

Region 6

Healthcare Preparedness

A NEWSLETTER FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS THROUGHOUT SEATTLE & KING COUNTY

President Declares Major Disaster for Washington State

FEMA News Release | January 2009

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The head of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) today announced that federal disaster aid has been made available for the state of Washington. The assistance will supplement state and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe winter storm, landslides, mudslides, and flooding during the period of January 6-16, 2009. The President's action makes federal funding available to affected individuals in King, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, Snohomish, Thurston, and Wahkiakum counties.

The assistance, to be coordinated by FEMA, can include grants to help pay for temporary housing, home repairs and other serious disaster-related expenses.

Low-interest loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration also will be available to cover

residential and business losses not fully compensated by insurance.

Residents and business owners who sustained losses in the designated counties can begin applying for assistance tomorrow by registering online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY) for the hearing and speech impaired. The toll-free telephone numbers will operate from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (local time) Monday through Sunday until further notice.

Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) have been set up across the state as a resource for Washington residents. DRCs are established to help people without telephone or Internet service register and to answer specific questions about disaster assistance programs, registration & eligibility. It is not necessary to visit a Recovery Center to register for assistance.

<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=47377>

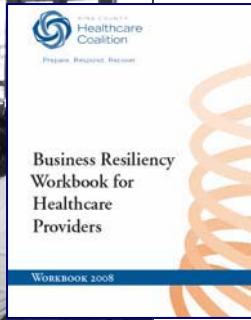
The Small Business

Administration (SBA) is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA helps homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes, and private nonprofit organizations fund repairs or rebuilding efforts, and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property. These disaster loans cover uninsured and uncompensated losses and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations. Homeowners, renters and business owners with questions for the SBA should call the Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (TTY 1-800-877-8339).

<http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance/disasterpreparedness/index.html>

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Helping Healthcare Providers Prepare for *Extreme Weather*

Northwest Public Health | Michelle McDaniel

Across the street, flood waters are rising as the tenants of a mental health residential facility watch from the front window. With torrential rains still falling, the lead counselor hastily finalizes plans to relocate all 11 adult residents to safe and dry shelter. Some would stay with family or a friend, while others would move to the agency's other residential facility, which is nearby and on higher ground. But wherever they end up going, they must go soon.

The facility's operators had not foreseen this emergency and had not planned for it. However, as the climate changes, emergency preparation needs to become a standard part of their business plan.

Scientists and meteorologists predict that extreme weather events such as the Puget Sound's Hanukkah Eve 2006 wind and rainstorm will no longer be uncommon as climate change affects our region. Already, hurricane force winds, severe rainfall, and heavy snow storms have caused landslides, power-

outages, and building and road damage throughout the Northwest, making this among the nation's highest-risk areas for disaster.

We saw in hurricanes Katrina and Rita that non-hospital type health care facilities such as providers of long-term care, home health, ambulatory care, mental health, and chemical dependency were significantly challenged in their efforts to maintain adequate and safe levels of service. In some cases, services ceased altogether, creating a crisis that put people's lives in danger and stretched already-thin essential resources.

To help healthcare providers prepare for emergencies such as these, the King County Healthcare Coalition developed the Business Resiliency for Healthcare Providers project. With funding from the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) office of the US Department of Health & Human Services, the coalition staff designed a project to help providers prepare for emergencies through continuity of operations workshops and other training.

The Coalition awarded 130 small grants to help providers further develop their emergency preparedness plans to assist with delivery of services during an emergency. These funds provided emergency preparedness supplies including flashlights, emergency water & food, communication equipment, first aid kits, generators, and personal protective equipment.

The two-day Business Resiliency workshops had three major goals:

- Increase providers' knowledge of disaster-related risks that could affect their organizations
- Provide specific information about how and why to prepare at home and at work
- Provide an overview of local, state, and federal disaster response systems and how best to build a collaborative relationship with them before and after a disaster.

The most important outcomes of the project have been the progress participants have made in understanding their role in a disaster and the increased level of preparedness within their agencies. The Healthcare Coalition team learned the workbook was a valuable tool for our partners. Among other lessons learned was to provide the workbook and other written materials in multiple languages, and to approach providers face-to-face or by telephone, as many of the smaller health-care providers do not use e-mail or the Internet.

