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## Winnebago County Health Department (WCHD), Preparedness Unit

### 2009 Local Objectives for Public Health Preparedness December 7, 2009

The following grant objectives were required to be completed by December 31, 2009 to be in compliance with the requirements for public health preparedness set by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) and federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

- 1) "Local Health Department will engage in a continuous planning process with local and regional partners to respond to public health emergencies."
  - a) Revisions to the Public Health Emergency Plan (PHEP) were completed in September 2009.
  - b) Revisions to the WCHD Mass Clinic Plan were completed in September 2009.
  - c) The Mass Clinic Plan Technical Assistance Review (TAR) was completed and submitted to DHS in August 2009.
  - d) Revisions to the WCHD Pandemic Influenza Plans were completed in September 2009.
  - e) WCHD participated in a review and revision of the Continuation of Operations/Continuation of Government Plan (COOP/COG) in cooperation with Winnebago County Emergency Management and their contractor in August 2009.
  - f) The Winnebago County Area Pandemic Influenza Mortuary Guidelines were completed and released in May 2009.
  - g) Revisions to the WCHD Interim Pharmaceutical Stockpile (IPS) and Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Plans were completed in September 2009.
  - h) WCHD staff continue to participate in the Health Care Treatment Centers planning meetings with area health departments and medical providers.
  - i) WCHD staff continue to attend the Fox Valley Public Health Preparedness Consortium (FVPHPC) monthly meetings.
  - j) WCHD staff continue to attend the Northeast Region WI Association of Local Health Depts. and Boards (WALHDAB) monthly meetings and the WALHDAB Environmental Health Section meetings quarterly meetings.
  - k) WCHD has been selected to serve as the Fiscal Agent for the Region 6 WI Hospital Emergency Preparedness Planning (WHEPP) work group.
- 2) "Staff of the Local Health Department will meet the appropriate competencies for their assigned emergency preparedness roles."
  - a) All WCHD staff members completed a baseline competency survey in September 2009.
  - b) Staff trained at higher levels in the Incident Command System (ICS) have been identified and placed in appropriate roles on the public health emergency Incident Command Chart.

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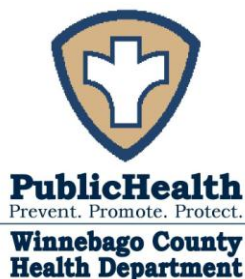
- c) All WCHD staff trained on ICS roles, portable radio communications, mass clinic knowledge, and WCHD departmental goals and objectives during the Staff Development Day on June 3, 2009.
- 3) "Local Health Department will participate in a mass clinic exercise (tabletop, functional, or full-scale) or real event that meets the requirements set by the CDC, in addition to completing (14 out of 14) Performance Measures."
  - a) WCHD completed a Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Planning (HSEEP) compliant After Action Report and Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) for the April to June 2009 portion of the H1N1 Pandemic Flu Response. While this response is ongoing, the completed AAR/IP focused on the early interventions and informational activities that occurred prior to vaccine becoming available. This document was completed in June 2009.
  - b) H1N1 response efforts greatly increased in preparation of vaccine availability in September and October 2009, and continue to be a major focus of all WCHD staff. Additional temporary nursing staff and private nursing agencies have been contracted to assist in H1N1 vaccine distribution. School and community clinics began in October 2009.
  - c) Several WCHD staff members participated in the Fond du Lac County mass clinic exercise on August 5, 2009.
  - d) Completion of Performance Measures (PM)
    - PM1 WCHD has assigned primary and secondary staff to the ICS chart, completed 3/24/09.
    - PM2 WCHD has 24/7 coverage by professional staff utilizing a pager, exercised successfully 5/27/09.
    - PM3 WCHD initiated an epidemiological investigation after a mercury spill on county property on 7/15/09.
    - PM4 WCHD confirmed the incident and obtained response information from the WI DHS within 1 hour. During the mercury spill on 7/15/09, the actual response time was 10 minutes.
    - PM5 WCHD must distribute an alert to key response partners within 6 hours. During the H1N1 response in April, a briefing with a powerpoint presentation was provided to county agencies and non-profit response agencies on April 30, 2009, 5.5 hours after the decision was made to provide the briefing.
    - PM6 Clinicians confirm receipt of a PH message. Exercised on 10/28/09, and AAR/IP completed.
    - PM7 Distribute health alert to 4 partners using radios or satellite telephones. Exercised on 9/16/09, responding partners included Emergency Management, Sheriffs Dispatch, Communications Center, and Sheriffs Deputy from patrol car. AAR/IP completed.
    - PM8 Time for WCHD to contact staff and fill 8 key ICS positions with appropriately trained personnel. Exercised 3/25/09, 8 minutes was needed to telephone personnel to fill all positions.

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PM9 Time needed for WCHD to have ICS personnel to report to the Emergency Operations Center. Exercised 3/25/09, longest response time was 15 minutes to get to the EOC.

PM10 WCHD must issue a critical health message to the public. The FVPHPC and member agencies released a H1N1 press release on 9/23/09.

PM11 WCHD must issue an isolation or quarantine order within 3 hours. Exercised on 11/19/09, total time needed to issue was 70 minutes.

PM12 Not required for local health departments.

PM13 WCHD must complete an HSEEP-compliant AAR/IP within 60 days of the exercise or event. WCHD has completed HSEEP-compliant AAR/IP for the following: H1N1 Pandemic Influenza Response, Radio Exercise, and Healthcare and Partner Alert Exercise.

PM14 Re-evaluation of AAR/IP, and corrective actions taken. WCHD took corrective action based on the Radio exercise AAR/IP, completing the corrective actions on 9/22/09.

- 4) "Local Health Department will collaborate with community partners to develop an integrated public health response addressing at-risk populations during public health emergencies." WCHD has participated in a special needs work group since 2006, partnering with the health departments from Neenah, Menasha, and Oshkosh, the Winnebago County Emergency Management office, Winnebago County Human Services, Advocap Resources, and the Red Cross Chapters from Neenah and Oshkosh.
- 5) "Local Health Department will participate in the process of restructuring existing Consortia to no more than 6 Consortia aligning with the DHS geographic Regional Office boundaries." WCHD has participated in restructuring discussions and planning meetings. Discussions concerning the consortia have been part of Regional WALHDAB meetings, FVPHPC monthly meetings, and consortia work group meetings. In 2010, the FVPHPC will merge with the BCOLM Consortium (representing the counties to the northeast and along the Lake Michigan lakeshore) and the Quad Counties Consortium (representing Fond du Lac and Sheboygan Counties).

This report is designed as a brief overview of the preparedness activities completed in 2009 by WCHD staff. If you have questions or would like more information on specific preparedness activities, please contact:

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