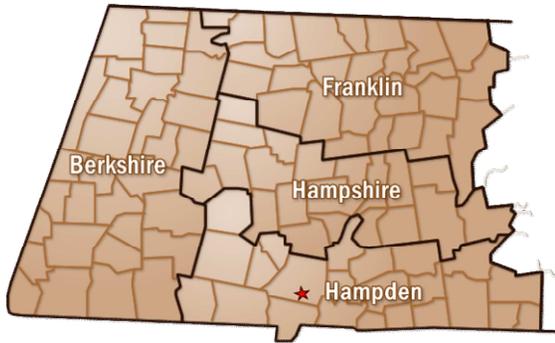


Western Mass. Health and Medical Coordinating Coalition (HMCC)



The Western Massachusetts (Region 1) HMCC coordinates health and medical emergency preparedness, planning, and response in the four western Mass. counties amongst five core health and medical disciplines:

- Local public health
- Hospitals
- Long-term care facilities
- Community health centers, and
- Emergency medical services

While these disciplines form the backbone of the Coalition, **any organization with a stake in health and medical emergency planning and response is a welcome member!**

Funding for the HMCC is provided by the MA Department of Public Health (DPH), via federal funds issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Associate Secretary Preparedness and Response (ASPR).

What the Coalition Does

The HMCC connects health and medical organizations in the region to coordinate preparedness planning efforts, and to coordinate response by facilitating information sharing and mutual aid.

The HMCC is designed to build on existing discipline-specific emergency planning and response groups by connecting them, and does not override systems already in place.

The HMCC has no authority over individual organizational plans or procedures.

Coalition Administration and Leadership

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) is the sponsoring organization for the Region 1 HMCC.

FRCOG/HMCC staff provide administrative and operational support to the HMCC and its committees by managing grant funds and contracts, convening committees, building agendas and minutes, maintaining the Coalition website, and providing 24/7 on-call coverage to assist with emergency response.

The Coalition is overseen by a ten-member Steering Committee, comprised of two representatives from each of the five core disciplines. Steering Committee representatives are chosen by their peers.

Possible Coalition Preparedness Activities

- Align planning, training, and exercise priorities amongst the five core disciplines
- Develop regional coordination plans to connect health and medical organizations to each other, and to municipalities, during emergencies
- Inventory health and medical mutual aid resources and supplies available in the region

Possible Coalition Response Activities

- Notify member organizations that an actual or potential incident is developing
- Disseminate information from Coalition member organizations to municipal and other authorities, at their request
- Convene personnel from Coalition member organizations to discuss strategic issues or make policy recommendations related to the healthcare response
- Help Coalition member organizations obtain incident-related information that is not otherwise readily available
- Match organizations that request mutual aid or other assistance with organizations that can provide the assistance needed