** This is an excerpt of an article Published by the Northwest Center for Public Health Practice*

<http://www.nwpublichealth.org/>

To View the Business Resiliency Workshop Curriculum Go to

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/preparedness/hccoalition/survecapacity.asp>
x#br



Photo: Leslie Wall

Seattle Area Wakes Up to 4.5 Quake

Associated Press, KING5.com & NWCN.com



Earthquake Damage in Seattle, Washington, March 2009
Photo: Dan Hassard

SEATTLE - There are no immediate reports of damage from a 4.5 magnitude earthquake that rattled the Seattle and Puget Sound area at 5:25 a.m. Friday January 30, 2009. But it woke a lot of people up. The U.S. Geological Survey said the quake was centered 14 miles northwest of Seattle, about two miles northwest of Indianola. USGS

officials gave a preliminary magnitude of 4.6, but later downgraded it to 4.5. An initial depth of 18 miles was later changed to 36 miles.

Scientists with the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network at the University of Washington said the source of this morning's quake is the same as the 2001 Nisqually quake.

The director of the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network, John Vidale, said the 36-mile depth of the quake is in the material that is being pushed under North America by a plate colliding from the Pacific.

"When we located the earthquake, it happened deep underneath the Puget Sound," said Vidale.

The same zone caused the 6.8 Nisqually quake on Feb. 28, 2001, that damaged the Capitol in Olympia and buildings and the Alaskan Way Viaduct in Seattle.

But Vidale said these are not the type of megathrust quake that would cause greater damage. He also added the quake didn't release any pressure along the fault to prevent a bigger quake.

"This earthquake isn't that big, and it's in a slightly different place," said Vidale. "This doesn't relieve any much pressure... These earthquakes don't seem to come regularly either. So I think it's just a reminder that deep under Seattle there can be earthquakes."

There were no reports of damage, although the quake was widely felt in the Puget Sound area. Residents reported feeling the quake from as far south as Puyallup and as far north as Sequim.

Kristen from Port Orchard told KING TV she felt the quake right away.

"It rattled everything, made some noise and shook everything, but didn't knock anything down," she said. "(It lasted) maybe 30 seconds."

Sharon Fink in Issaquah emailed KING 5, saying she also felt the quake last that long.

"I was in bed and my bed was moving back and forth and although it was not as strong as the Nasqualie earthquake it felt like the same movement," said Fink. "My husband was in the kitchen and did not feel it. In fact he didn't believe me and he said well turn on the TV if we had one they will report it."

Other residents described feeling a shorter quake; others described it as a jolt.

Full Article found:
<http://www.ktvb.com/news/localnews/stories/ktvbn-jan3009-earthquake.1556e57.html>

All regions of Washington State have a history of earthquake activity

- More than 1,000 earthquakes are registered in Washington State each year.
- In 1965, Seattle and Tacoma suffered from a magnitude 6.5 tremor that killed seven people and severely damaged buildings.
- In July 1999, Grays Harbor County suffered a magnitude 5.8 earthquake near Satsop causing nearly \$8.1 million in damages
- Historically, large earthquakes occurred beneath the Puget Sound waters registering magnitudes 6 to 7.5 every thirty to fifty years.

For more information go to:
http://www.emd.wa.gov/preparedness/prep_infocus

SAVE the DATE
April 22, 2009
Earthquake Drill for Business



Washington Hospitals Adapting Consistent Emergency Codes

From SeattlePI.com

Hospitals in Washington State are adopting new communication safety measures so that no matter what facility healthcare workers are in, a code, such as code blue, means the same emergency is underway.

The changes resulted from a survey that discovered at least eight different codes were used by the state's hospitals to call for help when a patient's heart stopped, reported The Spokesman-Review. Officials decided there should be a consistent system throughout the state, so for instance "code blue" means cardiac arrest.

"Clearly this was variation we had to eliminate," Carol Wagner, vice president of patient safety for the Washington State Hospital Association, told the newspaper. With staff turnover and some healthcare professionals working at more than one hospital, different codes can create confusion. The safety measures will be implemented by October 2009, according to the newspaper.

Article reference: <http://acutecareinc.wordpress.com/2009/02/18/washington-hospitals-adopting-consistent-emergency-codes/>

Amateur Radio as a Resource to Neighborhood SNAP Teams

Seattle ACS | Llew Roberts KG6GXY

Ham Radio's is an important component of Seattle's Emergency Response Plan and provides a valuable resource for the City's SNAP program. Coordination and support for Ham radio resources is provided by Seattle's Auxiliary Communications Service organization (ACS).

ACS is a group of ham radio volunteers affiliated with the Seattle Office of Emergency Management that provides communications in times of emergencies and disasters.

