

Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee
RESF-8 Health and Medical
November 6, 2013
Seery Conference Room
Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Hartford, Connecticut
Revised Minutes

Members Present: *See attached attendance list (p. 4, below)*

The meeting was opened at 9:03 a.m. by chairman David Koscuk.

The minutes of October 3, 2013 were previously distributed.

DEMHS Report: Mr. Gavaghan gave the report:

- A training workshop was held the previous Monday at Northeast Utilities headquarters in Berlin. The target audience was officials from local communities that have not addressed the topic of managing an active shooter incident. There are currently 55 additional people on a waiting list; more sessions are planned.
- Every year, DEMHS staff assists local communities as they meet the legislative mandate for updating their plans. Forty three communities are currently involved and nineteen reviews have been completed.
- Mr. Gavaghan attended a statewide PIO workshop that was focused on identifying and meeting the needs of people with special needs. This has triggered a lot of discussion and issues raised are currently being worked on.

The hospital section report was given by Mr. Falaguerra:

- The question was raised identifying the hospitals that are going through the Everbridge platform upgrade. The responses identified Hartford Hospital, John Dempsey Hospital and Saint Frances Hospital & Medical Center are upgrading. Eastern Connecticut Health Network (Manchester and Rockville) is not.
- The Hospital Mutual Aid Program (HMAP) provides for a coordinating center to assist hospitals in an emergency. Discussions are underway to identify ways to locate WebEOC at this center.
- Saint Francis is planning a mass casualty exercise to be held on December 10, 2013.
- It was announced that Rick Lehmert and Sandra Brown have left the emergency preparedness program at Hartford Hospital. Ed Kramer has assumed the leading role for that program.

Ms. McCormack gave the MRC report:

- Five years ago, CDC grants required some programs to participate in the Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP). This allowed for a registry of credentialed professionals to be used when facilities needed to supplement their staff during an emergency. Currently, a more effective program has been developed: The State of Connecticut Emergency Credentialing Program (CT-ECP) for Healthcare Professionals (<http://www.ct-esar-vhp.org/>). The question is raised could Evergreen be used to facilitate activation of this registry, and the implications for supplementing MRC responses. DPH staff will be contacted to explore this.

- Problems are identified in the transfer of data and maintenance of changes in personnel lists as the MRC isn't part of a facility with central staffing lists and staff support.
- The Region 3 group participated in a multi-day exercise at Camp Hartell. The AAR report is now being developed. Major among the issues identified is the difficult logistics in moving the trailers and cabana units. It is suggested that CERT members might be used to assist in these deployments.
- One difference was identified between Region 3 MRC and other MRCs around the state - our group is not affiliated with a hospital.

The local public health report was given by Ms. Marquis:

- CADH has a DPH contract to review local public health plans and to evaluate the ability of local health agencies to coordinate and communicate with each other.
- There is no current funding for regional programs or initiatives.

The Mental Health report was given by Ms. Dean:

- Another training program was held in Middletown for uniformed responders. People attended from all regions. This led to another 6-8 members added to the CT Disaster Behavioral Health Response Network (CT-DBHRN).
- **Homeowner Assistance Event** - The Connecticut Department of Banking has provided all regions of the state with a program for individuals facing home foreclosures. CT DBHRN has updated their operations by deploying team members to these events. A second round has been initiated this month for Region 3 citizens facing foreclosures.
- A discussion of the recent lockdown at CCSU was reviewed. The DBHRN team leader was notified and key positions were ready to be activated, but this was not required. A general discussion was held about the apparent strengths and weaknesses of the university's response to this incident.

The Long-Term Care report was given by Mr. DeSanti:

- 67 of the 70 facilities participated in an exercise on October 30, 2013. Bed availability was identified as 650.
- The next steering committee meeting is scheduled for November 20.

Ms. Keating reported on DPH activities:

- Planning is underway for the Governor's Annual Exercise to be held June 23-24, 2014. A memo will be circulated soon to all who might want to participate identifying the objectives and scope of the exercise. What is now known is that the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) will be activated, and many local groups will be involved. Hospitals will activate their recently updated plans for receiving pharmaceuticals delivered from the SNS stockpiles.
- New CBRN powered air purifying respirators (PAPRs) are now being delivered to the hospitals. These will supplement or replace the ones distributed 10 years ago.

Mr. Koscuk followed up on several miscellaneous items:


- A CRCOG committee has finished its work to revise their bylaws. These govern the CRECP roles for regional planning, and the functions by CREPC serving as the local emergency planning committee (LEPC) for the member towns. The bylaws will be distributed in December and will be voted on in January 2014. This action is part of the application for accreditation by The Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). (See <http://www.emaponline.org/>)
- The next annual New Britain EMS Conference at CCSU will feature speakers from groups responding to the Boston Marathon. One track will be on the Swift Assisted Victim Extraction (SAVE) program.
- Discussion over the responses including a lockdown at CCSU was continued. Several problems were observed, but there is no known attempt to conduct an after action review or to create a report. There have been several previous emergency responses at the university, but none have been reviewed. It appears this is true with many other post-secondary schools in the state. How can this pattern be changed? Mr. Gavaghan will work with Dave to develop suggestions to offer resources to assist colleges and universities in the future. He observed that the Governor's legislation includes funding for schools to support emergency planning and development.
- Ms Morris reported on the role CMED played during that event. The report was received to "stand by". There was caution at CMED to announce this over the radio to avoid everyone thinking there might be an actual event underway.

Mr. Falaguerra announced there would be no Hospital Section meeting to follow.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

The next meeting will be held on December 4, 2013 at the Regional Coordination Center in Manchester

Respectfully Submitted,



Cressy Goodwin
Recorder

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ATTENDANCE:
CREPC ESF-8 Meeting
November 6, 2013

Initial if Present	Name	Affiliation	E-mail Address
<i>MS</i>	Vincent DeSanti	Hebrew Healthcare	vdesanti@hebrewhealthcare.org
<i>MRD</i>	Mary Rose Duberek	CT DEMHS Region 3 Planner	maryroseduberek@ct.gov
<i>RF</i>	Bob Falaguera	Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center	rfalague@stfranciscare.org
<i>TR</i>	Thomas Gavaghan	DESP/DEMHS	thomas.gavaghan@ct.gov
<i>CG</i>	Cressy Goodwin	ESF 8 Recorder	cgoodwin@tiac.net
<i>MK</i>	Mary Keating	DPH – Operations	mary.keating@ct.gov
<i>DK</i>	David Kosciuk	ESF 8 Chair	david.kosciuk@nbems.org
<i>RL</i>	Rick Lehmert	Emergency Management Officer, Bristol Hospital	rllehmer@bristolhospital.org
<i>MM</i>	Melissa Marquis	CADH	mmarquis@cadh.org
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