

Ready to Respond

Special points of interest:

- Health Security, Preparedness and Response program updates
- Welcoming our new SERV-OR systems coordinator, DeWayne Hatcher
- Welcoming our new medical countermeasures coordinator, Cristin Corcoran
- An exciting and timely active shooter exercise in Harney County

Inside this issue:

New MCM coordinator	2
Resources for partners Web page	2
Harney County exercise	3
Go-Bags: A partnership	3
Director’s message continued	4
DeWayne Hatcher continued	5
Resources for partners continued	6
Moments to remember	6

Director’s message

Director’s Message

Even though the weather may not yet be convinced, the calendar says summer is on the way. The HSPR program also has changes underway that I’d like our partners to be aware of.

Grant changes will create new challenges in the PHEP and HPP programs in the coming fiscal year. While there is a projected small increase in the PHEP grant, our HPP grant will have an overall significant decrease, which requires a review of our work activities and priorities.

Increases in the Oregon Health Authority’s cost allocation rate will decrease direct spendable dollars requiring additional changes in the way we work and how we accomplish our goals. The final details are still to be determined but I wanted to communicate early on that this will impact the way we accomplish important preparedness outcomes.

As our financial picture for the upcoming grant year becomes clearer, I will strive to maintain the important work we have accomplished while building to improve our statewide resiliency. While challenges are on the horizon, our responses in the past have reflected our inherent ability to be flexible and adaptable. As we move forward to meet the challenges in the future, we must continue to strengthen and expand our partnerships and

(Continued on page 4)



Mike Harryman receiving his 15 year employment award from Tom Eversole

Welcome DeWayne Hatcher:An interview to remember

By: Julie Black

Health Security, Preparedness and Response is thrilled to welcome our new SERV-OR systems coordinator, DeWayne Hatcher. I recently sat down with DeWayne to ask him questions about himself and his new role with us.

How have your first three months in your new position been?

Well, my first day was March 3 and so far it has been incredibly educational! Especially related to the incredible amount of public health work that goes on behind the scenes. It is wonderful to see the detailed research being done on things like earthquakes, vaccines, infectious diseases and disaster planning. Regarding SERV-OR, I’m truly enjoying meeting and getting to know the people behind it. There is no substitute for creating real

(Continued on page 5)

Welcoming our medical countermeasures coordinator

By: Kathy Scott

Cristin Corcoran joined the Oregon Immunization Program in March 2014 as the state's medical countermeasures coordinator (formerly known as the strategic national stockpile coordinator).

Cristin has a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Oregon, and she is a certified emergency manager who, for the past six years, has worked with the Portland Oregon Cities Readiness Initiative as a program coordinator. She was also the regional exercise director for the 2011 Town CRI-OR full-scale exercise. That three day exercise involved over 1,800 participants at 35 activated sites in eight counties across two states.

In addition, Cristin has been instrumental in building the region's Push Partner Registry into a national model. That program empowers businesses and non-traditional partners to play a role in ensuring their employees, clients and family members receive medications during public health emergencies.

Cristin is a CDC-trained mass antibiotic dispensing trainer and, during the H1N1 response, she served as the deputy planning section chief in the Portland Regional Health/Medical Coordination Center.

Cristin brings the breadth and depth of training and experience necessary to advance the state's medical countermeasures program to the next level. Please join us in welcoming Cristin to the Oregon Public Health Division.



Kathy Scott and Cristin Corcoran

“Cristin brings the breadth and depth of training and experience necessary to advance the state’s medical countermeasures program to the next level.”

Resources for partners Web page remodel

By: Julie Black

We recently updated our most used Web page, [Resources for partners](#), to make things easier to find, offer more information and allow room for future growth. The page is now separated by three headings: Key topics, Publications and Partner sites.

Key topics: This section has the most commonly accessed tools and is more robust than ever. Each link now takes you to a whole new page filled with information, tools and links. We created two entirely new Web pages, updated all content and added links to existing pages to increase context.