During a disaster, communications can be physically damaged or disrupted by an overload in telephone and cell phone service. Even municipal radio systems may become overwhelmed. This may prevent emergency communications from getting through impeding the operations of emergency response and recovery agencies. Ham Radio is a valuable tool for assistance in times of communications failure. ACS Ham radio operators are trained in setting up communications networks and relaying information to city agencies.

The City encourages SNAP teams to make Ham radio an essential part of their communications plan. The Seattle ACS group will conduct classes to help the SNAP members get amateur radio licenses and provide training in the procedures for using emergency radio networks to communicate with the City.

SNAP communicators will be invited to attend scheduled ACS monthly training meetings, any supplemental training as well as participate in planned exercises and drills.

Full article found: <http://www.seattleacs.com/content/view/240/115/>

Promoting Consistency

Below are resources for implementing emergency code calls, isolation precautions signage, wristbands, and surgical checklists within the state of Washington:

<http://www.wsha.org/page.cfm?ID=0208>

Seattle Neighborhoods Actively Prepare (SNAP) is the city of Seattle's newest program to assist residents in their efforts to **Get Ready, Get Connected and Get Strong** for any potential emergency.

SNAP is a simple and flexible process designed to help neighborhoods create plans that are specific to the neighborhood needs.

For more information about SNAP, visit:

<http://www.seattle.gov/emergency/programs/snap/>

New CDC Report Highlights Challenges in Preparing for Public Health Emergencies in Era of Declining Funding

CDC Press Release: January 16, 2009

CDC's Coordinating Office for Terrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response released its inaugural report today on CDC's terrorism preparedness and emergency response activities. The report describes CDC's role in preparing the nation for public health emergencies, its significant preparedness accomplishments, the diversity of challenges that remain, and priorities for ongoing and future work in a climate of decreasing resources.

The report, *Public Health Preparedness: Strengthening CDC's Emergency Response*, outlines CDC's future preparedness priorities, including enhancing bio-surveillance systems to support rapid detection of and response to emerging public health threats, increasing nationwide laboratory capacity to respond effectively after a radiological incident (such as a dirty bomb), and helping state and local health departments strengthen their emergency response capabilities.

The report builds on the analysis of state and public health preparedness presented in the February 2008 CDC report, *Public Health Preparedness: Mobilizing State by State*. Both reports are an important part of CDC's overall focus on demonstrating results, driving program improvements, and increasing accountability for the nation's investments in public health preparedness activities.

You can access the report at <http://emergency.cdc.gov/publications/jan09phprep>



AHA Comments on FEMA Proposal for Private Sector Certification

AHA News Release | January 23, 2009

The AHA today expressed support for a voluntary accreditation and certification program proposed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the private sector. "While hospitals continue to improve their own emergency response capacity and capability over time, a hospital's successful response in a disaster will depend largely on whether its other partners in the private sector, such as drug and device manufacturers and distributors, food suppliers and telecommunication organizations, are prepared," AHA said in a comment letter to FEMA. The association encouraged FEMA to clearly articulate that the program is completely voluntary, and that "other federal and state agencies and departments should not make certification of private-sector entities mandatory.

"Rather than create new standards for hospitals, the letter recommends the FEMA program adopt existing preparedness standards such as the Joint Commission Emergency Management Standards and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services conditions of participation. The association also recommends that FEMA establish lower-cost options to third-party certification for small businesses, such as critical access hospitals.

Article Reference:

http://www.ahanews.com/ahanews_app/jsp/display.jsp?dcrpath=AHANEWS/AHANewsNowArticle/data/ann_012309_FEMA&domain=AHANEWS

DHS Directive for FEMA on Medical Preparedness

From FEMA Press Release January 2009

FEMA recently released a directive [**First Responder Health Surge Capacity**] to determine the current state of medical readiness, including local first responder capabilities, hospital bed capacity, and the ability to surge existing capacity in an emergency, as well as any gaps and current efforts to address them. The directive calls for a review of current plans and activities and identification of overlaps and consistencies, local hospital surge capacity, effectiveness of grant making efforts, possible restructuring or consolidation.

Article Reference: http://www.dhs.gov/ynews/releases/pr_1233158724611.shtm

FEMA Announces National Disaster Housing Strategy

International Association of Emergency Managers News Release

The U.S. Dept. Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on Jan. 16 announced the release of the National Disaster Housing Strategy. The Strategy summarizes, for the first time in a single document, the many sheltering and housing capabilities, principles, and policies that guide and inform the disaster housing process.

