ASTHO News

Follow @ASTHO on Twitter to get the latest public health news from our website and partners

CDC Announces Funding Opportunity for BioSense Data Use Agreements with ASTHO

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to assist state, local, territorial, and freely associated state public health authorities to implement syndromic surveillance to enhance situation awareness and detect and characterize disease outbreaks or other hazardous events or conditions of public health concern in order to respond quickly to local threats. In addition, this program provides support to state and local health authorities to advance the Meaningful Use of syndromic surveillance data from electronic health records (EHR). View this grant opportunity here.

ASTHO Presentations at the Preparedness Summit

Mission Impossible to Mission Possible - Development of Public Health and Medical Mission Ready Packages

**Date and Time:** Thursday, April 16, 10:00 am - 3:30 pm  
**Presenters:** Lisa Peterson, MPH, MPA, CPH - Senior Analyst, Public Health Preparedness, ASTHO  
Gisele Parry - Deputy Director of Emergency Management, Tetra Tech - Emergency Management and Community Resilience Division  
Kyle McPhee - Director of Preparedness Programs, Hagerty Consulting  

**Description:** Mission Ready Packages (MRPs) describe response and recovery resources that can be quickly requested by or sent to another jurisdiction during an emergency. NEMA and ASTHO have developed ten MRPs for four priority areas: fatality management, mobile field medical care, shelter and functional needs support services, and medical surge.

Please visit the Preparedness Summit website for other ASTHO presentations and the full agenda.

New Articles Posted on ASTHO's Blog, StatePublicHealth.org

Be sure to check out the latest posts on ASTHO's blog, StatePublicHealth.org. Don't miss the recent feature, How Public Health Became Integral to Emergency Preparedness and Response.

Partner Updates

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Introduction to New CDC Director of Public Health Preparedness and Response

The Public Health Matters blog recently published a Q&A with CDC’s new Director of Public Health Preparedness and Response, Rear Admiral Stephen C. Redd, MD. Dr. Redd discussed his career, his priorities for the Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response, and what he’s learned about emergency preparedness. Read the full interview here.

Public Health Preparedness Activities in States and Localities (Fact Sheets)

The 2015 National Snapshot of Public Health Preparedness and individual fact sheets for the 50 states, 4 directly funded localities, and 8 territories and freely associated states showcase the results of the collective investments, initiatives, and activities focused on improving public health preparedness. Fact sheets also highlight PHEP capability investments, administrative preparedness, Technical Assistance Review scores, and CDC resources that supported state, local, and insular areas’ preparedness activities. The full report and fact sheets are available for download here.

The Division of Strategic National Stockpile Announces Its Course Schedule

The Division of Strategic National Stockpile (DSNS) is happy to announce its Strategic National Stockpile Preparedness course and Mass Antibiotic Dispensing Train-the-Trainer (MADT) course schedules for federal fiscal year 2015. Provided in partnership with FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) in Anniston, Alabama, interested applicants can apply through CDP’s registration system at https://cdp.dhs.gov/register/registration-process/. Open season for applications is approximately three months from the start of each course. All travel expenses will be paid for by FEMA for state and local personnel, and the courses are free.

The SNS Preparedness course is a “blended” course using self-paced learning, virtually-led classrooms, and in-person training to provide state and regional planners and MCM staff all the information needed to design and execute MCM mass dispensing. This includes instruction on formulary, warehouse operations, distribution methods, and point of dispensing operations.

SNS Preparedness Course Dates:

- 4 - 6 May 2015
- 10 - 12 August 2015

There are no prerequisites for the SNS Preparedness course.

The MADT course can help improve your preparedness training. Working with DSNS’s expert trainers, your staff can become certified to offer CDC continuing education credits through a FEMA authorized course. Please
pass on this exciting opportunity to those who provide training in your jurisdiction.

MADT Course Dates

- 27 - 29 May 2015
- 24 - 26 August 2015

Prerequisites for this course are:

- Attendance at either DSNS' SNS Preparedness course, or Mass Antibiotic Dispensing (MAD) course, or Mobile Preparedness course (MPC).
- At least a part-time role as trainer.

