunteers offered Psychological First Aid and other support services to "patients" and medical personnel, as well as assisted our Behavioral Health Planner in evaluating how best to provide mental health and spiritual care services in such a setting. They did an outstanding job and we thank them for their assistance. Also worth noting, our Behavioral Health Response Team was launched last June and is currently at 30 members and growing!

Home Health & Home Care

- Healthcare Coalition staff will continue to collaborate with the City of Seattle's Aging & Disability Services, as well as Home Health and Home Care providers to strengthen emergency planning efforts. Specifically, much work is being done to support consistency of disaster plans among providers, development of communication redundancy and improvements to gathering situational awareness in a response.



Workgroup & Project Updates Cont.

Outlined below are current updates for some of the Healthcare Coalition Committees & Workgroups. Please consult the Coalition website for additional information.

Home Health / Palliative Care WATrac Configuration

- A workgroup to assist with configuring WATrac incident management software for use by Home Health and Palliative Care providers has been launched. The workgroup includes representatives from agencies such as Group Health Cooperative, Evergreen Home and Community Services, Providence, New Care Concepts and Home Care Association of Washington. For more information contact Michelle.McDaniel@kingcounty.gov

Palliative Care / Hospice Planning

- Workgroup members are completing review of just-in-time training materials for emergency providers of palliative care, which may be necessary in the event of a large-scale disaster, such as pandemic influenza. Training materials include management algorithms for adults and for children that have been prepared in consultation with Linda Wrede-Seaman, MD, a nationally-recognized and published subject matter expert.
- The Workgroup has finalized a Memorandum of Understanding which delineates plans for King County hospice and palliative care agencies to collaborate and cooperate, as circumstances permit, in the provision of palliative care services in the event of a region-wide medical emergency. The MOU is currently in the final signature stage.

Pediatric Planning

- The Perinatal Task Force is completing a survey of all King County facilities that provide childbirth services to assess the current state of regional planning for response to the essential healthcare needs of pregnant women, new mothers, fragile newborns and health infants in a large-scale medical emergency.
- Work has begun to develop a pediatric annex to the Regional Hospital Evacuation & Patient Tracking Mutual Aid Plan.
- The Pediatric Mental Health Task Force is developing resource materials for education and training in the basic concepts of Psychological First Aid (PFA) for children who are impacted by trauma or disaster. The Task Force will present "Disaster Mental Health Services for Children" at Seattle Children's Grand Rounds in May, 2009.

Puget Sound Call Center Coordination

- The Puget Sound Call Center Coordination Project has officially become a statewide initiative, with DOH contracting directly with Washington Poison Center to include all counties in the planning. Next steps will include meeting with Qwest Communications to proceed with implementation of the virtual phone routing service which will serve as the platform for connecting multiple call centers.

WATrac - Washington's Healthcare Incident Management System

- The King County Healthcare Coalition tested WATrac extensively during the November 2008 full-scale exercise. It proved extremely valuable for exercise & resource delivery coordination, response documentation, and document sharing. Centralizing Healthcare Coalition distribution lists in WATrac also proved beneficial, allowing all staff to access current distribution lists.

Volunteer Management System (VMS)

- Public Health Seattle and King County activated its Volunteer Management System to conduct Pandemonium 2008. This was a Pandemic flu scenario with distribution of Strategic National Stockpile antivirals. As part of the VMS activation, Public Health logistics volunteers, Public Health Information Call Center staff, Medical Reserve Corps volunteers, and DMAT team members were all activated as part of our response.
- Lessons learned from Pandemonium 2008 include the need for a more robust Human Resources capability to call out volunteers and those involved in business continuity assignments. Gathering, training, and placing staff in new roles, the Incident Command Structure, or as part of the labor pool require more resources than we have currently assigned.
- We utilized a new badging system from Salamander to track assignments, time sheets, and credentials for those responding to Pandemonium. This system produced both a rapid paper tag, used as the check in and checkout system, and a hard card with photo that contains all of a person's emergency contact information, credentials, and assignment.