The Strategy promotes a national housing effort that engages all levels of government, the nonprofit and private sectors, and individuals to collectively meet the urgent housing needs of disaster victims and enable individuals, households and communities to rebuild and restore their way of life when a disaster threatens or strikes.

- National Disaster Housing Strategy <http://www.fema.gov/pdf/media/2009/ndhs.pdf>
- Fact Sheet <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=45191>

Article Reference: <http://www.iaem.com/publications/news/EMNews.htm#FaithBasedInit19Jan2009>

Ready Campaign Launches Social Media Initiative to Encourage Americans to Prepare for Emergencies

Department of Homeland Security | Office of the Secretary

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Ready Campaign, in partnership with The Advertising Council, is introducing a series of new social media tools today to further engage Americans in taking steps to prepare for emergencies. The initiative is an extension of Resolve to be Ready in 2009, a nationwide effort designed to encourage individuals, families, businesses and communities to take action and prepare for emergencies in 2009.

Launched in 2003 in partnership with The Advertising Council,

The Ready Campaign is designed to educate and empower Americans to prepare for & respond to emergencies, including natural disasters and potential terrorist attacks. Since its launch, the campaign has generated more than \$756.5 million in donated media support.

Individuals interested in more information about family, business and community preparedness can visit

www.ready.gov
or calling
1-800-BE-READY



KING COUNTY HEALTHCARE COALITION

THE COALITION IS A NETWORK OF HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS & PROVIDERS THAT ARE COMMITTED TO COORDINATING THEIR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE ACTIVITIES. THE PURPOSE IS TO DEVELOP & MAINTAIN A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM THAT ASSURES COORDINATION, EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, & OPTIMAL USE OF AVAILABLE HEALTH RESOURCES IN RESPONSE TO EMERGENCIES & DISASTERS.

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THROUGH
COLLABORATION AND
PARTNERSHIPS, WE
ARE BUILDING THE
RELATIONSHIPS AND
SYSTEMS NEEDED TO
SUPPORT AN
EFFECTIVE HEALTH
AND MEDICAL
RESPONSE DURING AN
EMERGENCY

2008 Healthcare Coalition Annual Report



Now Available online

[HTTP://WWW.KINGCOUNTY.GOV/HEALTHSERVICES/HEALTH/PREPAREDNESS/HCCOALITION.ASPX](http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/preparedness/hccoalition.aspx)

For a Hard Copy contact

LYDIA.ORTEGA@KINGCOUNTY.GOV

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<http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/preparedness/hccoalition.aspx>

Click **Get Healthcare Coalition e-mail updates**

As a subscriber, you'll receive an email alerting you of any new and significant information posted to the website and you can also find archives of past Region 6 Newsletters. Subscribe Now!

Coalition Calendar of Events

March 2009

Vulnerable Populations Steering Committee

March 12, 2009
12:00 – 2:00pm

Vulnerable Populations Ops Workgroup

March 12, 2009
7:30 – 10:00am

Coalition Executive Council Meeting

March 17, 2009
9:00 – 11:00am

Home Health / Home Care Workgroup

March 17, 2009
1:30 – 3:30pm

Pediatric Triage / Critical Care Taskforce

March 17, 2009
8:30 – 10:00am

Pediatric Mental Health Taskforce

March 20, 2009
7:00 – 8:30am

Palliative Care Committee

March 20, 2009
10:00 – 12:00pm

Psychological First Aid

March 24, 2009
9:00 – 5:00pm

Region 6 Hospital Preparedness

March 25, 2009
7:30 – 10:00am

Coalition Workgroup & Project Updates

Outlined below are current updates for some of the Healthcare Coalition Committees & Workgroups. Please consult the Coalition website for additional information.

Alternate Care Facilities

- Currently clinical teams are working with their respective professional societies and committees to vet standard of care changes, policies and protocol requirements.
- Utilizing our After Action Review and professional staff, we will be publishing an Alternate Care Facility design and implementation paper in an attempt to publish our findings.
- Pharmacy operations continues to improve with Public Health Seattle and King County working to secure a DEA authorization to ship pharmaceuticals directly to designated or temporary Alternate Care Facility locations. Currently, vendors are only able to ship to the downtown Public Health pharmacy creating a bottleneck in resupply and distribution.
- 2009 planning objectives include creating a model that allows us to provide the ACF capability to any requesting partner throughout the region. Efforts are underway to mobilize and establish this as a transportable capability.