The two new pages are “Medical Countermeasures (MCM)” and “Risk communication tools”. Our “[Medical Countermeasures \(MCM\)](#)” page includes information and tools for Point of Dispensing (POD) planning and operation, plus other medical countermeasures resources. “I’m excited to offer POD tools to all of Oregon’s preparedness partners,” said Cristin Corcoran, medical countermeasures coordinator. “The tools are universal and easily adaptable to each community, so by sharing them widely, we improve Oregon’s readiness.”

The “[Risk communication tools](#)” page has more room for the toolkits as well as supplemental risk communication information and resources. “If you’ve ever experienced a wildfire, an extreme heat event or a drought, you know how challenging it can be to help people understand how these natural disasters can lead to health risks,” said Kathleen Vidoloff, Ph.D., Lead Analyst, Oregon Public Health Division. “The Preparedness Surveillance and Epidemiology Team gathered feedback and input from local health departments to design risk communication toolkits that provide a wide range of information and materials about the public health effects of wildfires, extreme heat and drought.”

The “[Medical surge and crisis care guidance](#)” link takes you to a page with information on medical surge

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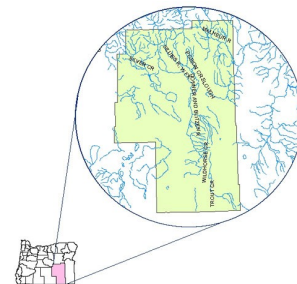


Resources for partners Web page image

Harney County active shooter exercise

By: Tiffany Stafford

In December 2014, a Harney County exercise planning team met to work on an active shooter exercise plan. A countywide tabletop exercise was conducted on January 21, 2014. The purpose of the exercise was to improve Harney County's response to an active shooter by focusing on activities within the first four hours of an active shooter incident. The group discussed communication needs, partner roles and responsibilities as well as expected challenges. The group also studied many previous school shooting cases.



Harney County, Oregon

Participating agencies:

- Harney District Hospital
- Harney County Emergency Management
- Harney County Sheriff's Office
- Burns/Hines City Police Department
- Burns Paiute Tribal Police
- Burns/Paiute Tribal Fire Department
- Burns/Paiute Emergency Management
- Oregon State Police
- Department of Public Safety and Security Training

On March 14, 2014, several agencies came together to execute a full-scale exercise at Burns High School, which was the first of this kind in Harney County. The participation level was phenomenal! "It was great to see our community partners come together and accomplish an exercise of this scope for the first time," said Perrilyn Wells, Safety Officer at Harney District Hospital.

The exercise was very successful in bringing partners together and allowing those partners to practice response protocols together. Additional coordination and planning was also offered to all participants, raising the value of executing this type of event in this community. The need for additional planning and training as a combined effort was well received across the board. Future events are in the works.

Go-Bags: A partnership between HSPR and the joint Guard

By Julie Black

Health Security, Preparedness and Response is partnering with the Oregon National Guard and the Oregon Disaster Medical Team on an emergency medical Go-Bag project. Each Go-Bag is stocked with enough medical, food and shelter supplies for three days and will be used by Medical Rapid Response Teams (MRRT) during the first hours after a disaster.

The bags are highly mobile and allow teams of five to ten medical professionals to respond quickly regardless of infrastructure status. This is a new thought process in emergency response and acts as a compliment to the massive scale responses to most disasters. The Go-Bag system gives these smaller teams flexibility in response time and location.

"We provided a letter of support as well as funding to help support the Go-Bag concept," said Jere High, HSPR Deputy Director and Planning Chief. "This is a partnership we value and intend to maintain."

It is easy to see the value in such a response option given the types of disasters we plan and prepare for here in Oregon. When the Cascadia fault line ruptures, these response teams will benefit greatly from speed, flexibility and maneuverability.

Watch this [short video](#) to learn more about this exciting project and partnership.



Go-Bag

Director's message (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

work together to improve our response systems.

Oregon Emergency Management sponsored a functional exercise responding to a Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) earthquake on April 16, 2014. The Public Health Agency Operations Center (AOC) participated with 100 participants from 10 state agencies, tribal entities, 26 counties, eight public health and health care organizations and two federal partners.

State public health focused on logistics and resource ordering, deployment of federal assets, testing recent CSZ planning efforts with FEMA Region X partners and measuring volunteer alert and response times. New initiatives during this exercise included the rollout of a new Outlook email system for AOC positions and testing of the updated AOC. Look for the after action review to be posted on HAN in the summer months.

