



ADVISOR

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Calendar 4

*The Metropolitan Medical
Response System* 4

AN OVERVIEW OF DEMHS

Emergency Management Division

Emergency Management coordinates a comprehensive state disaster response to all hazards, integrated across all disciplines and all levels of government. The Division includes the following units: Operations, Radiological Emergency Preparedness, Communications, and Urban Search and Rescue.

Operations

The Operations Unit functions according to the Incident Command System of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and includes five Regional Offices. Each Regional Office is staffed by a Regional Coordinator and secretary. Each Region is also assigned a planner and a trainer.

A critical function of the DEMHS Operations Unit is the activation and management of the State Emergency Operations Center in Hartford. The Operations Unit performs the following tasks:



- Monitor emergency situations as they develop and/or threaten communities;
- Disseminate weather watches, warnings and emergency information to state agencies and local jurisdictions;
- Collect and disseminate emergency related data and local situation reports;
- Assign tasks to state agencies and coordinates the deployment of state resources to support local emergency response operations;
- Request and coordinate outside



[Peter J. Boynton](#)
[Commissioner](#)

FROM THE COMMISSIONER

I want to thank all of the first responders and supporting units that responded to the Kleen Energy incident in Middletown. I spent some time at the incident site, and the outstanding work being done that I observed highlighted the fact that a response to an incident begins long before the incident occurs.

The planning and preparedness that has been done by many partners here in Connecticut was evident on that day on the hill in Middletown. I admired the work being done by many profes-

sional first responders on scene, and I admired the work that had been done by many of our colleagues over the years in helping to better prepare all of us for whatever incidents may occur. This preparation makes us more resilient as communities and as a state - better able to withstand, recover and adapt. A great job done by all in Middletown.

Be Ready,

Peter Boynton

assistance from other states through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC);

- Provide situation analysis and reporting to FEMA Region 1, and request and coordinate Federal assistance through FEMA Region I ; and to the Governor's Office.

The five DEMHS Regional Offices serve as direct points of contact to local jurisdictions to provide:

- Distribution of warning and emergency information to local jurisdictions;
- On-site monitoring of localized emergencies;
- Collection, verification and consolidation of local emergency situation reports and requests for assistance;
- Assistance to local jurisdictions in regional budget development and funding requests;
- Assistance to local governments in requesting training and exercise development assistance;
- Guidance and assistance to local governments in Emergency Operations Plan development, review, and revision;
- Oversight of the development of Regional Emergency Operations Plans; and
- Coordinate a regional response to ongoing emergency situations.

Radiological Emergency Preparedness



The Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Unit of the DEMHS Emergency Management Division is responsible for developing and maintaining plans, exercises and training for the State's Radiological Emergency Response Plan (RERP).

The Connecticut RERP details the steps that would be taken to protect the public in response to an emergency situation at either Indian Point Nuclear Power Station in New York State, or Millstone Nuclear Power Station in Waterford. This plan is constantly under review and exercised annually with local, state, contiguous states and Federal agencies. The REP Unit's preparedness plans and exercises are evaluated by the United States Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency. Part of FEMA's evaluation includes an annual letter of certification that the REP Unit submits to FEMA detailing all of the program requirements that have been fulfilled. A vast public information and education program is necessary to provide the public living within a 10-mile radius of the evacuation routes a method of obtaining information in the event of a radiological emergency. DEMHS's REP Unit is also responsible for providing Potassium Iodide (KI) and dosimetry to state and local emergency workers as well as providing KI to the general public. DEMHS's REP Unit ensures that the 10 communities around Millstone, the five Host Communities and support towns' emergency management personnel are all trained and have the current plans and procedures. DEMHS's REP Unit also maintains letters of agreement with trans-

portation providers to ensure that the State Transportation Staging Area can provide additional transportation resources to communities during an emergency.

Communications



The Communications Unit performs a number of functions designed to enhance and support interoperable communications statewide. The unit also provides direct communications from the State Emergency Operations Center to the five DEMHS Regional Offices and to every municipality in Connecticut as needed during a significant incident.

Urban Search and Rescue (US&R)

The DEMHS Urban Search & Rescue Unit is a civil preparedness force trained to locate, extricate and preserve life in the event of any large-scale structural collapse, regardless of the cause.



Division of Strategic Planning and Grant Administration

This Division provides strategic and all-hazards planning, program design and development, administration, coordination and financial management for programs to enhance Connecticut's prevention, preparedness, response and recovery capabilities.

The Division has been instrumental in increasing state, local and regional capabilities through the administration of grant funds, which for State Fiscal Year 2009 totaled \$115.8 million. Grant responsibilities have grown since the agency's inception in 2005 from four major programs to twenty-one as of December 2009. Also, in December of 2009, the federal Department of Homeland Security announced that Connecticut would be receiving \$25 million in Emergency Management and Homeland Security funding for FY 2010.

