



Preparedness Newsletter

U.S.-Affiliated Pacific and Caribbean Islands

Volume 2, Issue 1

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ASTHO News

Follow [@ASTHO](#) on Twitter, and see ASTHO's blog, www.StatePublicHealth.org, for the latest public health news.

Keep Up with National Preparedness Month Events

Stay tuned to ASTHO's [2015 National Preparedness Month web page](#) to see to see what ASTHO, CDC, and state and territorial health agencies are doing this month to focus on public health preparedness, like Puerto Rico's [Build a Kit Booth](#).

If your agency is hosting or participating in National Preparedness Month activities in September, it's not too late to [let us know!](#) If you would like ASTHO to publish stories about your jurisdiction's promising preparedness practices and accomplishments, submit your topics [here](#). Please contact [Lindsy LoVerde](#) or [Neyling Fajardo](#) with questions.

Partner Updates

Submit an Abstract for the 2016 Preparedness Summit

The 2016 Preparedness Summit will explore the theme "Planning Today for Rebuilding Tomorrow: Focusing on Resiliency and Recovery in the 21st Century." Abstracts are encouraged on subjects such as:

- Building and sustaining resilient communities.
- Effectively using, producing, and disseminating medical countermeasures and nonpharmaceutical interventions.
- Ensuring situational awareness to support decisionmaking, data management, and information sharing.
- Enhancing the integration of public health, healthcare, and emergency management systems.
- Strengthening global health security.

The summit is the premier national conference in the field of public health and healthcare preparedness, delivering cross-disciplinary opportunities to share new research and practices with nearly 1,700 colleagues from across the nation. The upcoming summit will take place from April 19-22, 2016, at the Dallas Hilton Anatole. Join the distinguished list of Preparedness Summit presenters and submit an abstract for the 2016 Preparedness Summit today. Abstracts are open now through Sept. 30, during National Preparedness Month. [Start an abstract](#) today.

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Republic of the Marshall Islands Holds Full-Scale Exercise

The Republic of the Marshall Islands held a full-scale water rescue exercise Aug. 18. The scenario was based on the water landing of a full plane into the local lagoon and included close to 100 community members who volunteered to serve as passengers/patients. The exercise was hosted by the Marshall Islands International Airport and participants included all local relevant agencies, including the Ministry of Health, Majuro Hospital, fire department, police department, immigration, local airlines, volunteer organizations, and more. Representatives from the Federal Aviation Administration, Coast Guard, ASTHO, and other external organizations were also present.

Upcoming Conferences and Webinars

2015 ASTHO Annual Meeting

When: Tuesday, Sept. 29-Thursday, Oct. 1

Where: Salt Lake City

Description: The [2015 ASTHO Annual Meeting](#) welcomes state and territorial health officials; department heads and other leaders at state and local health agencies; individuals from federal health agencies, academic institutions, and healthcare facilities; private sector health industry executives; and leaders from ASTHO affiliates and other public health organizations into a conversation to address strategic public health and leadership issues. This year's meeting's theme is "Creating the Conditions for Health in Our States and Territories," and it features two full days of public health presentations and discussions. For more information, contact [Melissa Lewis](#), ASTHO's director of member engagement. To register, visit <http://www.astho.org/Annual-Meeting-2015/Registration-and-Hotel/>.

Promising Practices

Call for Preparedness Stories

ASTHO's "[Have You Shared](#)" initiative systematically collects and disseminates stories that highlight promising and useful practices and implementation strategies developed by state, territorial, and freely associated state health agencies. ASTHO created the Have You Shared campaign to solicit stories of promising practices and is working with our members to capture stories from across all ASTHO content areas.

Stories collected by the Have You Shared initiative are shared through the ASTHO website as well as through the *State Public Health Weekly*, other ASTHO newsletters, communications with affiliate organizations and partners, and ASTHO meetings.

[ASTHO Public Health Career Center](#)

Resources

[Live Map of Epidemics and Emerging Disease Alerts in the Pacific \(SPC\)](#)

[Weekly Pacific Syndromic Surveillance Reports \(WHO\)](#)

[Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network](#)

[Disasters.data.gov](#)

[National Resource Center on Advancing Emergency Preparedness for Culturally Diverse Communities](#)

[Building Community Resilience to Disasters \(RAND\)](#)

[Social Distancing Law Project Legal Assessment Template \(ASTHO\)](#)

[Social Distancing Law Project Meeting Template \(ASTHO\)](#)

[NEMA EMAC Resources](#)

[EMAC Tips for Health Agencies \(ASTHO\)](#)

[Citizens Corps Volunteer Liability Guide \(FEMA\)](#)

[The National Infrastructure Protection Plan](#)

[Volunteering in Public Health \(PublicHealth.org\)](#)

[Tools for Radiation Readiness \(ASTHO\)](#)

[Public Health Preparedness and Response to Chemical](#)

Please tell us about your successes in preparedness at <http://www.astho.org/Forms/Preparedness/Accomplishments/>.

[and Radiological Incidents \(RAND\)](#)

Have something to share?

If your agency or organization would like to contribute to the Preparedness Newsletter, please [contact us](#). Content should be of interest to public health professionals in the U.S.-Affiliated Pacific and Caribbean Islands and should concern public health and healthcare system preparedness and related activities.



About ASTHO

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

ASTHO is the national nonprofit organization representing the state and territorial public health agencies of the United States, the U.S. Territories and Freely Associated States, and the District of Columbia. ASTHO's members, the chief health officials of these jurisdictions, are dedicated to formulating and influencing sound public health policy, and to assuring excellence in state-based public health practice.

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