

**Western Massachusetts  
Health & Medical Coordinating Coalition  
(HMCC)**

**Newsletter - May 2017**

**News and Updates**

**Jurisdictional Risk Assessment Survey Available**

**Participating in this process  
helps meet some regulatory requirements**

This survey is the first phase of a two-phase Jurisdictional Risk Assessment process to increase the preparedness of the region and HMCC members to respond to emergencies. The next phase will consist of an in-person, half-day meeting to discuss the survey results and prioritize efforts to improve the preparedness of the region this fall. This is your opportunity to provide input on the priorities for regional and state action over the next five years.

**Participating in the JRA process will count towards the community-based risk assessment component under the new CMS rule for participating providers/suppliers based on current federal guidance. However, partners covered under this rule will still be responsible for conducting their facility-specific risk assessment.**

We expect that the survey will take less than 30 minutes to complete.

**Please complete the survey no later than June 30th.**

**[Click Here to Start the Survey!](#)**

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**Statewide Exercise Completed!**

The statewide exercise to test HMCC communications strategies and surveillance/countermeasures annexes is complete. Thanks to all of the western MA general membership who engaged with the materials, asked for clarification, etc.

Stay tuned for an After Action Report and Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) to be issued later this summer that will help us address next steps in our continuous improvement!

**Steering Committee Departure and Addition**

We are sad to announce that **Ann Shea**, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for Mercy Medical Center, has stepped down from her Steering Committee position with the western MA HMCC. Ann has to juggle a great many meetings and commitments, and has made the choice to step down from her Steering Committee role.

Ann has been involved with the HMCC since its inception, and actively shaped the HMCC governance and activity design. While we are sad to see her go, we know we will still see her at Full Coalition meetings and trainings and events within the region. Many thanks, Ann, for all your help over these past two years!

Ann's resignation from the Steering Committee left an open space for an additional hospital representative. We are saddened to lose Ann, but are pleased to welcome **Heather Barbieri**, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator with Fairview Hospital, to the Steering Committee.

Heather has been actively involved with the HMCC since it's early stages as well, and we look forward to working more closely with Heather in the future!



*Heather Barbieri, of Fairview Hospital*



*Jacqueline Johnson, Chief Operations Officer, Caring Health Center, Holyoke.*

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## HMCC Leaders Receive Honors

And speaking of **Heather Barbieri**...

In her work at Fairview Hospital, Heather also oversees the Berkshire Medical Reserve Corps, providing MRC staff with liability and medical insurance, as well as providing programmatic and administrative direction to the Berkshire Medical Reserve Corps.

This year, Fairview Hospital was recognized for their leadership with the Berkshire Medical Reserve Corps, and was awarded the "Medical Reserve Corps 2017 Leadership Award - Outstanding Housing Organization" - one of two awarded in the nation this

year.

Meanwhile, in Hampden County, Steering Committee member **Jacqueline Johnson**, Chief Operations Officer at Caring Health Center, Springfield, has been honored as a member of Business West's "40 Under 40" class of 2017, which recognizes young business and civic leaders in western MA for their contributions.

We are proud and pleased to have such dedicated leadership within our Coalition's governance! Congratulations to Heather and Jackie for their recognition!

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## NIMS Engagement Period Still Open

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is seeking feedback on a suite of National Incident Management System (NIMS) Resource Management

component guidance documents that improve interoperability and mutual aid.

FEMA is also hosting a series of 60-minute engagement webinars to describe the draft documents and answer participants' questions about providing feedback.

To access the guidance documents and webinar schedule, [click here](#).

The National Engagement Period will conclude on **June 9, 2017**.

## Upcoming Trainings

### Stop the Bleed Tourniquet Training (Berkshire County)

This training will prepare participants to correctly use tourniquets on self and others, and prepare them to train colleagues and the general public on correct use of tourniquets.

Each participant will receive a combat application tourniquet (CAT) for their personal go kit.

**Tuesday, June 13, 2017**

**9am to 2:30pm**

*Onsite registration begins at 8am*

**Church Street Center, MCLA**

**375 Church St, North Adams, MA**

This training is free. A light breakfast and full lunch will be provided.

**Please register in advance by clicking the image above.**

#### Stop the Bleed/ Tourniquet Training

Sponsored by The Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council

**Tuesday, June 13, 2017**

**9am to 2:30pm**

*Onsite registration begins at 8am*

**Church Street Center, MCLA**

**375 Church St, North Adams, MA**

Stop the Bleed is a nationwide campaign to empower individuals to act quickly and save lives.

This training will prepare first responders (fire, police, EMS, public health, hospitals, etc) to correctly use tourniquets on self and others, and prepare them to train colleagues and the general public on correct use of tourniquets.

Each participant will receive a combat application tourniquet (CAT) for their personal go kit.



This training is free. A light breakfast and full lunch will be provided.

You must be pre-registered to attend. To register: [www.wrhsac.org/news/stop-the-bleed-tourniquet-training-berkshire-county/](http://www.wrhsac.org/news/stop-the-bleed-tourniquet-training-berkshire-county/)

We encourage you to register soon; course size is limited to 100. The course is expected to fill quickly. Registration is open to individuals from western Massachusetts. An additional session of this training will be provided in

Please direct any questions to Raine Brown, at [raibe@frcog.org](mailto:raibe@frcog.org) or 413.774.3167 x138

*Click this image to register!*

### Pediatric Psychological First Aid Training

Sponsored by The Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council

**Monday, June 26, 2017**

**9am to 4:30pm**

*Onsite registration begins at 8am*

**Church Street Center, MCLA**

**375 Church St, North Adams MA**

Pediatric Psychological First Aid (PFA) is an evidence informed approach for assisting children and adolescents in the aftermath of disasters and terrorism.

This course will be facilitated by members of PFA International, including Dr. Kermit Crawford, Director of the Center for Multicultural Mental Health, Boston; Dr. Shamaila Khan, Director of Behavioral Health Services, Massachusetts Resiliency Center, Boston; and Dr. Russell T. Jones, from Virginia Tech University, a specialist in working with traumatized children.

Handlers and nationally certified comfort dogs from HOPE: Animal Assisted Crisis Response will be attending. WRHSAC is grateful for their participation.

This training is an initiative of WRHSAC's Children in Disasters: Keeping Kids Safe project



*Click this image to register!*

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## 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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[Massachusetts Department of Public Health Office of Emergency Preparedness](#)

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