

Region 3 ESF 8 Public Health Subcommittee
November 5, 2010
Manchester RCC

Attendees: Allyson Schulz, Charles Petrillo, Maryann Cherniak Lexius, Tung Nguyen, Jeffrey Lim, Paul Hutcheon, Judy Torpey, Barbara Quigley, John Shaw, Bill Kramer, Rob Miller, Marge Seiferheld, Steve Huleatt, John Degnan, Rick Matheny, Janet Leonardi, Juanita Estrada, Don Janelle and Melissa Marquis

- Welcome- Melissa Marquis welcomed the group to the Manchester RCC. Don Janelle provided a brief orientation on the RCC to the group.
- Approval of Minutes- Motion to approve minutes by Charles Petrillo and seconded by Bill Kramer. No discussion. All in favor.
- John Degnan provided a brief presentation on a new product that has been released by a group in Oregon. This product is targeted to assist people during an emergency with functional considerations or medical considerations, such as people with mental/physical illness living in the community. It is called “My Ready Book”. Contact John for more information is interested. The website is: www.myreadybook.org
 - Carmine Centrella reported that CRCOG is working with citizen preparedness and training and has received multiple requests from vendors to assist with this project.
 - Allyson Schulz also mentioned “Pocket Communicators”. She thinks that the state will be purchasing one for each MDA in the state.
- Regional Planning Updates
 - Workgroup Updates- Allyson provided the group with a final proposed concept of operations for a region 3 EPI support team. The group has received really strong support from DPH. The changes noted in the document are marked in color.
 - The region was provided an Epi Surge Training a few years ago as a collaborative effort from DPH, Yale, and CADH. We consider that training as an Epi training 101 level. Moving this process forward and training members of this team could be an Epi training 201. Not sure at this point on how to best accomplish this training- it could be something simple like CT Train web based training or a more in-depth course. More information to follow. DPH is willing to help in this training.
 - Next steps- form a selection council to recruit and form the team. The workgroup is officially done with this project. They are turning it over to the group to form a selection committee and then identify staff to participate on the team.

- Development of 4 workgroups:
 - We are formally committed into the CREPC training and exercise committee. Steve would like this to be a workgroup for us to begin working on this and to make sure it aligns with the regional TEP. Steve expressed concern that since we did so well on the TAR scores, particularly section 12.6 (exercises) due to H1N1, that he doesn't want us to fall behind in this effort. Thus we are encouraging participation in the regional training and exercise workgroup.
 - Need to get these workgroups formed. There will be 2 local workgroups (CRI and PPHR) and 2 regional (CRI and PPHR). More information to follow.
- Steve suggested taking some time to look at your local PHERPs and see if there are changes or updates that need to be made. We need to build a regional PHERP and make this an annex to the RESP.

- Drills and Exercises Updates
 - Communication drills: Melissa stated that soon, probably in the next month or so, we will hold a regional communications drill for the LHDs. Take this opportunity to drill down further to your MDA- CRI level contacts for the TAR. These drills will be done quarterly.
 - Regional WMD drill- Carmine encourages ESF-8 participating at the planning group meetings to make your voice heard about what your level of participation will/could be. Melissa will be on the planning group. Keep in mind if you are on the planning group, you really shouldn't play. This is a 2 year process. There will be a series of discussions, tabletops, functional and full scale exercises.

- Local PHP Contract
 - Activities, Concerns, Issues- the contracts (regional and PHER) are still in process.
 - The Regional contracts are at the Attorney General's office and should be out soon hopefully. This will still be a fee for service process. The MDAs will receive \$6000 instead of \$5000. We still don't have deliverables in place yet.
 - The local contracts are at a stand still at this point. The PHER funding is a fluid process and has yet to be resolved. The EP management meeting at CADH/DPH is being postponed for 2 weeks from now. Steve is hopeful that significant work will be done on this front.
 - Rob asked or wanted to make sure that if they start expending some of the funding for projects, that DPH doesn't come back and truncates their contracts. Steve stated that the PHER and local contracts are two separate funding streams.

- Juanita stated that there will be a memo to LHD stating that PHEP money will go through and then the PHER money will be an amendment to the PHEP contract.
- CRI
 - Contract Year 4 Deliverables and Subcontracts
 - Drills and exercises- as discussed
 - Draft TAR Summary Report-Melissa provided the group an update on the draft TAR results. It was suggested that January 7th we will meet to have an interactive workshop. We can file intent to drill with DPH as this will be a facilitated discussion/TTX. It will be a full day following HSEEP. January 10 snow date. Come prepared with best practices and individual gaps to share with each other. We can work on developing some regional policies, such as volunteer/staff management plan.
- State Preparedness Planning Update
 - Department of Public Health- John Stonoha mentioned that there was a Pathway ingestion exercise recently. There was an internal hotwash done; he is hoping that moving forward he can invite local health reps to those hotwashes to make your voice heard.
 - Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security- see report submitted by Tom Gavaghan. Melissa will forward his email to the group.
- CREPC Update- no new updates, other than already discussed. The CREPC Going Forward, Road Ahead project: there are 21 action items which are being worked on. There will be new leadership in CREPC in November, and then the project will gain momentum from there.
- MMRS Update- No new updates.
- Other Business- Maryann reported that the presentation that Scot Aronson (Long-term care planning) provided recently was terrific. She is hopeful that this will continue to be filtered down to ESF-8.
 - There was some discussion on how the LTCF and steering committee ties into the distribution function at PODs, and using them as closed PODs. John suggested conducting a meeting with the LTCF steering committee. He will coordinate.

Next Meeting – December 3, 2010 hosted by New Britain HD