

CREPC ESF 8 Public Health Sub-Committee Minutes
October 3, 2008
Windsor Town Hall

Attendees: Judy Torpey, Mary Laiuppa, William Kramer, John Shaw, Carmine Centrella, Maryann Cherniuk Lexius, Steve Huleatt, Rick Matheny, Charles Petrillo, Rob Miller, Pamela Kilbey-Fox, Thad King, Tom Gavaghan, Bill Blitz, Kate Novick, Jeremy Plossay, Jennifer Kertanis, Melissa Marquis.

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 by Steve Huleatt. Charles Petrillo made a motion to accept the minutes of September 5th. Motion was seconded by Pamela Kilbey-Fox. All in favor agreed.

Workgroup updates:

- The resource inventory and education/training workgroups have not met since the last meeting so there is nothing new to report.
- Communications systems:
 - ◇ Steve updated everyone on the global connect system (pay as you go) that was discussed last month. A survey will be sent out to explore existing systems and interest. This system allows groups to be added- so with a touch of a button a specified group will be instantly notified of a situation. Steve questioned whether there should be a group added including all those in a call down list. It was also added that the call down list should be 3 deep.
 - ◇ Our current ESF-8 contact list is set up this way. It is being circulated for updates and will be sent out again.
 - ◇ Per Pamela's inquiry- there is one incident management team per DEMHS region.
- Drills and exercises updates:
 - ◇ RCC drill- looking into doing this call down drill within the next year. John Shaw reported that it is not useful to have a 3 deep call down if there is no leadership behind them. Judy commented that it is important to think about the support roles during a RCC drill.
 - What are the roles and responsibilities for a RCC call down drill?
 - Should build in RCC training with planning and logistics. Carmine can hopefully work with the drills and exercise workgroup on this item.
 - Need to talk about how the process works (ex. Incident action plans).
 - Observe the drills if not participating... it will help understand the roles and responsibilities involved.
 - ◇ Last month several people met to discuss planning for a regional full scale exercise (FSE) (ice storm) to be scheduled for 9/2009. The planning team is involving as many agencies as possible (DPH, DEMHS, LHDs). The exercise needs to go to the REPT committee. The planning team is also

looking to potentially hire a professional organization to conduct the exercise. The last FSE was the SNS drill.

- ◇ DEMHS region 2 is doing an extreme cold tabletop exercise on November 20, 2008 from 4-8pm in Old Saybrook.
- ◇ There will be a data collection drill to meet the CRA deliverables for West Hartford/Bloomfield on November 6, 2008. Contact Mary Laiuppa for details or to offer any help. The other 2 locations in region 3 that are hosting this CRA drill are in Hartford and New Britain.
- ◇ There will also be a school site flu vaccination program for 4th and 5th graders in 2 schools in West Hartford. The program will take place in the evenings on two separate days in December (exact dates to follow). If anyone is interested in observing or participating please contact Mary Laiuppa. English as a second language will add some complexity to this exercise.
- ◇ Judy Torpe reported that Central Connecticut Health District will be having a flu clinic on October 14, 2008. They will be specifically looking at volunteer management during this clinic.
- ◇ Charles Petrillo reported that Windsor will be having a 2 day FSE POD drill on October 22 and 23rd. Set up will take place on the 22nd and the actual drill involving call down, notification, clinic set up, just in time training, security and transportation will be on the 23rd.
- ◇ Steve reported that there is a small group meeting to discuss a pan flu/ community mitigation drill in West Hartford involving the Mercy Center. More details will be forthcoming.

Local Public Health Preparedness Contract:

- Drill requirements:
 - ◇ By December, a call down drill and /or POD activation drill needs to be completed. The drills will be marked by time, looking at how long it takes POD staff to get activated. Additionally, the length of time to obtain authorization to use the POD site will be marked- as part of CRI.
 - ◇ Community mitigation drills need to be tested per the contract for this year. Tabletops are ok to use to meet this deliverable.
 - ◇ The state will be sending out drill requirements for this contract year soon.

