



EVHC READY

The Eastern Region's Pulse On Healthcare Emergency Preparedness

Thursday
January 07, 2021

Welcome to this first edition of EVHC Ready. We are bringing you this newsletter as a way of sharing health emergency preparedness news, best practices, training opportunities, response plans, upcoming exercises and more.

We must maintain our levels of emergency preparedness while we continue to fight against the COVID-19 virus. Please submit any topics, best practices, lessons learned, questions, comments and article submissions to mmorton@vaems.org

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Member Highlight

Riverside Health System- Amber Frye, Riverside Health System

Source: Riverside Health System, The Coalition will be conducting member highlights in the new *EVHC Ready* Editions as an effort to shed light on the hardworking members that make this coalition possible.



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From our member:

“I’m the Business Continuity Manager for Riverside Health System, and a member of the Emergency Management Team. I started with Riverside in 2014, and I came into my role in Emergency Management around the same time all of the new regulations were issued from CMS for Emergency Preparedness. All of those new regulations put a lot of pressure on hospitals and nursing homes, and my first experience with members of the coalition were the positive interactions we shared with one another in identifying ways to adapt. Since then, we’ve continued to grow and support each other, and I’ve been particularly grateful for the collaborative work of EVHC and its members through the COVID Pandemic and all of the other challenges we’ve faced over the past year. 2020 was a true test of our continued partnerships, but we’ve persevered, and I’m honored to work with all of you in overcoming whatever challenges lie ahead.”



Our first member highlight will be Amber Frye of Riverside Health System.

From Other members:

“Amber Frye the Riverside Health System Business Continuity Manager is a very effective leader and valued member of the Emergency Management Team. Not only is Amber a subject matter expert on business continuity, she also leads the Riverside Lifelong Health Division emergency management program. Her competence in planning and preparedness is of the highest level, but she is also quite capable of managing a command center during an incident. No matter whose logo is on the masthead, Amber is always willing to help our community partners.”

As a coalition of the willing we are nothing without the efforts of members like Amber Frye personifying partnership and helping us to truly be prepared. If you would like to nominate other members please feel free to contact us at any time (mmorton@vaems.org).

Lessons Learned

EVHC- We Learn From What We Share

Source: EVHC, the coalition would like to share stories of lessons learned from members throughout the Eastern region in this section of EVHC Ready. In the past we’ve learned a great deal from our meetings, site visits and ongoing outreach. If you would like to submit to the lesson learned segment please feel free to contact us at any time (mmorton@vaems.org).

Previous Lessons:



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Regulatory Updates

CMS- Revision History for LTC Survey Process Documents and Files

Center for Medicare and Medicaid, this document will identify revisions made to documents and files that are related to the LTC Survey Process. The revisions will be grouped by effective date. For more information use the following [link](#).

CMS- Infection Prevention, Control & Immunizations

Source: Center for Medicare and Medicaid, this facility task must be used to investigate compliance at F880, F881, F882, F883, F885, and F886. For the purpose of this task, “staff” includes all facility staff (direct and indirect care functions), contracted staff, consultants, volunteers, others who provide care and services to residents on behalf of the facility, and students in the facility’s nurse aide training programs or from affiliated academic institutions. The infection prevention and control program (IPCP) must be facility-wide and include all departments and contracted services. If a specific care area concern is identified, it should be evaluated under the specific care area, such as for pressure ulcers, respiratory care, catheter care, and medication pass observations which include central lines, peripheral IVs, and oral/IM/respiratory medications. For more information, use the document attached to the email that delivered this edition of EVHC Ready.

Inventory Maintenance

Warehouse.

Notification that our warehouse operations have moved from the previous location at the Sentara Warehouse to our brand new TEMS/EVHC warehouse locate at: 1220 Fleetway Dr. Building E, Chesapeake, VA 23323. The normal warehouse operations for pick-up will be done on Wednesdays, time frame will vary throughout the day, but I will also be available on emergency notice as well. As I do review VHASS every day for any facility annotating insufficient in clinical supplies, please if you foresee any issues or possible situations where you are not able to receive PPE from your vendors or you do not have enough to last, reach out to me and let me provide some assistance

COVID-19 Workgroup.

