

Emergency Support Functions Annex
ESF-8 PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICAL



ESF Coordinator:
Loudoun County Health Department

Primary Agency:
Loudoun County Health Department

Section:
Operations

Support Agencies:
Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services

Branch:
Public Safety

Inova Loudoun Hospital Center
StoneSprings Hospital Center
Virginia Department of Health
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

Group:
Health and Medical

INTRODUCTION

Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF)-8 Public Health and Medical provides guidance and direction to designated agencies responsible for public health and wellness during a significant event.

Scope

ESF-8 Public Health and Medical coordinates the resources necessary to provide public health and wellness during a significant event. Activities within the scope of ESF-8 functions include: coordinates fatality management; coordinates and manages special medical needs sheltering; coordinates infectious disease outbreak response; provides counseling and mental health services; manages hospital surge; and monitors critical health care facilities.

For the purpose of this document, a critical health care facility includes but is not limited to: hospital, nursing home, dialysis center, assisted living center, and group home.

Relevant Laws, Statutes, Plans, and Policies

- ▶ Loudoun County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Policies and Procedures Guide
- ▶ Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended
- ▶ Code of Virginia, Title 32.1 Health, Chapter 8 Postmortem Examinations and Services
- ▶ Loudoun County Health Department All-Hazards Emergency Operations Plan

- ▶ Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006
- ▶ Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- ▶ Local Government Agreement for Health Services

ESF Planning Assumptions

- ▶ Individuals may experience stress or other mental health crisis as a result of the significant event.
- ▶ Fatality management for naturally occurring events are the responsibility of the locality.
- ▶ Efforts will take into consideration Loudoun County's special needs and hard to reach populations

ORGANIZATION

ESF Responsibilities

- ▶ Reports to and takes direction from the Public Safety Branch Director.
- ▶ Provides informational updates to the Planning Section.
- ▶ Develops plans, policies, and procedures necessary to resolve public health issues during the significant event.
- ▶ Documents information and actions related to public health and medical missions and assignments.
- ▶ Utilizes current methods and procedures to process requests for assistance.
- ▶ Submits a detailed record of costs and expenditures to the Finance and Administration Section.

Agency Roles and Responsibilities

Loudoun County Health Department (LCHD)

- ▶ The agency recognized with ESF coordination. The Health Department is responsible for overall ESF leadership and coordination associated with public health and wellness during a significant event. Emergency operational policies and procedures developed by the Health Department provide the framework for carrying out these activities.

Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services (MHSADS)

- ▶ Serves as the department with primary responsibility for crisis counseling and emergency mental health services.

Inova Loudoun Hospital Center

- ▶ Serves as the primary liaison for Inova Health System. Provides an ongoing assessment of staff, facilities, and resources and reports operational readiness.

StoneSprings Hospital Center

- ▶ Serves as the primary liaison for HCA Virginia Health System. Provides an ongoing assessment of staff, facilities, and resources and reports operational readiness.

**Virginia Department of Health (VDH)
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME)**

- ▶ Serves as the agency with primary responsibility for fatalities identified in the Code of Virginia, Title 32.1 and provides support to the local health department for naturally occurring fatalities.

MISSIONS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Mission 1: Coordinates the resources necessary to provide public health and wellness during a significant event.

Assignment 1-1: Identifies, prioritizes, procures, and allocates available resources.

Assignment 1-2: Forecasts future (in the subsequent 12 to 24-hour period) resource requirements and conveys to EOC leadership.

Mission 2: Manages mass fatality incidents and coordinates with partner agencies.

Assignment 2-1: Manages response to mass fatality events whether naturally occurring (Health Department) or a death that falls under OCME's jurisdiction.

Assignment 2-2: Coordinates with the logistics section to identify, assess, acquire, and maintain the facilities, supplies, and other resources necessary to manage a mass fatality event.

Assignment 2-3: Identifies and assesses the need for regional, state, or federal resources and coordinates with the Resource Unit and Management and Control Group to initiate requests.

Mission 3: Coordinates the operation of Special Medical Needs shelters for those impacted by a significant event.

Assignment 3-1: Assesses the medical and mental health needs of individuals to determine if the level of care exceeds the capability of a general population shelter.

Assignment 3-2: Establishes, operates, and maintains Special Medical Needs shelters and/or identifies existing acute care facilities that can accommodate impacted individuals with special medical needs.

Assignment 3-3: Provides timely updates to the EOC regarding the status and current capacity of Special Medical Needs shelters.

Mission 4: Manages the response to a potential or actual infectious disease outbreak that constitutes a public health emergency and other events that may require emergency medical countermeasures.

Assignment 4-1: Conducts surveillance to monitor the status and progress of infectious disease outbreaks and other public health threats.

Assignment 4-2: Establishes Points of Dispensing (PODs) to ensure delivery and distribution of medicines and/or vaccines.

Assignment 4-3: Collaborates with ESF-15 External Affairs to develop factual, timely, and consistent message delivery.

Assignment 4-4: Coordinates with responsible agencies and healthcare providers to effect quarantine and isolation measures.

Assignment 4-5: Collaborates with responsible agencies and healthcare providers to identify, establish, and maintain alternate care facilities.

Mission 5: Provides counseling and mental health services.

Assignment 5-1: Assesses and provides crisis counseling and emergency mental health services during a significant event.

Mission 6: Coordinates efforts to manage hospital and other acute care surge during a significant event.

Assignment 6-1: Provides timely updates to the EOC regarding the status and current capacity of hospitals and other acute care facilities.

Assignment 6-2: Coordinates and communicates with the Regional Hospital Coordination Center (RHCC) to identify and assess available facility resources.

Mission 7: Monitors and reports status of critical health care facilities during a significant event.

Assignment 7-1: Provides regular and frequent updates to the EOC regarding the status and current capacity of critical health care facilities.

Assignment 7-2: Develops alternative strategies necessary to deliver programmatic services when critical health care facilities are overwhelmed, damaged, or are otherwise in a diminished capacity.

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