Our program was proud to host the 11th Annual Cross Border Public Health Preparedness Workshop that took place in Portland, Oregon at the Benson Hotel on May 12–14, 2014. The event's theme was Exploring Mutual Assistance focusing on health sector response and recovery. A variety of preparedness, tribal and emergency response agencies from the states of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana as well as the Canadian provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and the Yukon Territory attended plenary sessions, breakout sessions, networking cafes with poster presentations, working group functional track discussions and a disaster workshop session. For more information on the organization and the event, go to <http://www.pnwbha.org>.



better.

He reminded the group that nature, technology and humans don't respect lines and neither should our efforts in preparing for emergencies. John related that the new reality is building community responses in uncertain times with limited resources.

He challenged the group to think in terms of systems, model complexity while planning for interdependencies that reflect not only the symptoms of issues but also seek out root causes. While inviting the group to focus on a future that is agile and adaptive, unified on strategy, committing to build, enhance and sustain community resiliency not only in safety but also in financial solvency.

I look forward to working together to keep our state prepared, safe and resilient!

Hman



Mike Harryman

“Our program was proud to host the 11th Annual Cross Border Public Health Preparedness Workshop”

I'd like to close with some of the key points made by one the plenary speakers at the Cross Borders conference, John Madden, who is currently the Homeland Security advisor to the Governor of Alaska. John suggested that to be successful in our health security efforts we must be the ultimate generalists. While we know that everything is connected, interdependent and inter-related, we must remember that while plans are good, adaptable plans are

Welcome DeWayne Hatcher: An interview to remember (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

connections with people in their communities. I have also been impressed with the fact that communication here is really rich. We have the opportunity to get feedback from and integrate communication and participation with a variety of partners.”

Tell me about your education and work experience and how they have prepared you for this position.

I have my undergraduate degree in Biology from Southern Oregon State College as well as my master's degree in business from City University. I worked 16 years with Providence Health System in medical supplies, marketing and business development. I spent the next 12 years managing licensing and customer service at the Oregon State Board of Nursing. During that time I began my adult education career teaching business and technology classes at Marylhurst University and DeVry University.



DeWayne Hatcher

SERV-OR

State Emergency Registry of Volunteers in Oregon

opportunities. Being selected was an honor. I admire the work that Akiko Saito and Eric Gebbie have done to bring the program to where it's at today.

Within your first year, what are you most looking forward to?

I have so much more to learn. I have people to meet and build relationships with. I understand the general framework within which we work, but I really look forward to getting into the details of SERV-OR and how we can effectively network, exercise and plan for real event mobilization. Along those lines I also look forward to contributing to the integrated partnership between SERV-OR and the Public Health Division's Health Security, Preparedness and Response program. I gauge my success on the success of the program's ability to meet the needs of the local Medical Reserve Corps units and our ability to provide the requested licensed medical personnel during exercises and emergencies.

What is one thing people would find most interesting about you?

I worked nights at an AMPM gas station to get myself through college. It took me longer than I care to admit here. And at the same time (the late 1970s) I played saxophone in a local rhythm and blues band. I eventually graduated, the band broke up and I moved to Portland. These days I live out my musical aspirations by listening to my daughter play the piano.



DeWayne Hatcher and Eric Gebbie

What attracted you to this position?

I've actually had my eye on this position for years. It is never easy to change directions, but this — for me — is one of those once in a lifetime

“I gauge my success on the success of the program's ability to meet the needs of the local Medical Reserve Corps units and our ability to provide the requested licensed medical personnel during exercises and emergencies.”

How can we help you be successful?

SERV-OR is something I am really excited about. I want others to be excited too and to help me get the word out to healthcare professionals that this is a solid way to participate and make a difference in your community. Also, ask me questions when you have them. I am happy to help.

