ASTHO Updates

ASTHO Hosts Directors of Public Health Preparedness Meeting

The 11th Annual Directors of Public Health Preparedness Meeting was held in Glendale, Arizona, from Oct. 27-29. The meeting brought together representatives from the states, directly funded cities, and territories, as well as federal partners and other partner organizations. Presentation slides from this year’s meeting can be accessed online.

Partner Updates

Annual Meeting of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific Takes Place on Guam

The World Health Organization Regional Committee for the Western Pacific held its annual meeting in Guam in late October. The meeting addressed several key health issues for the region, including hepatitis, tuberculosis, universal healthcare, violence and injury prevention, and climate change’s health impacts. Learn more about the meeting in this video and this news article.

Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific (BSRP) Project Addresses Regional Disaster Preparedness

The European Union-supported BSRP project brings together disaster managers from the Pacific to support a collaborative approach to preparedness. The group met in Fiji in early November to discuss experiences preparing for and responding to recent natural disasters. Read more about the meeting and the project in this press release.

Coastal Community Resistance Training Held in Guam

The University of Hawaii National Disaster Preparedness Training Center led training for Guam government agencies, the U.S. military, and private companies. The training brought together the sectors involved in emergency management with the goal of improving natural disaster preparedness. Read more about the training in this news article.
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 submit stories about your successes in preparedness using our online form.

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.

President: Edward Ehlinger, MD, MSPH (MN)
President-Elect: Jay C. Butler, MD, CPE, FAA (AK)
Secretary-Treasurer: Brenda Fitzgerald, MD (GA)
Immediate Past President: Jewel Mullen, MD, MPH, MPA (CT)
Past President: Terry L. Cline, Ph.D. (OK)

Regional Representatives
I: Harry Chen, MD (VT)
II: Howard A. Zucker, MD, JD (NY)
III: Marissa Levine, MD, MPH (VA)
IV: Mary Currier, MD, MPH (MS)
V: Karen McKeown, MSN, RN (WI)
VI: J.T. Lane (LA)
VII: Gerd Clabaugh (IA)
VIII: Wendy Braund, MD, MPH, MSEd (WY)
IX: James Gillan, MS, HSA (GU)
X: John Wiesman, DrPH, MPH (WA)

Ex-Officio
Rep. Affiliate Council: John W. Robitscher, MPH (National Association of Chronic Disease Directors)
Rep. Senior Deputies Committee: Julie Cox-Kain, MPA (OK)
Alumni Member: David Sundwall, MD (Alumnus, UT)
ASTHO Executive Director: Paul Jarris, MD, MBA