

## Northeast Healthcare Preparedness Coalition Meeting 6/4/24

Members Present: See the attached sign in sheet.

Call to Order by Michael Bomberger at: 9:08am

Topic	Discussion	Follow-Up
Welcome –	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fusion center alert yesterday at 11 o'clock sent by FBI- There were scammers trying to imitate vendors to access security rooms and IT closets to try and hack into organizations' data bases. These were specifically telecommunication contractors that were hitting organizations (including healthcare organizations) in multiple states.</li> <li>• With all of the cybersecurity incidents going on, it takes away from your ability to operate your EOC. The HCC is looking to purchase Skylink next year to help mitigate this issue.</li> <li>• Introductions (in-person first and then online)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ James Stewart introduced himself as the new Atchison County EM. He replaced Wes Lanter.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Sustainability-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Julie Thomas and Danielle Marten:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Staffing personnel- KDHE's new Preparedness Operation's Director is Amber Kelly. Amber has been working in KDHE preparedness so this is a promotion.</li> <li>○ HCCP of Kansas recently won the bid for all HCCs in Kansas, which means they can hire 2.5 employees, including a new NEKS HCC Readiness and Response Coordinator. Danielle will still be around.</li> <li>○ Community Healthcare System has a new CEO.</li> <li>○ Next year's meeting dates:                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The NEKSHCC Executive Committee discussed the types of meetings and the frequency of the HCC meetings. We have 6 meetings a year and in the winter months it can be much more difficult to travel. Therefore we are considering having the meetings in the winter be all virtual.</li> <li>▪ Feedback: Most people like keeping the meetings at 6 per year. Also some people feel being in-person is much more beneficial. Network building is absolutely critical in emergency preparedness, and it is hard to do that virtually. Membership voted and the meeting rhythm will remain the same and meetings will be held in-person (with virtual option for public health). It is understood that in-person meetings may need to move to virtual only if circumstances require it.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Cache update: Julie (the new cache contractor) has 5 total storage units that are full of stuff that dates back to 2001. She has eliminated 3 trash barrels so far, and 63 cases of body bags due to the items being in unusable condition. We do still have a lot of stuff in there, like cots and IV poles. If anyone would like body bags (not the heavy-duty ones) please contact Julie Thomas to acquire them. There are over 160</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Danielle to 2 Zumro tents and to utilize the rest of the remaining funds for decontamination systems for the SEKSHCC.</p> <p>Danielle to send the final MRSE document to the contractor for final editing and then to KDHE and ASPR. She is to request an upload of this document to <a href="http://www.kshcc.com">www.kshcc.com</a> so membership can access it.</p>

cases of body bags, with 10-12 body bags per case. Right now we are trying to eliminate everything that is no longer usable, and then list everything that is still usable on the website..

- The HPP budget period begins on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The last 5 years KDHE had additional funding that they needed to allocate and so they asked HCCs for what they could use the funds. We have until June 14<sup>th</sup> to spend \$222,415. So far Danielle has spent funds toward:
  - MRSE contractor.
  - Salamander Inventory App
  - 2024 KS Summit Keynote Speaker

\$130,870 has to be spent on portable decontamination systems and supplies within the system itself.

- All of the other HCCs in Kansas, except the SEKSHCC, agreed to just go with sheltering systems/ sheltering tents. The two sheltering options so far are:
  - Alaska system: can be set up in 5 minutes, the department of defense uses it, it can be put in the back of the truck and is overall.
  - Zumro: quad air shelter system. This SCKSHCC currently has this system and they are trained on how to set it up. In addition to the quad area, additional tents can be zipped on to increase space. The SCKSHCC has the HVAC systems that can be used in the Zumro, which makes it deployable 12 months a year, as opposed to 6 months a year due to extreme temperatures.
- The quad itself can be purchased separately for about \$50k each. The setback with the quads is that they are roughly 400lbs, which is a big problem for HCCs when it comes to moving them, storing them, etc.
- Danielle showed the two different tents to the NEKSHCC members so that feedback could be provided about which one should be purchased.
- Feedback:
  - "Looking at some of the resources in the state, we have pretty much everything we need, but we lack sheltering options, so sheltering might be a pretty good option."
  - "If you have something that works, why not build on that. Deployment has always been a concern of mine. This seems like a system that can be built onto. We still have to worry about deployment, but once you get it there, it would be best."
  - "If you already have Zumro in the state, it makes sense to not have two separate systems in the state. People already know how to use it. Logistically speaking, Zumro makes that most sense."
  - "What is the capacity for sheltering people in these tents? What is the primary purpose for these tents?"