The COVID-19 workgroup, along with the RHCC workgroup have been working diligently to purchase Sentinel XL PAPRs with the CRBN conversion kit for the long-term care facilities. Along with that, more fit test kits and solutions have been ordered. We still have fit test kits available for your facility to check out on a 2-week basis to conduct fit testing.

Any questions regarding PPE, Fit-Test Kits, and other resources please contact Scott Maynard, Resource Management Specialist; smaynard@vaems.org



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PPE Optimization

Summary for Healthcare Facilities: Strategies for Optimizing the Supply of PPE during Shortages. Click on the link below to find ways to optimize your PPE supplies.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/strategies-optimize-ppe-shortages.html?ACSTrackingID=USCDC_1052-DM45704&ACSTrackingLabel=COCA%20Now%3A%20Strategies%20for%20Optimizing%20PPE%20Supplies%20during%20Shortages&deliveryName=USCDC_1052-DM45704

Training & Exercise Schedule

Training and Document assistance.

As the CMS surveyors are beginning to make their rounds again, remember to contact EVHC if you need documentation for exercise participation, After Action Reports, and MOU's.

Lunch and Learn Program

In December EVHC started the Lunch and Learn program with a talk from Eric Seymour from Weather Center Wakefield. Mr. Seymour talked about the upcoming winter weather forecast as well as the products used to predict the winter weather. On January 14, from 12:00 to 1:00 we will be hosting our second Lunch and Learn with Mr. Matthew Marry who will talk about the importance of VHASS and how that information is used to help decision makers regarding COVID needs. Future talks include representatives from the Virginia State Fire Marshall's Office and FBI. Please see attached flyer for meeting information. If you have Lunch and Learn topic suggestions please contact Mary Morton at mmorton@vaems.org

Exercise and Training workgroup.

The Exercise and Training workgroup works to discuss and develop training topics for the Coalition. Members meet monthly to discuss upcoming training projects, members interested in this workgroup should contact Mary Morton at mmorton@vaems.org

Upcoming ICS Training.

Va Department of Emergency Management is offering virtual ICS 300 and 400 classes this spring. See attached schedule for details.



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Emergency Operations Planning

Emergency Operations Plan

The RHCC Manager has been working to update all of the Emergency Operations Plans for EVHC. These documents can be used by communities/facilities to help augment their own emergency plans, and tie them into the regional and state standing plans. For questions on emergency preparedness documentation please contact Brian D. Pierce at bpierce@vaems.org

Funding Opportunities & Project Request

EVHC- Satellite Phones

Source Satellite Phones, Calendar Year 2021 has started, which means Satellite Phone contracts are completed between Mobil Sat and EVHC. However, paid devices are still available for facilities at no cost from the coalition. If you would like to accept one of the three remaining Satellite Phones, please contact agreen@vaems.org. After accepting this free device, you can establish a contract with a different phone provider or create your own contract with Mobil Sat. More details on participating in this program is attached to the email that delivered this edition of EVHC Ready.

Activating the RHCC

RHCC Activation (what to expect).

In the event of an emergency members of EVHC are encouraged to contact the RHCC via the emergency number (844-757-7422). Types of emergencies that may require assistance include; fire, flooding, tornado, hurricane, or any type of event that might need outside resources to assist. Staff will then collect information from the reporting party and determine the type of RHCC activation that is needed. There are three tiers of activation; Awareness/Virtual the on call staff member is monitoring the situation and a VHASS event is created. Limited: when the event is limited to a single community/facility and the mobile RHCC is deployed to the location of the incident if needed. Full activation is required when multiple communities/facilities are affected. In the event of a full activation all staff members will report to the RHCC to monitor and assist where needed.