Questions? Please contact Barbara Cooper at bic1@cdc.gov or Steve Holland at aoy7@cdc.gov.

Upcoming Conferences & Webinars

Emergency Preparedness for Clinicians - From Guidelines to the Front Line

When: Thursday, March 26, 2015, 2-3pm Eastern
To join: Registration is not required. Audio is required for webinar. Click here to join.
Audio Dial In:
888-323-9813 (U.S. Callers)
212-547-0291 (International Callers)
Passcode: 3257688
Description: Natural disasters, industrial accidents, terrorism attacks, and pandemics all have the capacity to result in large numbers of critically ill or injured patients. A barrage of patients with various clinical needs can quickly exhaust the care delivery capacity of a healthcare system. It is important for clinicians to have a disaster response plan that addresses approaches to maintaining quality care during times of patient surge and resource scarcity. During this COCA Call, participants will learn about the series of suggestions that focus on the management of multiple critically ill patients during a disaster or pandemic, and the importance of collaboration among front-line clinicians, hospital administrators, professional societies, and public health or government officials. For more information, visit http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2015/callinfo_032615.asp.

2015 Preparedness Summit - Global Health Security: Preparing a Nation for Emerging Threats

When: Tuesday, April 14 - Friday, April 17, 2015
Where: Atlanta, Georgia
Description: Each year, the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) holds a national conference in the field of public health and healthcare preparedness. The 2015 Preparedness Summit will address issues in global health security.


ASTHO Territory and Freely Associated States Preparedness Meetup

When: Tuesday, April 14, 2015, 6-7pm Eastern
Where: Room International B, Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, Georgia
Description: Join ASTHO staff and your preparedness colleagues from the Territories and Freely Associated States for a brief discussion and casual get together at the Preparedness Summit! We can share stories, recent updates, and ideas for working together in the coming months. Please let Heather Misner (hmisner@astho.org) or Maggie Carlin (mcarlin@astho.org) know if you will attend.

Upcoming Grant Deadlines

2015 PHMSA HMEP States and Territories Hazmat Grants

Application deadline: Friday, April 3, 2015
Funder: U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)
Description: “The purpose of this grant program is to increase State, Territorial, Tribal, and local effectiveness in safely and efficiently handling hazardous materials incidents, enhance implementation of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (EPCRA), and encourage a comprehensive approach to emergency training and planning by incorporating the unique challenges of responses to transportation situations.” For more information, visit [http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=272471](http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=272471).

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

Have something to share? If your agency or organization would like to contribute to the Preparedness E-Newsletter, please contact us at mcarlin@astho.org. Content should be of interest to public health professionals in the US 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.

President: Jewel Mullen, MD, MPH, MPA (CT)
President-Elect: Ed Ehlinger, MD, MSPH (MN)
Secretary-Treasurer: Brenda Fitzgerald, MD (GA)
Immediate Past President: Terry Cline, PhD (OK)
Past President: José Montero, MD, MPH, MHC (NH)

Regional Representatives
I: Sheila Pinette, DO (ME)
II: Mary O'Dowd, MPH (NJ)
III: Karyl Thomas Rattay, MD, MS (DE)
IV: Mary Currier, MD, MPH (MS)
V: Karen McKeown, MSN, RN, OCN, CHPN (WI)
VI: J.T. Lane (LA)
VII: Robert P. Moser, MD (KS)
VIII: Wendy Braund, MD, MPH, MSE (WY)
IX: James Gillan, MS, HSA (GU)
X: John Wiesman, DrPH, MPH (WA)

Ex-Officio
Rep. Affiliate Council: Amber Norris Williams (Safe States Alliance)
Rep. Senior Deputies Committee: Julie Cox-Kain, MPA (OK)
Alumni Member: David N. Sundwall, MD (UT)
ASTHO Executive Director: Paul Jarris, MD, MBA