



FY 2015-2016 Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP)  
 Healthcare Coalition Conference  
 Region 1  
 New Orleans East Hospital  
 September 24, 2015  
 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.



**Participants:** (x indicates present)

<b>Hospitals</b>			
	Oceans Behavioral Hospital of Greater New Orleans	X	Tulane – Lakeside Hospital: Natasha Bryant
	Oceans Behavioral Hospital of Greater New Orleans – West Bank		United Medical Healthwest – New Orleans, LLC
X	Ochsner Baptist Medical Center: Warren Foster	X	West Jefferson Medical Center: Joanna Garcia
X	Ochsner Extended Care Hospital of Kenner: Ashley Love	X	New Orleans East Hospital: Karl Warner
X	Ochsner Hospital – Elmwood: Ashley Love		
X	Ochsner Medical Center: Ashley Love		<b>EMS</b>
X	Ochsner Medical Center – Kenner: Helena Asprion		Acadian Ambulance of New Orleans, LLC:
X	Ochsner Medical Center – West Bank: Brenda Bankston		A-mmed Ambulance Service, Inc:
	Omega Hospital	X	Children’s Hospital: Natasha Haynes, Aaron Thompson
	Beacon Behavioral Hospital of New Orleans	X	East Jefferson Mobile EMS: Frank Graff
X	University Medical Center New Orleans: Robert Arnold	X	Grand Isle Volunteer Emergency Services: Terry Blanchard
X	Children’s Hospital: Aaron Thompson, Natasha Haynes	X	Gretna Police Dept – Emergency Medical Services Division: Jeremy Hebert
	Community Care Hospital		Life Guard Ambulance - Air
	Crescent City Surgical Hospital	X	New Orleans EMS: Yolanda Wilson, Bill Salmeron
X	East Jefferson General Hospital: Frank Graff		Ochsner Clinic Foundation
X	Kindred Hospital – New Orleans: Gwen Foucheaux	X	Plaquemines Parish EMS: Gina Meyer
X	Louisiana Continuing Care Hospital: Joanna Garcia	X	West Jefferson Ambulance Service: Joanna Garcia
X	River Oaks Hospital: Mike Capielano		Westwego EMS
	Seaside Behavioral Hospital		
X	St. Bernard Parish Hospital: Euclide Gaines		
	St. Catherine Memorial Hospital		<b>Other Partners, Guests</b>
	St. Charles Surgical Hospital		DHH/OPH/ CCP
	St. Theresa Specialty Hospital	X	BEMS: Liz Fiato
	St. Theresa Specialty Hospital - Metairie		<b>Region 3 Attendees</b>
X	Touro Infirmary: Natasha Haynes	X	Compass Behavioral Center of Houma: Lacy Boudreaux
X	Tulane Medical Center: Natasha Bryant	X	Lady of the Sea Hospital: Rudy King

**Facilitators:**

Cindy Davidson, Region 1 Administrative Designated Regional Coordinator (ADRC), Frances Arledge, LHA/Hospital Preparedness Program.

**Welcome and Introductions**

Ms. Cynthia Davidson, Region 1’s Hospital Administrative Designated Regional Coordinator (ADRC), welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **Regional Updates & Announcements**

Ms. Davidson discussed with the group the current status of the boil water advisory issued overnight. As water testing continues, she will share updates on test results with the hospitals. The group was encouraged to consider developing a 36-hour plan to address water outages at facilities.

## **Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP)**

Ms. Frances Arledge presented a discussion on the transition of focus from emergency planning to developing emergency programs. This is an approach used at the state-level to reinforce the importance of healthcare coalitions and working together to ensure healthcare readiness for emergency events. Participation at all levels of an organization or regional coalition, especially at the leadership level, is essential for a successful program. Elements of an Emergency Management Program were reviewed and the group discussed examples of activities relevant to each area. The importance of risk assessments was highlighted: Hazard Vulnerability Analysis (HVA) is a critical aspect of planning for emergencies and prioritizing resources for response. The use of the HVA in driving mitigation activities was articulated. A diagram was presented to help the audience visualize where mitigation falls in the preparedness and program cycle. A review of some examples of mitigation along with a discussion of structural and non-structural activities was intended to help the group define its importance. Ms. Davidson discussed the unique situation with resource sharing for planning purposes in the region is highly dependent on big system processes and contracts. Recovering from an event is another area of focus for regional healthcare coalitions. Recovery activities will vary from event to event, however there are common themes such as operational aspects of healthcare delivery, personnel recovery, and restoration of property loss or damage. Planning and spending priorities for the hospital and EMS providers in the region were reviewed. Summary slides with Region 1 Needs Assessment Data results were included. Gaps identified for hospitals are communications and resource availability. The hospitals also reviewed the anticipated expiration rate of pharmaceutical caches at facilities along with weekly amounts of PPE caches. Ms. Davidson discussed that she will continue to visit hospitals to assist with assessing their capabilities and guidance for developing plans. EMS priorities established by the state Bureau of EMS are Interoperable Communications and Training and Exercises. A list of identified future trainings and exercises that was developed during a state EMS workshop in May of 2015 was presented to the group.