The chief programmatic responsibilities of the Division include: (1) continued oversight and direction for the regional collaboration planning initiative, which established Regional Emergency Planning Teams in each of the five DEMHS regions. Division staff assist in the execution of regional spending plans that address identified preparedness and planning needs; resource typing of emergency response assets; and are facilitating the production of a regional emergency operations plan based on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) structure; (2) development and administration of the state-funded School Security Grant Program which has enhanced security at over 300 schools statewide; (3)

expansion of the Emergency Management Performance Grant, which continues to provide critical resources to municipal emergency management programs; (4) execution of interoperable communications programs including the State Tactical On-Scene Communications System (STOCS) and projects supported by the federal Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) grant; and (5) administration of federal disaster assistance programs to state and local governments, eligible non-profit organizations and individuals including the development of a manual that completely describes the Presidential disaster declaration process and the administration of the FEMA Public Assistance and Individual Assistance Programs.

More recently assumed programmatic responsibilities include



the administration of the: (1) FEMA Severe Repetitive Loss Program that assists homeowners suffering from repeated property losses due to frequent flooding; (2) FEMA Hazard Mitigation Program, which supports mitigation programs to prevent future property losses; and (3) Port Security Program, which requires a port-wide (Long Island Sound) risk assessment and strategic plan to harden

critical infrastructure and increase maritime preparedness.

Historically and on an on-going basis, Division staff draft and revise the state's emergency management plans, including the Natural Disaster Plan and the Consequence Management Plan for Deliberately Caused Incidents Involving Chemical Agents. Staff continues to develop a Catastrophic Disaster Plan to interface with the National Response Framework. More recently all-hazards planning efforts have been primarily directed toward catastrophic and state-to-state regional planning. Planning staff have invested significant time in the development of a donations management plan consistent with the federally-recommended model, a commodities distribution plan that has been successfully tested, and consultation to the Department of Environmental Protection on the development of the Debris Management Plan and companion vendor contract for debris removal and monitoring services.

Connecticut's involvement in the Regional Catastrophic Planning Grant, which is a Connecticut, New Jersey and New York planning collaboration, marries the twin focus of current planning efforts (catastrophic and regional). Division staff are members of the Regional Catastrophic Planning Team. Connecticut expects through its involvement with its border states to strengthen mutual aid and to successfully synchronize emergency plans and in particular evacuation efforts across jurisdictional lines.

Finance and Administration Division

The Finance and Administration Division coordinates fiscal management for the department and is responsible for budgeting, grants, accounts payable, accounts receivable, purchasing, inventory and other support functions.

Training and Exercise Division

The Training and Exercise Division is responsible for the establishment of training programs and the development, delivery and evaluation of exercises, in accordance with the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program guidance. This Division works collaboratively with local, state, tribal and federal partners to coordinate and conduct training and exercises in accordance with the agency's strategic plan. The substance of training and exercises is developed through the identification of local and regional needs, the DEMHS statewide strategy, and federal guidance.

DEMHS OFFICE OF COUNTER TERRORISM

The Office of Counter Terrorism works to utilize all resources within state government to develop unified safety and security measures to prevent, mitigate and manage incidents threatening the quality of life of the citizens of Connecticut. This Division consists of the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF), Critical Infrastructure Protection, and the Connecticut Intelligence Center (CTIC).

Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) - This entity is composed of local, state and federal investigators who are dedicated to combat terrorist activities within the state. The JTTF is divided up into two sections, the International Terrorism Section (IT) and the Domestic Terrorism Section (DT).

Critical Infrastructure Protection Unit - Critical infrastructure sites in Connecticut include those public and private entities (both physical and cyber-based systems) that are essential to maintaining minimal operational capabilities of government, and are necessary to the well being of the economy. The Critical Infrastructure Unit within DEMHS identifies these key assets; assesses their vulnerability; and develops a mitigation strategy designed to improve security at those sites.



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Connecticut Intelligence Unit (CTIC) - The Connecticut Intelligence Unit

(Continued on page 7)

March 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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25	26	27	28	29	30	

EVENTS AND TRAINING

MARCH

- 3/10—[ICS 300 Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents](#) Mashantucket Public Safety
- 3/15-17—[Food Vulnerability Assessment Course](#), DEMHS Training Facility—269 Maxim Rd., Hartford
- 3/23-25—[Emergency Operations Center \(EOC\) Operations and Planning for All Hazard Events](#).
- 3/25—[ICS 300: Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents](#). Fairfield Fire School
- 3/26—[2010 Intelligence Liaison Officer Conference](#)