CRI:

- The contract with DPH was approved with some changes:
 - ◇ There will be 17 subcontracts with LHDs in the region.
 - ◇ There will be \$6000 for '08-'09 (year 2). A subcontract expenditure worksheet needs to be filled out and sent to Steve. Year 2 activities have already been done. Steve will send out a list of all the activities- please check off which activity your LHD completed. Steve will hold on to this until DPH asks for it.
 - ◇ LHD will receive \$5000 for '09-'10 (year 3). Deliverables that will need to be met include: assisting in training, development and participation in a CRI exercise. An idea that was shared with the group was to have LHDs

come together to support a regional “super POD”. There is planning underway to stand up the Hartford POD in May 2009. It will be a functional exercise.

- ◇ Local health directors need to get back to Steve regarding when and how they would like this money distributed. A consensus will be used to decide.
- ◇ Steve will send out a justification narrative to the LHDs to assist in their reporting requirements.
- CRA (countermeasure resource administration) Drill:
 - ◇ Deliverable for 8 LHDs
 - ◇ Receive \$1000 extra to complete this drill
 - ◇ Classified as CRI required drill for CT
 - ◇ Region 3 LHDs doing this drill are Hartford, W. Hartford/Bloomfield, and New Britain. Mary Laiuppa will be in touch with the planners from Hartford and New Britain. Could use help from partners. Please contact Mary if anyone can participate.
 - ◇ CDC is looking at the demographics at these flu clinics
- TAR
 - ◇ Steve has been meeting with Joe Marino to discuss how to improve scores. More information will follow.
 - ◇ Steve presented a quick summary of strengths for LHDs in regards to the TAR. The region will be looking at strengths and weaknesses of the TARs.
- Steve reported that Corrine really needs comments back to file her report to CDC. If LHD haven’t responded yet, please do so quickly. The final reports need to be analyzed in order to move forward.
- Carmine reported that he had a follow-up meeting with the CRI group on Thursday. In order to meet goals now, Hartford needs to take its report with recommendations and provide a document delineating what’s been done. They will then have a conference call with CDC to discuss.
- Jennifer and Steve suggested using a peer review system to assist this process.
- A goal for CADH will be to develop a matrix of strengths and weaknesses using the TARs.
- Alternative methods have not been developed yet. Perhaps the \$5000 can help to develop at least 1 alternative method plan such as a drive thru POD.

DPH update:

- Competitive pan flu grant-
 - ◇ CT awarded \$370, 000 for a vulnerable populations initiative
 - ◇ Barbara Dingfelder will be speaking with the LHDs (regional leads) soon
 - ◇ Will be working on building a statewide database
 - ◇ Completion will be 9/2009
 - ◇ So far there has been good interagency cooperation

DEMHS update:

- There is a Salute to CT Veterans going on involving multiple agencies at Brainard Airport
- Region 3 emergency management directors will be receiving training on WebEOC. Training has been pushed out to mid November at this time (there will be 2 trainings offered- 1 daytime and 1 evening)
 - ◇ LHDs should be trained by the spring of 2009
 - ◇ DPH is purchasing the server and will host WebEOC at DPH.
 - ◇ They are anticipating a complete rollout by March 2009.
- Tom Gavaghan has received some calls this week regarding the need to stockpile facemasks in private sectors. It was discussed and determined that this isn't needed unless it's a closed POD.

CREPC updates:

- UASI funding was increased to \$825,000 nationally. There is no report on regional funding at this time.

MMRS:

- Congress passed Homeland Security authorization for 2009. No other organization has had authorization.
- Should receive the same funding for 2009 as in 2008. However the program still has the chance to be cut.
- Congress wants expansion of MMRS in all 50 states (currently MMRS is in 44 states).
- Region 1 MMRS meeting next week.

Other Business:

- John Shaw reported on an ESF-8 level that strategic planning continues. SWOT analysis done last year identified some gaps. The target capabilities list was sent out in the summer, in which some interesting information was gleaned. They looked at Pennsylvania best practices and lessons learned. Subjective scoring became a potential issue/lesson. More information to follow.
- Epi/surge training is scheduled for December 11, 2008 at the Pond House in West Hartford.
- Chief Austin resigned as CREPC chair. The nominating committee is being put together to nominate a replacement.
- Carmine, Jennifer and Steve reported their concern that we have not gotten all the LHDs together. Discussion took place about how to best make this happen. A suggestion was made to use it as RED plan training and to use it as a build up for drills and exercises.
 - ◇ A team should be brought together to work on this. More details to follow.

Next Meeting: November 7th in New Britain