

CREPC ESF-8 Public Health Subcommittee
June 4, 2010
Minutes
Manchester RCC

Attendees: Tom Gavaghan, Charles Petrillo, Ed Kramer, Marge Seiferheld, Maryann Cherniak-Lexius, Janet Leonardi, Carmine Centrella, Steve Huleatt, Allison Schultz, Kate Novick, Juanita Estrada, Rob Miller, Jeff Lim, Dave Koscuk, Judy Torpey, Bill Kramer & Jennifer Kertanis.

Welcome and Minute Approval:

Steve welcomed everyone to the Manchester EOC/Regional RCC. Charles Petrillo moved and Dave seconded a motion to accept the minutes.

Carmine provided an overview of some of the key features including: screens, TV, laptop computers, and phone system. The Political Storm exercise provided an opportunity to work out some of the equipment bugs. If you are interested in using the room for meetings or trainings you can contact Don Janelle. Cell phone coverage is poor in the building as it had to be “hardened” to withstand storms. They are looking for solutions.

In response to recent TARs, Carmine handed out some text that can be inserted into local plans to reference the regional priority prophylaxis plan. It also provides the link to the regional plan. Mary Laiuppa asked about other critical personnel. Carmine indicated that each local health department would need to address them with local allocations.

Steve shared some additional insights into the RCC and experiences during Political Storm. He emphasized the command and control, need for photo identification for credentialing before entering and the importance of WebEOC training. You are not prepared for the RCC if you have not been trained in Web EOC and ICS 300 and 400. These are very important. Tom Gavaghan announced that DEMHS is offering additional trainings on June 24th.

Regional Planning Updates:

- Resource Inventory workgroup meeting will be scheduled by Melissa
- The Three Year Training and Exercise Plan has been released, please review and provide comments to Melissa ASAP.

Drills and Exercises Update:

- Political Storm provided opportunity to test shift changes and ability to do that. AAR should be out soon and AAR/IP Conference is scheduled for July 1st in Manchester RCC. 8:30-11:00 will focus on RCC, 11:30-2:00 will focus on Enfield PSA. Local public health participation in the exercise will count as part of CRI exercise, Heidi Pfeifer of CDC did observe.
- Mary Laiuppa shared her observations regarding their recent rabies clinic exercise and the importance of training in ICS 300 and 400 so that people understand the FEMA forms. DEMHS is offering 300 and 400 in June and July in both Hartford

and New Haven. Rob Miller spoke of the importance and value in taking these courses with police/fire and other disciplines, they are interested in and learn about local public health perspectives in different emergency situations.

Local Contract Deliverables:

- Rob reported that they learned that they could have submitted one AAR for the H1N1 clinics rather than the many that they submitted for each clinic.
- Region is still planning on engaging in some regional conversation regarding after action sometime after June 15th. Melissa will schedule.
- Local health departments are in the process of sending vaccine back to DPH and money for unused vials.
- CDC Cooperative agreement includes slight reduction which may translate into an approximate 10% reduction for locals. State released the regional RFP to RPOs, CADH is concerned about DPH's lack of collaboration.
- Steve said he is likely to apply and encouraged other including CRCOG. He said the DPH response to questions is confusing and he is not sure how he gets resumes from "towns". Steve said his approach would be to keep things the same, push more money out to locals and move toward "mega" POD model as part of CRI.

CRI:

Workgroup on alternative methods shared a draft plan with the group. This PUSH model was developed after review of other models nationally. Steve encouraged everyone to look at potential partners that could be "pre-approved" in your MDA and could meet certain criteria for receiving and distributing meds. This model may work best in densely populated areas and with partners that have upwards of 500+ employees/clients etc. Group was asked to review and provide comments.

Steve also shared a draft drive-thru POD plan that parallels the town commodities distribution plans. The key to this approach is getting the forms out to the public ahead of time. There are considerable safety issues that need to be considered as part of this model. This approach may be most appropriate in rural areas. Again, group was asked to review and comment and thanked the committee for their work.

TAR Updates:

- TARs are going very well. Products from CADH have really helped to bolster scores.

Communication Plan is now part of the RESP.

Next week is Hartford's TAR which is conducted with CDC.

DEMHS Update:

- Tom Gavaghan described the efforts to secure both public assistance (money to repair bridges, roads etc.) and individual assistance. The individual assistance

was originally denied and the state was successful in its appeal. FEMA has set up disaster assistance centers to help process individual claims.

- DEMHS will be sponsoring a Senior Officials workshop conducted by Texas A&M next week.

DPH Updates:

- They will be sponsoring two WebEOC and two Maven trainings. There will be no classes in July and August.
- They are looking to improve the DEMHS and DPH WebEOC interface
- DPH purchasing hospital WebEOC for hospitals
- CDC really focusing on PHIN certification/compliance and Juanita will be working on this as part of next year's grant activities.

Hazmat Awareness and HSEEP overview are being offered by DPH. This was a training gap that was identified in our training plan to support resource typing. Bruce Lockwood is the contractor and there will be more than one instructor. In addition, the HSEEP is an overview not the full three day course. The full three day is being offered by DEMHS.

CREPC Updates:

- Carmine indicated that CREPC would be consulting with CADH regarding potential support services if they submit response to RFP.

Tom Gavaghan shared a book he read called "Checklist Manifesto" which emphasized the value and importance of having a checklist to reduce medical error in the ER and thought it had relevance to emergency response.

Steve reminded the group to review the CRI subcontracts that were sent out and let him know if they have any questions.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40. Next meeting will be held at North Central Health District on July 2nd.