Ambulatory Care

- The Ambulatory Care Workgroup have met throughout February and will continue to meet into March. Discussions around communications strategies, (specifically, WATrac implementation and planning) are the current workgroup focus. Additional discussions on Alternate Care Facility signage is occurring during the planned March workgroup meeting.

Behavioral Health

- Our Behavioral Health Planning Manager, Michelle McDaniel, was selected by the National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) to become a trainer of a one day psychological first aid (PFA) course. The PFA course was developed by the National Child Traumatic Stress Network and the National Center for PTSD. Michelle will be offering the course to Public Health Reserve Corps members and other disaster response groups.

Home Health & Home Care

- The Home Health Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee (EPAC), Chaired by the City of Seattle's Aging and Disability Services Division, continues to work on their post-tabletop exercise improvement plan. Among the tasks the EPAC identified was to become more educated on the various shelter options that could be available during a disaster.
- At the January Home Care Director's meeting, Michelle McDaniel, the Coalition's Home Health/Home Care Planner, delivered training on shelters, as well as briefed the group on Public Health's Alternate Care Facility exercise.

Home Health / Palliative Care WATrac Configuration

- A workgroup to assist with configuring WATrac incident management software for use by Home Health and Palliative Care providers has been very productive. Because many of these providers serve a large region (not just King County), the group realized that they need to include providers from other western Washington counties in the software configuration process.
- Our two WATrac program staff (Allison & Barb) will be reaching out to the state-wide WATrac steering committee to solicit participation from providers from the other counties. Per the workgroup's recommendation, we will be rolling out WATrac features in small increments, rather than all features at once. The following two features will be rolled out this year: Command Center & Alerting.

Coalition Calendar of Events

April 2009

**Pediatric Workgroup
Steering Committee**
April 7, 2009
7:00 – 8:00am

**Vulnerable
Populations Ops
Workgroup**
April 9, 2009
12:00 – 2:00pm

**Pediatric Mental Health
Taskforce**
April 17, 2009
7:00 – 8:30am

**Palliative Care
Committee**
April 17, 2009
10:00 – 12:00pm

**Pediatric Triage / Critical
Care Taskforce**
April 21, 2009
8:30 – 10:00am

**Region 6 Hospital
Preparedness**
April 23, 2009
7:30 – 10:00am

**Methadone
Preparedness
Workgroup**
April 24, 2009
11:00 – 1:00pm

Workgroup & Project Updates Cont.

Hospitals

- Hospitals are working on surge capacity exercises to identify a range of surge capabilities for the region and outline a standard approach to achieving surge throughout King County hospitals. The results will be gathered in aggregate data to provide guidance to regional planners on our ability as a region to surge.

Palliative Care / Hospice Planning

- Contracts were finalized between Public Health and two King County licensed hospice providers to create a local stockpile of pharmaceuticals to make an additional 800 "Comfort Care Kits" available in the event of a large scale disaster such as pandemic flu. The kits include medications prescribed to manage end-of-life symptoms. This project was funded by monies from the HHS Partnership Grant awarded to the King County Healthcare Coalition and Public Health.

Pediatric Planning

- Seattle Children's Hospital hosted a series of meetings of pediatric healthcare professionals representing King County hospitals and other regional healthcare facilities which provide pediatric services. They came together to provide subject matter expertise in development of the pediatric annex to the Regional Hospital Evacuation & Patient Tracking Mutual Aid Plan. A draft plan will be sent out to participants in March for feedback and an educational seminar/exercise on the plan is slated for the week of April 20th.
- Change of date for "Disaster Mental Health Services for Children" at Seattle Children's Grand Rounds: April 30th, 2009.

Training Opportunities

Note: The following list of available training opportunities are provided for your interest. Making each opportunity known as available is not necessarily an endorsement as to the value of each training.

HAM Radio Technician Training

Date: March 30 and 31, 2009

Location: TBD

To Register: Contact Marina Zuetell at Zuetell@comcast.net

WMD Radiological/Nuclear Responder Operations Course

Date: April 17-April 19, 2009

Location: Little Creek Casino Resort, Shelton WA

Contact HazMat Officer, Mike DeCapua (206) 263-6268 for more information

Decontamination Train the Trainer

Date: April 21-23, 2009

Location: Hammer Training Facility in Richland, WA

To Register: Contact Peggi Shapiro at WSHA, peggis@wsha.org

Region 6 Bomb Workshop

Date: April 21, 2009 9:30-11:30am

Location: Evergreen Hospital

The Bomb Workshop is designed to give healthcare providers a suggested model policy/template for bomb threat policies. For more Information contact Danica Mann at Danica.mann@overlakehospital.org

Training Opportunities Cont.