Grant Information

CMP Money

On September 17, 2020 CMS issued information regarding nursing home visitation during COVID-19. This document also discusses the use of Civil Money Penalty (CMP) funds to purchase outdoor tents for visitation. <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-39-nh.pdf>



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Additional information can be found at: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/LTC-CMP-Reinvestment>

The state contact person for the CMP program is:
Courtney Richter CMP Program Analyst, Division of Aging and Disability Services Department of Medical Assistance Services
600 East Broad Street Richmond, VA 23219
Phone: (804) 225-4218
Email: Courtney.Richter@dmas.virginia.gov

Meeting Schedules

Full Coalition Meetings:

(Full) Coalition Meeting – Quarterly on the 1st Thursday of the Month		
Staff Support: Judy Shuck --- Chair: Doug Smith; Vice Chair: OPEN		
Date	Time	Location
January 07, 2021	0900 – 1100	Virtual- TBD
April 01, 2021	0900 – 1100	Virtual- TBD
July 01, 2021	0900 – 1100	Virtual- TBD
October 07, 2021	0900 – 1100	Virtual- TBD
December 02, 2021	0900 – 1100	Virtual- TBD

Acute Care Hospital Focus Group Meeting

Acute Care Hospital Focus Group Meeting – Quarterly on the 1st Thursday of the Month		
Staff Support: Judy Shuck --- Champion: Doug Smith		
Date	Time	Location
February 04, 2021	0900 – 1100	Virtual- TBD
May 06, 2021	0900 – 1100	Virtual- TBD
August 5, 2021	0900 – 1100	Virtual- TBD
November 4, 2021	0900 – 1100	Virtual- TBD

Long Term Care Focus Group

Long Term Care Focus Group Meeting – Quarterly on the 1st Thursday of the Month		
Staff Support: Amy Green & Mary Morton --- Champion: Donna Marchant-Roof		
Date	Time	Location
March 04, 2021	0900 – 1100	Virtual- TBD
June 03, 2021	0900 – 1100	Virtual- TBD
September 2, 2021	0900 – 1100	Virtual - TBD
December 2, 2021	0900 – 1100	Virtual - TBD



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Exercise and Training Workgroup

Exercise and Training Workgroup – Monthly on third Wednesday of the Month		
Staff Support: Mary Morton --- Chair: T. Winstanley Vice Chair: M. Leicester		
Date	Time	Location
January 20, 2021	0900 - 1000	Virtual- TBD
February 17, 2021	0900 - 1000	Virtual- TBD
March 17, 2021	0900 - 1000	Virtual- TBD
April 21, 2021	0900 - 1000	Virtual- TBD
May 19, 2021	0900 - 1000	Virtual- TBD
June 16, 2021	0900 - 1000	Virtual- TBD
July 21, 2021	0900 - 1000	Virtual- TBD
August 18, 2021	0900 - 1000	Virtual- TBD
September 15, 2021	0900 - 1000	Virtual- TBD
October 20, 2021	0900 - 1000	Virtual- TBD
November 17, 2021	0900 - 1000	Virtual- TBD
December 15, 2021	0900 - 1000	Virtual- TBD

RHCC Workgroup

RHCC Workgroup – Monthly on second Monday of the Month		
Staff Support: Brian D. Pierce --- Chair: M. Leicester Vice Chair: K. Christman		
Date	Time	Location
January 11, 2021	1300 - 1500	Virtual- TBD
February 8, 2021	1300 - 1500	Virtual- TBD
March 8, 2021	1300 - 1500	Virtual- TBD
April 12, 2021	1300 - 1500	Virtual- TBD
May 10, 2021	1300 - 1500	Virtual- TBD
June 14, 2021	1300 - 1500	Virtual- TBD
July 12, 2021	1300 - 1500	Virtual- TBD
August 9, 2021	1300 - 1500	Virtual- TBD
September 13, 2021	1300 - 1500	Virtual- TBD
October 11, 2021	1300 - 1500	Virtual- TBD
November 8, 2021	1300 - 1500	Virtual- TBD
December 13, 2021	1300 - 1500	Virtual- TBD