



County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department Disaster Healthcare Coalition (DHCC) Meeting July 2, 2020

In attendance: Jeremy Ralston (San Luis Surgery Center), Simone Mueller (Oak Park Surgery Center), Robyn Dodds & Lisa Abeloe (AG Community Hospital), Gayle Robinson (American Red Cross), Rebecca Herzig (DSH-Atascadero), Henry Garcia (Cal Trans), Kelly Van Buren (County OES), Mary Massey (Cal Hospital Association), David Majors (French Hospital), Adam Bramwell (San Luis Post Acute Care), Emma Lauriston (Sierra Vista), Karen Jones (LTCO), , Mary Jean Sage (Health Commission), Anne Robin (Behavioral Health), Christine Gaiger (Public Health), James Beebe (Lab Director), Denise Yi (PHEP), Vince Pierucci (EMSA), Maya Craig-Lauer (PHEP), Robin Hendry (PHEP),

Corrections to: phep@co.slo.ca.us

Call to Order

Zoom meeting began at 11:00 am with a welcome from Denise Yi and introductions from all in attendance.

TOPIC

DISCUSSION

AGENDA ITEMS

COVID-19

- Vince Pierucci remains the Operations Section Chief in the County's EOC as well as the Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC)
- The County of San Luis Obispo has had approximately 3,600 COVID-19 cases with around 200 active cases.
- The hospitals status is looking good. There are currently 6 COVID-19 patients are hospitalized with 1 in the ICU.
- Overall, our numbers are looking good.
- We are currently in the red tier of the California Blueprint for a Safer Economy.
- The County's EOC remains in a full activation with daily briefings.
- The Care and Shelter Branch of the EOC is working on ensuring homeless community members under isolation or quarantine are provided with accommodations.

AGENCY-PROGRAM REPORTS

DENISE YI

- PHEP is operating out of the EOC

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

- The majority of program's preparedness activities are on pause as we navigate through response

Disaster Healthcare Coalition Meeting Minutes 10/3/2019

PREPAREDNESS (PHEP)

activities.

- We are waiting for guidance on carry-forward to understand how we can use unspent funds from last year.
- We are considering bringing on a contractor to assist with our POD planning as we expand
- The SWMHE has been cancelled.
 - Healthcare partners should document their COVID-19 response activities in case CMS does not waive the exercise requirement.
- This year is a PPOD year, meaning the flu vaccination POD will be open to all members of the community. We will be trying to vaccinate as many people as possible.
- We will be using a drive thru model for the PODs this year.
 - Vince's experience with drive thru PODs in Kern County has been a valuable resource in our planning.
- The Flu PODs this year will allow us to practice and test this model for dispensing the COVID-19 vaccine.
 - It is likely that we will be using the same drive thru model, but in different locations.
- The Flu PODs will be on Wednesday, October 21st from 12:00 p.m. to 5 p.m. Our two sites will be located at the Atascadero K-MART Shopping Center and the Arroyo Grande Walmart Shopping Center.
- Please see the flyer sent out with these minutes for additional details.
- We are encouraging people to fill out their forms online to minimize contact at the sites and to speed up the process and will have a website with additional information.
- We want to increase the throughput at these sites as much as possible because we anticipate a large volume of doses available to the public during phase II of distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine.

ROBIN HENDRY – COMMUNICATIONS

- Thank you for continuing to test your sat phones and sending that information to Robin Hendry.
 - These activities are still important during COVID-19 because another incident that impact phone or internet could happen.

MAYA CRAIG-LAUER MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS (MRC)

- Volunteers remain an important part of our response.
- Volunteers have primarily been assisting at outbreak testing sites (at long-term care facilities and congregate care settings).
- Have helped with Cal Poly move-in testing and flu vaccine clinics
 - Have vaccinated approximately 1,000 students at three different sites.
 - Four flu vaccination sites are planned for October at Cal Poly
- Volunteers have also assisted with contact tracing, among other things.
- Volunteers remain ready to help should the Alternate Care Site (at Cal Poly) need to open.

Disaster Healthcare Coalition Meeting Minutes 10/3/2019

- Ensuring volunteer readiness for this

VINCE PIERUCCI
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
(EMS)

- Working on submitting an application to the state to allow paramedics to administer flu and COVID-19 vaccines.
 - Plan to submit it this week.

CHRISTINE GAIGER
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

- Flu vaccines are a major priority this year.
- Healthcare workers in the county of San Luis Obispo are required be vaccinated for the flu.
- There is more flu vaccine available than is typical.
 - Because of this, flu vaccinations will continue to be administered longer than normal (likely into early 2021).
- Please let Christine Gaiger or the SLO Public Health Department 805-781-5500 know if you need more vaccines.
- Regarding the COVID-19 vaccination, healthcare workers, first responders, and essential workers (essential workers has not been defined) will be the first to receive the vaccine.
- We do not know if these vaccines will need to be stored in a refrigerator or a freezer.
- COVID-19 vaccines will be allocated to the County Public Health Department.
 - Providers must enroll in a program to request vaccine. They must sign an agreement to do so.
- We will be working with Medical Reserve Corps Volunteers to
 - We are planning vaccine strike teams to vaccinate SNFs.
- Dana Nelson will be the flu and COVID-19 vaccination coordinator. He is a pharmacist and well known to our community has the former owner/operator of Health Plus Pharmacy.
- Besides COVID-19, we have been seeing cases of diarrheal illnesses, valley fever, and Hepatitis C.
 - Two Public Health Nurses are working on non-COVID-19 tasks.
 - All other Public Health Nurses are working on follow-up and Contact Tracing.