Resources for partners Web page remodel (continued)

(Continued from page 2)

planning, supplies and staffing, in addition to the [Crisis Standards of Care](#) document. “It’s pretty impressive what the Crisis Care Workgroup members around the state have accomplished,” said Richard Leman, Chief Medical Officer for the HSPR Program. “They’ve developed an ethical, practical framework for health care response in a crisis, and now many of them are working with their organizations to revise emergency response plans and develop tools for training, so that communities in Oregon would be able to respond effectively if need be.”

Publications: This section includes links to publications or documents. The two links are [Public Health Hazard Vulnerability Assessment](#) and [Oregon Public Health Emergency Preparedness Strategic Work Plan](#). Additional publications will be added as appropriate.

Partner sites: This section is a list of links to partner sites. [Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response](#), [Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials](#) and [Portland Oregon Cities Readiness Initiative: Preparing Together Discussion Guide and Toolkit](#). This is a section we plan to expand throughout the coming year.

We want to offer our partners tools they truly find useful and can access with ease. If you have any comments or suggestions on how we can improve, please don’t hesitate to [contact us](#).

Emergency preparedness moments to remember

By Julie Black

Emergency preparedness is critical to our success and survival. Past events remind us of our purpose, rekindle the importance of our work and inspire public health emergency preparedness process improvement.

June 6, 1889 – Great Seattle Fire

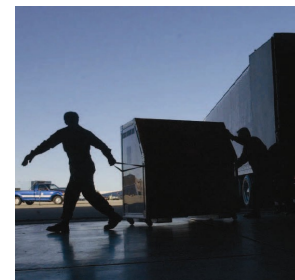
The great Seattle fire started at a woodworking shop on what is now known as First Avenue. A worker was heating glue over a gasoline fire when the glue boiled over, caught fire and quickly spread through floors covered in turpentine and wood chips. The city’s all-volunteer fire department was repeatedly unable to contain the fire. 120 acres burned, 25 prime downtown city blocks, in just over 24 hours. The remarkable piece of this story is not just the massive size and devastation of the fire, but Seattle’s recovery from it. ([University of Washington Library’s Digital Collections](#))

July 7, 2005 – London Train Bombings

During a typical Thursday morning commute the first three bombs were detonated within seconds of each other on three separate underground trains. The last bomb exploded on a double-decker bus nearly an hour later. 52 people were killed in total, including the four suicide bombers, and hundreds more were injured. ([BBC](#))

August 29, 2005 – Hurricane Katrina

It has been nine years since Hurricane Katrina devastated the United State’s Gulf Coast. The storm stretched across three states; pummeling them with sustained winds of up to 140mph. Katrina was the third deadliest hurricane in our nation’s history and recovery costs are well over \$100 billion. ([History](#))



**Medical Countermeasures
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The Great Seattle Fire - Image Wikipedia

Stay safe. Stay focused.



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About Health Security, Preparedness and Response

Our efforts are an emergency response collaboration with Oregon Emergency Management (OEM) and our local, regional and national Emergency Management partners.

The Health Security, Preparedness and Response program is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Cooperative Agreement and the Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP).

HSPR ensures that Oregon's communities and hospitals have an improving level of preparedness for health and medical emergencies by supporting the development and testing of plans, providing training, managing volunteers and encouraging collaboration.

HSPR dedicates staff within all the Oregon Public Health Division centers.

To ensure that the required elements of federal preparedness grant agreements are implemented, HSPR coordinates work plans with state staff working on:

- Epidemiology and disease surveillance
- Public health laboratory preparedness and Laboratory Response Network (LRN)
- Strategic national stockpile

Plan for your own preparedness



Planning can make all the difference

Be informed by knowing potential hazards in your area.

Start preparing for disasters by building your preparedness kit. Include food, water and other supplies.

Think ahead about what you and your family will do when and wherever disaster strikes by making a plan.

- Discuss with your family why you need to prepare for disaster. You can use the Preparing Together Discussion Guide and Toolkit available online or from your local library.
- Discuss what to do in an evacuation.
- Plan how to take care of your pets.
- Pick a meeting spot and a way to contact your family members.
- Ask an out-of-state friend to be your "family contact." After a disaster, it's often easier to call long distance. Other family members should call this person and tell them where they are. Everyone must know your contact's phone number.
- Families should develop different methods for communicating during emergency situations and share their plans beforehand with all those who would be worried about their welfare.