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ “These tents can house 4-10 people (with cots) per tent. They can also be used for family reunification, first responder/ medical purposes, etc.</li> <li>▪ “The Zumro can be used 12 months a year, and the Alaska system can only be used for 6 months a year. Zumro also has more square footage, although it is more difficult to move around.”</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Final Decision: ZUMRO.</li> <li>● <b>MRSE and Chemical Burn Surge Exercise AAR/ IP:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Strengths throughout the State: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ability to operate in the event of utility failure.</li> <li>▪ Safety officers were pre-established and set to collaborate with staff.</li> <li>▪ Identified public emergency officers.</li> <li>▪ Cache had a list of items that could be requested in a public emergency.</li> <li>▪ Reunification plans</li> <li>▪ Hospitals have hazmat surge plans.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Weaknesses throughout the State: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Connectivity issues</li> <li>▪ Counties need to be informed of cache HCC resources.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Further details on the AAR/IP has emailed to all NEKSHCC members.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Feedback on the NEKS MRSE:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ LMH’s team really liked utilizing the MRSE during the exercise.</li> <li>○ Public Health was not able to really participate apart from information sharing.</li> <li>○ Facilities can utilize the HCC AAR/IP and add on their own specifics for documentation purposes.</li> <li>○ Joint commission is focused on the six critical functions and always includes those on the AAR/ IP. The six critical functions goes into every contract that they either own or have some form of participation in.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Julie: demonstrated what a CAPR system looks like and how it works: The NEKSHCC CAPR cart has headpieces, filters, instructions on how to put it together, etc. You must follow the HCC’s Inventory Management Protocol to request this resource. Contact Julie for more information.</li> </ul>	
Training & Exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>2024 Kansas Healthcare coalition Preparedness Summit November 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; 19<sup>th</sup> in Wichita</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cost is currently unknown, and scholarships are available. Last year it was about \$100.</li> <li>○ Registration will likely open in July.</li> <li>○ Updated information will be loaded to <a href="http://www.kshcc.com">www.kshcc.com</a> and Danielle will send out more information when it is available</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Members to visit <a href="http://www.kshcc.com">www.kshcc.com</a> for on-going 2024 KS Summit updates.
General HCC Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Julie: Discussion on how to handle a boil advisory. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The University of Kansas Health System St. Francis Campus put together a document with information about how to deal with boil advisories at hospitals. That information includes how to sterilize equipment, and why</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Julie will send out the boil water advisory document so other members can utilize it.

	<p>this is so important. Julie asked staff if they have a secondary device or alternative items to avoid using contaminated water.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget Period 5 overview: Danielle showed budget workplan progress report.</li> <li>• Next year's budget is under development</li> <li>• We can now look at sponsoring people at a variety of conferences, rather than just the HCC conference. If there is any conference that you would like to attend, let Danielle know and we can look at adding it as a potential budget item.</li> <li>• Danielle reviewed basics of the next funding period's HPP program requirements. In general, ASPR is looking to be more flexible with reporting templates and HPP and PHEP will be more integrated.</li> <li>• Danielle will be attending the five quarterly meetings for PHEP coordinators so we can talk earlier and sooner about PHEP exercises and work toward other HCC/PHEP improvements.</li> <li>• KDHE will be writing the PHEP exercise this year, but we are looking at having an exercise team so that we can get everyone's needs met as much as possible.</li> <li>• Michael spoke on CyberSecurity partner agreements. There is a cyber trust group called High Trust that has some agreements already in place that membership may wish to review.</li> <li>• If your information has been compromised, you can report it at the CISA website. Response to this reporting varies by incident.</li> </ul>	<p>HCC Executive Committee to create next year's draft HCC budget by 6/14/24.</p>
<p>4 Core &amp; More</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hospitals:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A NWKS hospital mentioned that a fire marshal inspector presented for an inspection with a body camera, and it was declined because of HIPPA and other privacy concerns. This issue is being researched by various legal departments within the State.</li> <li>○ The Trauma Council is looking for a Local Health Department representative. This opening will be available for a couple of weeks.</li> <li>○ The Topeka VA is planning an exercise around June 24th<sup>th</sup>, which has a mobile hospital set up component to it.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Public Health:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is grant reporting time for PHEP and all PHEP coordinators are very busy right now. They also have to complete the final PHEP workplan items for the fourth quarter. They are also working on updating plans.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Local Health Representatives to e-mail Danielle if they are interested in serving on the NEKS Trauma Council.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Shawnee County Health Department is partnering with schools on “Stop the Bleed” training.</li> <li>○ There is an abnormal number of tickborne illnesses in Kansas.</li> <li>● <b>Emergency Management:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jefferson county is expanding up their Medical Reserve Corp with a variety of committees in the medical reserve core. If you are thinking about starting your own MRC, you can reach out to Keith Jeffers, the Jefferson County EM, for advice.</li> <li>○ KDEM passed around a door marker that is used for facilities when they are evacuating. This tells first responders that the room is all clear, which saves them time when they are going through the building. To research these for your facility, visit: <a href="http://www.cysafetyproducts.com/">http://www.cysafetyproducts.com/</a>, then look for the door safety tools on the website.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>EMS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The new transfer EMS service in Topeka was mentioned again. This type of service is needed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Clinical:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dr. Lockwood: “I have felt like transfers these past couple of weeks has been very difficult and tight. People are being kept in the ED rooms longer.”</li> <li>○ One County just had their LEPC meeting, and they discussed the bird flu in dairy. They provided their local veterinarian with information on NETEC. This is a recommended practice for others.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● All others: N/A</li> </ul>	
Future Meetings & Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. – Noon. Danielle will create the new year’s meeting information in KS Train. A new course number will be assigned in KS Train this year.</li> </ul>	

Adjournment: 11:46am

Respectfully submitted by: Veronica White