

Western Massachusetts Health & Medical Coordinating Coalition (HMCC)

Newsletter - March 2017

News and Updates



Spring Full Coalition Meeting Registration Open!

The HMCC will hold its second full Coalition meeting this year, open to any and all health and medical stakeholders. We will update the membership on the region's progress towards greater health and medical preparedness/response collaboration, and host a keynote by Chad Priest, Chief Executive Officer - American Red Cross Indiana Region.

Chad Priest, MSN, JD, BSN, is the Chief Executive Officer of the Indiana Region American Red Cross. Prior to joining the Red Cross, Mr. Priest served as Indiana Universities' School of Nursing's Assistant Dean for Operations and Community Partnerships.

Mr. Priest also currently serves as Senior Executive Advisor to the [MESH Coalition](#), a non-profit, public-private partnership that coordinates, supports and strengthens healthcare and related entities to mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from the effects of emergency and crisis events and incidents. Mr. Priest formerly served as the MESH Coalition's Chief Executive Officer for 4 years.

Mr. Priest will present his perspective as a healthcare provider in multiple professions: as a military nurse, a healthcare lawyer, and as the CEO of a non-profit crisis management organization. Through these experiences, he has come to believe that in order to maintain individual and community health you have to mix it up - both the professions, and the interactions. In our April coalition meeting, Mr. Priest will discuss the role of community health and health equity in emergency preparedness and response coordination, including its effect on patient surge, and demonstrate that not only do we all play a role in keeping people healthy, but also that by ensuring the health of all members of our community, we emerge more resilient in times of crisis.

Friday, April 14th, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Mercy Medical Center
Deliso Conference Center
Main Entrance - 299 Carew St.
Springfield MA
([Mercy Campus map](#))

[**RSVP Now!**](#)

Upcoming Trainings

Dual Training Opportunity! Thursday, May 4th

On Thursday May 4th, the region will host **two distinct, yet complementary trainings** regarding shelter supports in western MA. They have been **timed to allow for participants to attend both trainings if they so desire**. These trainings have a half-hour break between them, and **it is a ten-minute drive from the first location to the next**.

Note that **the second training, scheduled to run into the evening, does offer dinner**. This is a great opportunity for volunteer shelter staff and other stakeholders to start with basics, and drill deeper into specific FNSS needs in one day.

You may attend both or either!
However, you must register for each training separately!

1. "Shelter Operations and Functional Needs Support Services"

The Region 1 HMCC will offer "Shelter Operations and Functional Needs Support Services" via the DelValle Institute in western MA (exact location TBA), on:

Thursday, May 4th
1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Baystate Health Systems Conference Center
361 Whitney Ave, Holyoke MA

This 4-hour course will provide an overview of Functional Needs Support Services (FNSS) for general population shelters. The course provides an **awareness-level overview for trained shelter staff** in the basic shelter operations concepts related to the provision of FNSS that general shelter line level workers and supervisors may encounter during shelter operations.

Provision of FNSS enables individuals to maintain their independence in a general population shelter. Individuals requiring FNSS may have physical, sensory, mental health, and cognitive and/or intellectual disabilities affecting their ability to function independently without assistance. Others that may benefit from FNSS include women in later stages of pregnancy, elders, children, and people needing bariatric equipment.

Accreditation:

This program was designed to meet the requirements of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing, 244 CMR 5.00 for 4.8 contact hours of nursing continuing education.

This program was designed to meet the requirements of the Massachusetts Board of Registration for Sanitarians, 255 CMR 5.00 for 4.0 contact hours of continuing education

This program was designed to meet the requirements of the Massachusetts Board of Registration for Health Officers, 241 CMR 4.00 for 4.8 contact hours of continuing education.

[Register for this training here.](#)

For questions about this training, please contact: delvalle@bphc.org

2. "Sheltering Residents with Substance Dependency"

Right after that training ends, the South Hadley/Granby/Northampton MRC Unit will offer a comprehensive training on Sheltering Residents with Substance Dependency. Designed to provide shelter staff with a better understanding of the needs of people with substance dependency. Dr. Ruth Potee, local addiction expert, will explain the cycle of addiction, inherent risks, and prevention tips.

In addition, participants will receive training on:

- Blood Borne Pathogens
- Safe Needle Handling
- Harm Reduction
- Naloxone Administration

All Region 1 MRC Volunteers, emergency responders, healthcare & public health professionals are invited to join us. There is no cost to attend; however, seats are limited. Be sure to register early. Dinner will be provided for all participants.

Thursday, May 4th 5:30pm
Summit View Banquet & Meeting House
555 Northampton Street
Holyoke, MA 01040

[Register for this training here.](#)

For questions about this training please contact:

Loren Davine, Hampshire County Regional MRC Coordinator, lorendavine@gmail.com.

Web Links

[Region 1 HMCC homepage](#)

[Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council \(WRHSAC\)](#)

[Region 1 Multi-Agency Coordination Center \(MACC\) Project](#)

The Western MA HMCC is sponsored by the
[Franklin Regional Council of Governments](#)

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Tracy Rogers
HMCC Program Manager
413-774-3167 x 118
regionalprep@frcog.org

Mark Maloni
HMCC Planning and Operations Coordinator
413-774-3167 x 154