MGT-313 Incident Management / Unified Command

Date: April 28-30, 2009

Location: Tacoma/Pierce County Emergency Operations Center

For more information contact Judy L. Harmon, Pierce County Training Coordinator at jharmon@co.pierce.wa.us

ICS-300

Date: Mar 17-18, May 14-15

Location: Tacoma/Pierce County Emergency Operations Center

Note: Out of County partners may register at any time and will be confirmed if seats are available after the date posted above.

For more information contact Judy L. Harmon, Pierce County Training Coordinator at jharmon@co.pierce.wa.us

ICS-400

Date: Apr 21-22, June 17-18

Location: Tacoma/Pierce County Emergency Operations Center

Note: Out of County partners may register at any time and will be confirmed if seats are available after the date posted above.

For more information contact Judy L. Harmon, Pierce County Training Coordinator at jharmon@co.pierce.wa.us

Conference Opportunities

Note: The following list of available conference opportunities are provided for your interest. Making each opportunity known as available is not necessarily an endorsement as to the value of each conference.

Fourth Annual Emergency Preparedness and Service Restoration for Utilities

Dates: March 18-20, 2009

Location: Houston, Texas

Cost and Registration: \$1695, open until filled

This summit features lessons learned from utility industry practitioners who have been responsible for restoring service after hurricanes, ice storms, fires, and other disasters.

<http://www.infocastinc.com/index.php/conference/prep09>

Business, Government, and Community Continuity from A to Z

Dates: March 26-27, 2009

Location: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Cost and Registration: \$695, open until filled

This seminar is designed to assist companies in improving or developing disaster response, recovery, and continuity plans.

<http://www.businesscontinuity.info/total-a-to-z-march-2009-invitations.pdf>

Medical and Public Health Preparedness for Catastrophic Events

"Standards of Care" Workshops

Orlando, FL - April 14, 2009

New York, NY - April 27, 2009

Chicago, IL - May 8, 2009

The purpose of the "Standards of Care" regional workshop series is to illuminate the progress and successes of efforts underway to establish local, state, and regional standards of care protocols.

<http://www.iom.edu/CMS/3740/42532/61462.aspx>

Conference Opportunities Cont.

[Partners in Emergency Preparedness](#)

Date: April 14 – April 15, 2009

Location: Tacoma, WA

For More Information: contact Siri McLean

siri@partnersinemergencypreparedness.com

[Eighth UCLA Conference on Public Health and Disasters](#)

[University of California Los Angeles Center for Public Health and Disasters](#)

Date: May 3-6, 2009

Location: Torrance, California

Cost and Registration: \$395 before April 3, open until filled.

<http://www.cphd.ucla.edu/>

[National VOAD Conference -National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster](#)

Dates: May 5-7, 2009

Location: Little Rock, Arkansas

Cost and Registration: Not posted

<http://www.nvoad.org/Conference/tabid/97/Default.aspx>

[WAMI Trauma Conference](#) SAVE the DATE

Date: June 1-June 2, 2009

Location: Sheraton Hotel, Seattle, WA

Upcoming Exercises



[King Kaboom - 2009 Full Scale Exercise](#)

Date: June 23, 2009

Exercise Objectives:

1. Test regional surge procedure recommendations
2. Implement the Regional Medical Evacuation and Patient Tracking Mutual Aid Plan
3. Evaluate communications with partners
4. Identify media messaging in coordination with Law Enforcement
5. Test patient tracking and communications with families of impacted patients

For More information contact Danica.mann@overlakehospital.org

After Action Reports

- In mid-December 2008, the Puget Sound region was impacted by a storm which included unseasonably cold temperatures, heavy snow and high winds. To View the *Winter Storm 2008 Public Health – Seattle & King County After Action Report* Contact Lydia.ortega@kingcounty.gov. To view lessons learned from healthcare providers, please contact Danica Mann at Danica.mann@overlakehospital.org.
- The Pandemonium 2008 Full Scale Exercise was conducted to assess capabilities associated with a Pandemic Influenza response by Washington State DOH, Public Health - Seattle & King County, emergency response partners in King County, and King County hospitals. To View the *Pandemonium After Action Report* Contact Lydia.ortega@kingcounty.gov

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