JAMES BEEBE
LABORATORY

- The Public Health Lab has remained COVID-19-free
- The lab has performed over 17,000 COVID-19 tests.
- In order to sustain capacity, the lab is outsourcing data entry to a contractor.
- We have been adapting to the increased demand.
- Supply issues have been eliminated for the most part.
- Have been communicating with Dignity, Tenet, and Cal Poly labs through scheduled calls
- Perform 800-1000 tests a week
- With the outsourcing of data, we will be planning some time off for lab staff.

Disaster Healthcare Coalition Meeting Minutes 10/3/2019

ANNE ROBIN
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Working on a test to test for Influenza A, Influenza B and COVID-19.
 - This should be ready by November 1st
- We are expecting the flu to begin around the normal time.
 - The Southern Hemisphere has experienced a reduced flu season this year, so that is what we are expecting as well.
- Thank you to Dr. Beebe for his help with facilitating getting tests at the emergency department for Behavioral Health clients who need hospitalization.
- Unable to find a psychiatric hospital in the state will accept COVID-19 positive psychiatric patients
 - Has only been an issue once so far
 - Have developed some other platforms to serve people who may be positive if they don't need an inpatient level of care with help from the EOC
- Behavioral health has been very busy.
- The psychiatric health facility has been full, and the crisis stabilization unit has been full.
- Have been sending a number of people to out of county hospitals
- There have been a lot more psychiatric crises in the past month, likely due to the pandemic.

KELLY VAN BUREN
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
(OES)

- OES is working on a Diablo Medical Drill with Marian Hospital and Cambria Health Care for December 9th and January 20. The scope will be smaller than usual.
- Our Biennial Plume Phase Exercise has been postponed to August and September 2021.
- Our Southern Evacuee Monitoring and Decontamination Drill is scheduled for June 30 and July 28, 2020.

PARTNER REPORTS

- Gayle Robinson (Red Cross)
 - Since our region includes counties with active wildfires, we have been helping with the displaced people from these areas.
 - 1300 people displaced. Have placed people in 517 hotel rooms in 33 hotels.
 - This is much more spread out than our typical shelters.
 - We have a need for health services workers. Much of their job can be done over the phone.
 - Some volunteers from SLO have been deployed.
 - Temporary evacuation points have been very busy and open 24/7.
- Mary Jean Sage (County Health Commission)
 - No update.
 - The health commission is still here to help any of you if you need it with messaging, or whatever we can help with.
 - Eager to be a resource for you.

Disaster Healthcare Coalition Meeting Minutes 10/3/2019

- Becky Herzig (DSH-Atascadero)
 - ASH is “hanging in.”
 - Currently planning for the flu vaccine
 - Working closely with the public health department
 - Following all guidelines.
- Emma Lauriston (Sierra Vista)
 - We are doing better at Sierra Vista
 - CMC has calmed down and hospitalizations from them have decreased
 - Did not need to use our surge tent, it was taken down this week.
 - Our EOC is having weekly briefings.
 - Overall, it is going well.
- David Majors (French Hospital)
 - Have had a steady number of COVID-19 patients (not overwhelming)
 - Emergency Department flex program helps manage 5-6 behavioral health patients at the same time
 - CMS released emergency preparedness guidance
 - If EOC is activated, the facility is exempt from the second exercise for the year.
- Adam Bramwell (San Luis Post-Acute Center)
 - Compass has 6 SNFs
 - San Luis Transitional Care is closed.
 - No residents have COVID-19
 - Vineyard is the only facility with positive residents.
 - All staff undergoing weekly tests.
 - This has increased the number of asymptomatic employees.
 - Has not spread to residents
 - San Luis Post-Acute Center has had no positive residents or employees.
- Karen Jones (LTCO)
 - Has been very busy
 - Working on CMS new guidance for Nursing Homes outside visits
 - Positive cases delay visitation by 14 days
 - Visitors must wash hands, use PPE, etc.
 - Working on PPE distribution of N95s, cloth masks, and hand sanitizer.
 - Working on active shooter training
 - The recent shootings have occurred in proximity of facilities
 - Would like to finish this training by the end of October

Disaster Healthcare Coalition Meeting Minutes 10/3/2019

- Have been able to resume ombudsman visits to facilities
 - We are testing at the same rate (weekly) as the facilities since the end of July
- Keeping up with the memos is keeping us busy.
- Adam (Visitation) (Last name and where from???)
 - Compass has ground rules for indoor and outdoor visitation.
 - Outdoor patio visitation is active.
 - Indoor visitation will be ready at the end of next week
 - Facilities are being safe and using infection control procedures
- Henry Garcia (Cal Trans)
 - New partner - first meeting.
 - We are getting ready for the State to open.
 - Preparing a smooth transition to opening.
- Robin Dodds (Marian Regional Medical Center)
 - Have 17 COVID-19 positive patients with 6 in the ICU
 - Outbreak at a SNF
 - National Guard is here
 - Trying to prevent a shutdown
 - Allowing one care partner per patient per stay
- Simone Mueller (Oak Park Surgery Center)
 - Running at full capacity
 - Keeping patients safe
 - Have cleaners and PPE
- Questions:
 - Becky Herzig: Do we know the storage locations of where we will store the COVID-19 vaccine?
 - Denise: Christine is on weekly calls with the state about the vaccine. We do not know what we are getting yet.
 - Vince: We have decided to lease all three types of fridges and freezers that could store the vaccine (depending on vaccine type. Due to security requirements, we will most likely not be able to reveal the location of the vaccines after we receive them.
 - What does COVID-19 vaccination look like for patients in congregate care.
 - Vince: There is not clear guidance on this yet. This is on our radar. We are working closely with the State and will provide guidance as it comes in.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, January 7, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Venue: Zoom

Disaster Healthcare Coalition Meeting Minutes 10/3/2019

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at noon.