

Welcome to the GSHCC Connect!

May 2018

The Granite State Health Care Coalition is a statewide network of representatives from public and private health and safety organizations that help communities prepare, train, respond, and recover from events impacting New Hampshire. We're excited to introduce ourselves through the inaugural GSHCC Connect, and as we expand the Coalition and collaborate with new partners from across the state, we look forward to keeping all of you up to date on our efforts.



Shaylin Deignan
Program Coordinator



Scott Nichols
Director

What is a health care coalition?

A health care coalition is focused on enhancing emergency preparedness capabilities across the health care system. ASPR has defined a health care coalition as *"a group of individual health care and response organizations (e.g., hospitals, emergency medical services (EMS), emergency management organizations, public health agencies, etc.) in a defined geographic location. Healthcare coalitions play a critical role in developing health care delivery system preparedness and response capabilities. Healthcare coalitions serve as multiagency coordinating groups that support and integrate with ESF-8 activities in the context of incident command system (ICS) responsibilities."*

Under the direction of a leadership team who provides guidance and subject matter expertise on decisions regarding GSHCC priorities and objectives, the Granite State Health Care Coalition (GSHCC) works with partners to improve the readiness of New Hampshire's health care system by:

- **Assessing the state of health care system readiness in New Hampshire;**
- **Encouraging and supporting members in all-hazards planning, coordination, and capacity development (including training);**
- **Sharing best practices and lessons learned; and**
- **Promoting the value and importance of health care readiness.**

The Granite State Health Care Coalition serves all New Hampshire communities, and is support for State Emergency Support Function (ESF) #8 – Health and Medical to provide these services.

Why Join the Granite State Health Care Coalition?

Local and regional disasters are likely to create a surge of patients and casualties that might overwhelm our healthcare system and providers. The GSHCC provides the opportunity for providers, healthcare and community stakeholders to plan, prepare and train for catastrophic events through collaboration essential to integrated disaster response. In addition, GSHCC provides guidance and technical assistance on Federal and State healthcare requirements (*i.e. new CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule*).

CONTACT US TO LEARN MORE & GET INVOLVED!

To learn more about GSHCC, request a presentation or become a member, contact Shaylin Deignan: sdeignan@healthynh.org or (603) 415-4263.



Foundation for
Healthy Communities

Health Sector Emergency Preparedness Training Recap

The Health Sector Emergency Preparedness training was held on April 3rd & 4th and covered the core elements of the new Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Emergency Preparedness Final Rule for all 17 provider and supplier types. This Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) training provided an overview of the four requirements and how they apply to the affected providers and suppliers. It also challenged participants to develop best practice knowledge and instruction on the use of tools to develop, train, and exercise an emergency plan for health sector suppliers and providers. Please note, that while there are varying degrees of exceptions to the rule for some providers and supplier types, there are no exceptions to the rule for hospitals.

Resources / Additional Information

[CMS: Guidance for Surveyors, Providers and Suppliers Regarding the New Emergency Preparedness \(EP\) Rule](#)

[HHS: Emergency Preparedness Requirements for Medicare and Medicaid Participating Providers and Suppliers](#)

[CMS Emergency Preparedness Final Rule](#)

[CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule: Implications for Integrated Healthcare Systems](#)

To receive a copy of the training guidebook from this session or for technical assistance on the CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule, email [Scott Nichols](#) or [Shaylin Deignan](#).

ASPR TRACIE Webinar: “Healthcare Response to a No-Notice Incident: Las Vegas”

Held March 28, this webinar provided an in-depth look at the EMS, hospital, Emergency Management, and overall health care response to the October Las Vegas shooting, which was the deadliest in modern US History leaving 59 deceased, 527 injured, and 21,500 self-evacuating from the scene.

Health care personnel credit planning and exercising initiatives with enhanced readiness capabilities the night of the event. Doctors from various hospitals identified triaging patients according to injury as the best practice established the night of the shooting. State of Nevada Emergency Management identified the use of Rescue Task Forces, the Governor’s Disaster Declaration and Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) Requests as key in providing subsequent assistance. State ESF-8 worked with the Nevada Hospital Association disaster response communications to ensure the latest updates were being communicated statewide. Stop the Bleed Kits (including tourniquets) proved to be a vital asset as they were a key resource on many of the city’s ambulances and fire trucks. Crisis debriefing was provided to patients and staff, and Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) plans were updated to reflect necessary changes and lessons learned.