APRIL

- 4/14—[ICS 400: Advanced ICS Command and General Staff—Complex Incidents](#). Mashantucket Public Safety Complex
- 4/15-16—[ICS 400: Advanced ICS Command and General Staff—Complex Incidents](#). Fairfield Fire School
- 4/17 and 24—[CERT Train the Trainer](#)
- 4/22—[Initial Law Enforcement Response to Suicide Bomber Attacks](#), DEMHS Training Facility—269 Maxim Rd., Hartford

SAVE THE DATE:

- May 4-6, [MGMT-323 Course—Instructor Development Workshop](#). DEMHS Training Facility—269 Maxim Rd., Hartford
- May 12, 19, and 26—[Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program \(HSEEP\) Course](#). Hartford
- May 19—[MTG 312—Senior Officials Workshop \(TEEX\)](#). Guilford, CT

THE METROPOLITAN MEDICAL RESPONSE SYSTEM

The Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) Program began in 1996 and currently is funded by the United States Department of

Homeland Security (DHS). The primary purpose of the MMRS program is to enhance existing local and sub-state regional emergency preparedness systems to effectively respond during the first 96 hours of a public health or medical crisis. Ongoing Congressional appropriations have funded grants to 124 MMRS jurisdictions nationally. Through the MMRS grants, the federal government has provided substantial additional resources to these municipalities in order to assure a competent public health and medical response to disaster, especially an event resulting from the use of a weapon of mass destruction (WMD).

In Connecticut, the Capitol Region MMRS encompasses the 42 towns constituting DEMHS Region 3. CRMMRS deliverables serve as the driving force behind the work of the Region 3 ESF 8 (Public Health and Medical Response).

Role of MMRS in Emergency Planning

Recognizing the wisdom in the axiom “All emergencies begin and end locally”, MMRS enhances and expands local planning efforts in four important ways:

The MMRS deliverables ensure that traditional emergency planning by the local fire, police and emergency managers is expanded to include representation from public health agencies, hospitals, EMS, and other healthcare entities, thereby ensuring a strong medical and public health component in emergency planning

The MMRS program encourages and financially supports the expansion of coordinated preparedness planning at the sub-state regional level, thereby maximizing the use of regional resources responding to events in local communities

The MMRS pharmaceutical stockpile, an integral part of all MMRS programs, provides a level of protection specifically for first responders and their families in the event of a chemical or bio-

logical adverse incident

The MMRS program requires and ensures that all local and sub-state regional preparedness planning is integrated with state and federal emergency planning, including the National Response Framework and the National Incident Management System

MMRS Deliverables

The MMRS baseline deliverables assure that key questions regarding community response to a WMD or mass casualty incident have been asked and answered. For example, MMRS requires that regional planners address the following preparedness issues:

- Component MMRS Plan for the rapid Forward Movement of Patients prior to activation of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)
- Component MMRS Plans for responding to a biological, chemical, radiological, nuclear, or explosive WMD event
- Component plans for the protection of the local hospital and healthcare system (facility protection, mass decontamination, triage and treatment, and development of surge capacity plans)
- Chemical antidote stockpile sufficient to provide care for up to 1,000 first responders
- Biological antidote stockpile sufficient for up to 10,000 victims
- MMRS training plan for pre-hospital responders
- MMRS equipment purchase plan to enhance available regional resources

