

## HOMELESS EMERGENCY PLANNING

### Mobilization/Organizing Protocol

#### BACKGROUND:

In early Fall 2009, Preparedness partnered with Healthcare for the Homeless Network to bring together homeless advocates to help inform both the H1N1 and Green River Flood planning. As advocates for the homeless community, this stakeholder group has agreed upon the following goals/activities:

#### Goals:

1. Advise emergency planners regarding the needs of homeless people in plans developed to respond to emergencies.
2. Advocate on behalf of homeless people when plans are being made or *in event of an emergency*.

#### Activities:

1. Establish two-way communication systems between community providers and Public Health when warranted
2. Meet twice annually with meetings scheduled to bookend flu season
3. *Mobilize quickly to respond in an emergency, when necessary*

This Mobilization Protocol outlines the actions this group will take in the event of an emergency/disaster.

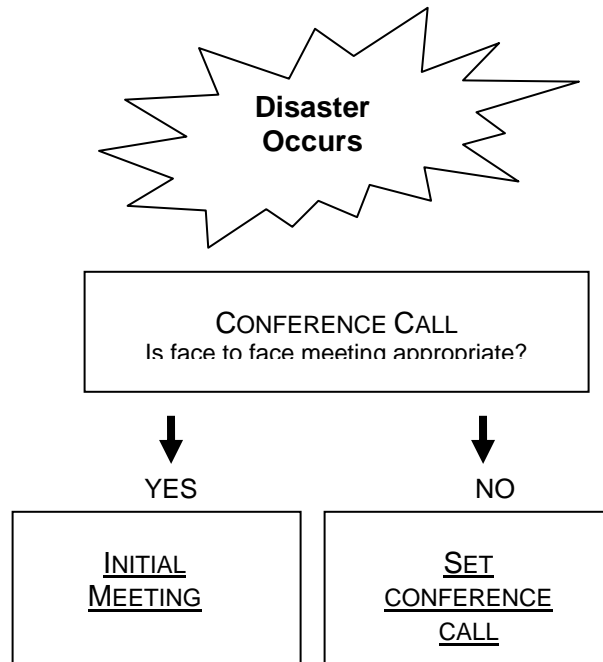
#### ACTIVATION TRIGGERS:

1. Extreme weather conditions
2. Flooding in areas frequented by homeless individuals
3. Mass care shelter established with likelihood of large number of homeless residents
4. Medical and epidemic emergencies
5. Earthquake
6. Any event that impacts homeless residents

#### MOBILIZATION PROTOCOLS:

Any member agency learning of a situation creating substantial community needs should contact the Public Health Duty Officer at 206. 296.4606 to activate this protocol.

## ACTIVATION/ORGANIZING PROTOCOL



### Conference Call

*A conference call will be held to establish two way communications between the community providers and Public health, to assess the situation and to gather situational awareness.*

1. Those on the conference call may include:

- ☐ Catholic Community Services
- ☐ City of Seattle- Human Services Department
- ☐ Compass Housing Alliance
- ☐ Department of Community and Human Services
- ☐ Public Health- Seattle & King County- Health Care for the Homeless Network and Preparedness Section
- ☐ Seattle King County Coalition on Homelessness
- ☐ Emergency Manager representative and Human Service Planner from impacted jurisdiction

2. The call should address the following topics:

- ☐ Identify affected communities and impact on homeless population, specifically
- ☐ Status of the response
- ☐ Detail most pressing needs and prioritize
- ☐ Share historical response knowledge and intellectual resources that may aid those in the field to improve their response

3. Determine if an initial coordination meeting would be helpful?

*(If yes, go to next page for initial meeting. If no, continue to give support as necessary to responding organizations and agencies.)*

## **FACE TO FACE -INITIAL MEETING**

Public Health staff will:

- ☐ Find a host location for the initial meeting
- ☐ Establish a date and time
- ☐ Send invite to members notifying them of date and time
- ☐ Develop meeting agenda
  - Introductions
  - Purpose for meeting
  - Situation update
  - Federal Declaration process/update
  - Identification of needs
  - Identify response capacity/capabilities
  - Develop advocacy strategy