[Webinar: Healthcare Response to a No-Notice Incident: Las Vegas](#)

[ASPR TRACIE Resources: No-Notice Incident Tip Sheets](#)

[FBI Webinar: Active Shooter Planning and Response in a Healthcare Setting](#)



An Introduction to ASPR TRACIE

A program of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), ASPR (Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response) TRACIE (Technical Resources, Assistance Center, and Information Exchange) was created to meet the information and technical resource needs of health care providers, health care coalitions, health care entities, emergency managers, public health practitioners, and others working in disaster medicine, health care system preparedness, and public health emergency preparedness. ASPR TRACIE provides guidance on the new CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule, emergency planning toolkits and templates, webinars on recent real-world events, tip sheets and checklists for your use.

[Welcome to ASPR TRACIE](#)

[ASPR TRACIE Fact Sheet](#)

Health Care Coalitions in Action Across the Country

The Health Care Coalition model has proved to work efficiently and effectively during disasters and emergencies impacting healthcare systems across the country.

Please see below for further information on the Texas Health Care Coalition – Southeast Texas Regional Advisory Council (SETRAC) Regional Health Care Preparedness Coalition’s (RHPC) response to Hurricane Harvey. This Coalition shares lessons learned on evacuating dozens of facilities and over 1500 patients in the wake of Hurricane Harvey as well as highlights the integral role the coalition played in this response effort.

[Responding to Harvey: How a Houston-area health care coalition modeled success After Harvey Hit, a Texas Hospital Decided to Evacuate. Here’s How Patients Got Out. The Exchange: Keeping Communities Safe and Healthy in Times of Crisis](#)

NIMS ICS Courses

If you haven’t already done so, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides online NIMS (*National Incident Management System*) ICS (*Incident Command System*) courses to anyone interested in understanding general emergency management concepts as well as how to implement the ICS structure. NIMS provides all the above sectors with the shared terminology, systems, and processes to adequately deliver necessary services to the community and enhance capacity in a given region.

We recommend those involved in emergency preparedness at any given health care facility complete the following NIMS ICS Courses:

[ICS-100: HCB - Introduction to the Incident Command System for Healthcare/Hospitals](#)

[ICS-200: HCA - Applying ICS to Healthcare Organizations](#)

[ICS-700: NIMS - An Introduction](#)



WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU WANT TO LEARN!

Please complete the following GSHCC Training Program Survey and let us know what trainings you would like to see offered in the future.



GSHCC Training Survey

Expanding the Granite State Health Care Coalition

As a statewide network that is charged with helping communities prepare, respond, and recover from events impacting New Hampshire, we rely on the collaboration of our partners across the state to help improve the readiness of NH’s health care system. Together, we provide the opportunity for providers, health care and community stakeholders to plan, prepare and train for catastrophic events through collaboration essential to integrated disaster response.

Partner Testimonials

“As the Public Health Preparedness Coordinator for a large public health region, I see the great value of the GSHCC. The Coalition will be providing a forum where health care, emergency management and medical services and public health partners from across the state, can meet common goals and requirements through coordinated planning and training, including exercises. This increases our collective preparedness and improves our ability to respond in the event of an emergency.”

-Philip Alexakos, Chief of Environmental Health and Emergency Preparedness, Manchester Health Department

“As a long-standing member of the NHHA Emergency Preparedness Group it has been an amazing experience to participate in the evolution of hospital preparedness and cooperation. The transition of NH hospitals’ emergency preparedness leadership into the newly formed Granite State Health Care Coalition represents the next logical and important step in extending preparedness and collaboration efforts to include all of NH’s healthcare partners.”

-Francine Dupuis, EM / EOC Coordinator, Northeast Rehabilitation Hospital

“The CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule training was a great example of the kind of training and technical assistance that the GSHCC can bring to its members. Supporting health care entities to become better prepared through training and exercising opportunities offered by the GSHCC will result in a much more coordinated response to health emergencies.”

-Neil Twitchell, Administrator, Community Health Development Section, NH Division of Public Health Services

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

We are currently seeking new members from state and local public and private organizations across the continuum of care. To become a member or to learn more about GSHCC, contact Shaylin Deignan: sdeignan@healthynh.org or (603) 415-4263.