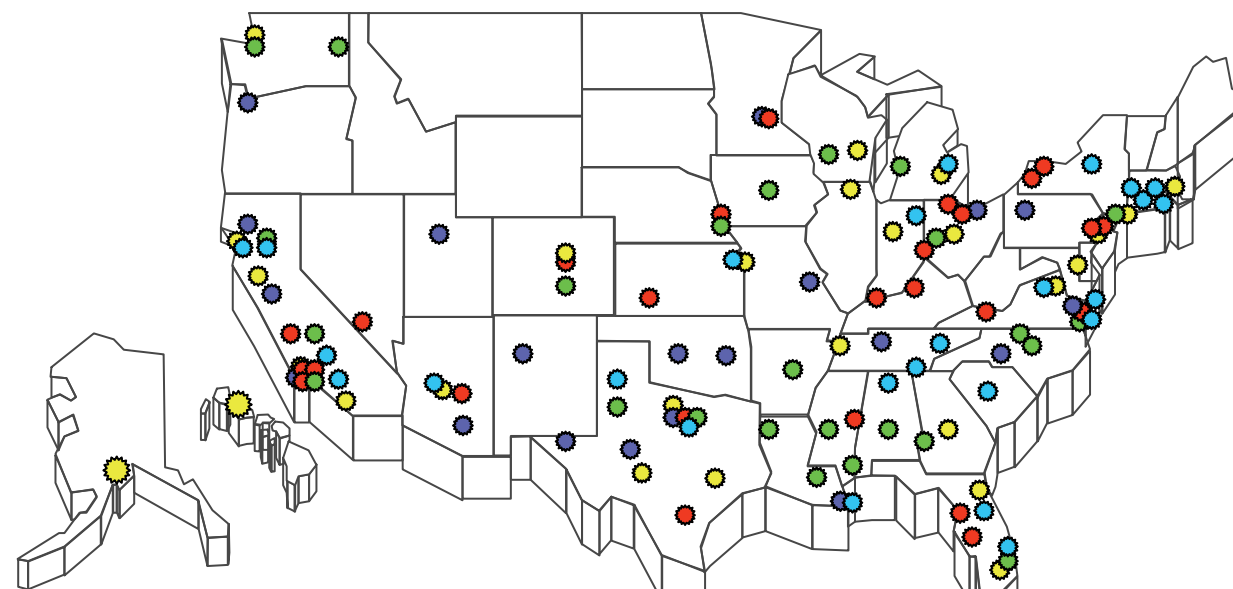
Unique Features of MMRS

The MMRS program is a federal resource made available at the community level in order to ensure a comprehensive, practical public health and medical response system is in place in the event of major disasters. By supplying training and education to the responder community



“The MMRS program encourages and financially supports the expansion of coordinated preparedness planning at the sub-state regional level...”

Metropolitan Medical Response Systems



Original MMRS (27)

Anchorage, Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Columbus, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Honolulu, Houston, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Memphis, Miami, Milwaukee, New York, Philadelphia, Phoenix, San Antonio, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, Seattle, Washington DC

MMRS 1999 (20)

Albuquerque, Austin, Charlotte, Cleveland, El Paso, Fort Worth, Hampton Roads (Virginia Beach), Long Beach, Nashville, New Orleans, Oakland, Oklahoma City, Pittsburgh, Portland (OR), Sacramento, Salt Lake City, St. Louis, Tucson, Tulsa, Twin Cities (Minneapolis)

MMRS 2000 (25)

Akron, Anaheim, Aurora, Birmingham, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Corpus Christi, Fresno, Jersey City, Twin Cities (St. Paul), Hampton Roads (Norfolk), Las Vegas, Lexington-Fayette, Louisville, Mesa, Newark, Omaha, Riverside, Rochester (NY), Santa Ana, St. Petersburg, Tampa, Toledo, Wichita

MMRS 2001 (25)

Baton Rouge, Colorado Springs, Columbus (GA), Des Moines, Dayton, Garland, Glendale (CA), Grand Rapids, Greensboro, Hialeah, Huntington Beach, Jackson, Lincoln, Little Rock, Lubbock, Madison, Mobile, Montgomery, Raleigh, Richmond (VA), Shreveport, Spokane, Stockton, Tacoma, Yonkers

MMRS 2002 (25)

Amarillo, Arlington, Bakersfield, Chattanooga, Columbia, Fremont, Ft. Lauderdale, Ft. Wayne, Glendale, Hampton Roads (Newport News, Chesapeake), Hartford, Huntsville, Irving, Jefferson Parish, Kansas City, Knoxville, Modesto, Orlando, Providence, San Bernardino, Springfield, Syracuse, Warren, Worcester

including health professionals and hospitals, MMRS raises the level of awareness at the local level while enhancing the public health and medical response capabilities of the sub-state region.

MMRS is not designed to supplant those long-standing local response plans that have worked so well. Rather, MMRS expands the local planning process by bringing together new and traditional planning partners to ensure that local and regional plans reflect the latest science and the latest technologies.

The MMRS pharmaceutical program provides nerve agent antidotes in the event of a chemical toxin release, and biological antidotes if a bioweapon is used, for the benefit of first responders and

their families.

The MMRS program is nationally recognized for its contributions to the local emergency planning process so that, in the event of a local or regional disaster, skills and leadership from other MMRS jurisdictions can be shared with confidence.

Contributed by:

John J Shaw, DMD

Program Director

Capitol Region Metropolitan Medical Response System

Chair, RESF 8, Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee



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You may have noticed.....

that there was no February issue of the Advisor. On an experimental basis, we will be publishing on a Bi-Monthly schedule. [Feed-back](#) from our readers is welcome.



DEMHS OVERVIEW

(Continued from page 3)

gence Center (CTIC) includes a co-located Team of federal, state and local partners (including the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, Department of Public Safety, Department of Correction, CT National Guard, the FBI, US Coast Guard, the Office of the United States Attorney, the federal Department of Homeland Security, and municipal police). The CTIC collects, analyzes and disseminates highly sensitive information to law enforcement officials throughout the state. Recent accomplishments include the establishment of a toll-free tips line; the hiring of 5 regional intelligence officers (corresponding to the 5 DEMHS regions); seminars for local law enforcement; and the creation of a secure web site for the dissemination of intelligence information.

If You See Something Suspicious... Say Something!

1-866-HLS-TIPS

In an emergency contact
your local police - 911

For Connecticut's Homeland Security



To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).

Questions or comments? [E-mail](#) us
or call 800-397-8876