## **Ebola/Infectious Disease Readiness**

Ebola Grant Update – the State received Ebola Funds to support an Assessment Hospital(s) and a transportation provider(s). To date, one EMS provider is being considered for receiving grant funds. As of this meeting, no hospital in Louisiana is identified as an “Assessment Hospital”, however hospitals are expected to be ready to identify and isolate a person suspected of having Ebola, and to inform or communicate with DHH immediately regarding this patient. Planning is underway to establish a procedure for the transfer of a confirmed Ebola patient from Louisiana to the Region VI Ebola Treatment Center in Texas. As infectious disease planning continues, coalitions and hospitals can expect to work closely with the new HPP Infectious Disease/Pandemic Flu planner, Ms. Jill Hulin over the upcoming months.

## **ESF8 Portal Resources**

Ms. Frances Arledge reminded coalition members about the tools available on the ESF8 Portal and encouraged them to use these documents and tools. Each organization’s emergency preparedness contact is responsible for managing users for their facility. A new platform for this system is being evaluated. To facilitate this transition, it will be important to make sure users in the system are correct for each organization. All organizations are encouraged to review the People/Users in the system for their organization and to limit this number to the fewest possible people to make best use of this resource.

## **HPP Grant FY2015-2016**

An overview of the 2015-2016 grant was provided. Participants were informed that Louisiana’s grant award is slightly less than the grant award for the 2013-2014 grant period. Funds are expected to continue to decrease in the next grant period. The approach to allocating funds was reviewed for both hospital and EMS groups. For both groups, a decision was made to allocate funds in support of the ESF8 regional response network infrastructure, including the Administrative Designated Regional Coordinator role, Volunteer Designated Regional Coordinator role, CHEMPACK host sites and

Louisianan Rural Ambulance Alliance equipment management project. Participation Agreements and individual facility allocation amounts are being developed at the time of this meeting.

The process for accepting grant funds was reviewed. The first step is for Hospitals and EMS providers to indicate their interest in receiving grant funds. Facilities must submit the signed letter of intent form by August 31, 2015 indicating they either accept or decline funds in the FY2015-2016 period. In addition, if interested in receiving funds, the facility must attend the Fall HCC Conference meeting and submit the NIMS Compliance Worksheet attesting to their compliance with NIMS implementation activities. Organizations submitting letters of intent will be evaluated to ensure eligibility to receive funds, including current licensure and operating status, compliance with State and Federal audit requirements as well as NIMS compliance.

The next step in the process is the Participation Agreement and Budget Proposal. Facilities accepting funds must submit a budget proposal detailing proposed purchases. Formal quotes are not required as part of the budget proposal process; facilities are encouraged to work with the DRC, ADRC and the HPP Grant Staff to ensure purchases are allowable within grant guidelines. Grant purchases may begin as early as July 1, 2015. A final deadline for purchases will be announced when participation agreements are available. Facilities must submit acceptable proof of purchase documentation in the Grant Management System. The annual Needs Assessment Survey is also required and must be completed by March 31, 2016. Documentation will be reviewed for reimbursement as soon as all participation criteria are met. The group is reminded that a 10% match of the reimbursable amount is required. Matching expenses may be demonstrated with either cash or in-kind purchases and must be allowable, documented and verifiable. Facilities are reminded that matching submitted for the HPP Grant may not be used in any other federally assisted program.

#### **Announcements**

Upcoming education opportunities hosted by the Louisiana Hospital Association on regulatory compliance for CMS emergency preparedness rules and crisis communications. Review the handout fliers for more information and registration details.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting ended at 11:30 AM.