Training Opportunities

Note: The following list of available training opportunities are provided for your interest. Making each opportunity known as available is not necessarily an endorsement as to the value of each training.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness: Planning & Practicing for a Disaster WEBCAST

Date: February 9, 2009 at 1:00 to 2:30 pm ET

To register, please visit: <https://ahrq-kt.webex.com/ahrq-kt/onstage/g.php?d=758677507&t=a>

For more information, please e-mail: emergencypreparedness@academyhealth.org

Continuity Manager's Course, Train the Trainer

Date: February 10-12, 2009 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Location: Federal Regional Center -Army Reserve Center, Bothell, WA

To Register: contact June Uson via email at june.uson@dhs.gov

HAM Radio Technician Training

Date: March 30 and 31, 2009

Location: TBD

To Register: Contact Marina Zuetell at Zuetell@comcast.net

Decontamination Train the Trainer

Date: April 21-23, 2009

Location: Hammer Training Facility in Richland, WA

To Register: Contact Peggi Shapiro at WSHA, peggis@wsha.org

Seattle Neighborhoods Actively Prepare (SNAP)

Date: Various

Location: Various Libraries around Seattle

More Information found here: www.seattle.gov/emergency

Programs are being offered at various library branches throughout the City to help you, your family and your neighborhoods become better prepared for the next disaster

Upcoming Conferences

Note: The following list of available conference opportunities are provided for your interest. Making each opportunity known as available is not necessarily an endorsement as to the value of each conference.

Public Health Preparedness 4th Annual Summit

Date: February 18-20, 2009

Location: San Diego, California

The Changing Face of Preparedness: Building and Sustaining Public Health Capacity for Disaster Response

For More Information: <http://www.phprep.org/2009/?CFID=1310648&CFTOKEN=99934465>

2009 International Disaster Management Conference

Date: February 19-22, 2009

Location: Orlando, Florida

This conference highlights the role first responders and response agencies play in disaster planning, response, and mitigation.

For More Information:

<http://www.emlrc.org/disaster2009.htm>

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About this Newsletter

This publication is sent bimonthly via email. Please feel free to share resources through this newsletter.

To subscribe or submit information, please contact Lydia Ortega
Lydia.ortega@kingcounty.gov

Upcoming Conferences Cont.

Mass Casualty Preparedness & Response Forum

Date: February 23, 2009

Location: Washington, DC

For More Information:

<http://www.homelanddefensejournal.com/Courses/2009Courses/Mass-Casualty-Preparedness-Response.html>

3rd National Emergency Management Summit

Date: March 4 - 6, 2009

Location: Renaissance Washington DC Hotel -Washington, DC

The Leading Forum on Disaster, Epidemic and Terrorism Planning, Response and Recovery

For More Information: <http://www.emergencymanagementsummit.com/>

Partners in Emergency Preparedness

Date: April 14 – April 15, 2009

Location: Tacoma, WA

Topics include earthquake research, contingency planning, school preparedness, technology, news media, and public health.

For More Information: contact Siri McLean

siri@partnersinemergencypreparedness.com



WAMI Trauma Conference SAVE the DATE

Date: June 1-June 2, 2009

Location: Sheraton Hotel, Seattle, WA

Upcoming Exercises

- An ESF-8 debrief of the winter storm activities for December 2008 and January 2009 will be held on January 22nd at the King County ECC in the Coordination Room. Please feel free to attend and participate or observe as we capture the lessons learned from these events.
- Hospitals in King County are currently participating in internal surge capacity exercises. These exercises will be conducted once a month over the next quarter. The purpose of these exercises is to establish some consistent strategies across the region for creating surge and identifying a range of numbers that we may be able to achieve as a whole if surge capacity is warranted by an event.
- In February 2009, hospitals in Zones 1 and 3 will be participating in Evacuation TTXs. These tabletops will be similar to the one completed in Zone 5 in October, but will be specific to the hospitals in Zones 1 and 3. Dates and locations TBD. For more information, please contact Danica Mann at Danica.mann@overlakehospital.org

Public Health 
Seattle & King County


KING COUNTY
Healthcare
Coalition
Prepare. Respond. Recover.