Emergency Support Function – 8
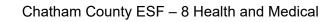# Health and Medical

2020

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RECORD OF CHANGES

Each update or change to the plan should be tracked. The record of changes, usually in table format, contains, at a minimum, a change number, the date of the change, the name of the person who made the change, and a summary of the change. Other relevant information could be considered.

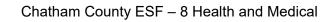| Change #	Date	Part Affected	Date Posted	Who Posted

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RECORD OF DISTRIBUTION

The record of distribution, usually in table format, indicates the title and the name of the person receiving the plan, the agency to which the recipient belongs, the date of delivery, and the number of copies delivered. Other relevant information could be considered. The record of distribution can be used to prove that tasked individuals and organizations have acknowledged their receipt, review, and/or acceptance of the plan. Copies of the plan can be made available to the public and media without SOGs/SOPs, call-down lists, or other sensitive information.

Agency	Name, Title	Date of Delivery	Copies

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ESF – 8 Health and Medical

ESF COORDINATOR:
Chatham County Health Department

SUPPORT AGENCIES:
American Red Cross
Chatham Area Transit
Chatham County Animal Services
Chatham County Coroner's Office
Chatham County Mosquito Control
Chatham Emergency Management Agency
Chatham Emergency Services
Department of Family and Children Services
Georgia Department of Agriculture
Medical Reserve Corps
Memorial Health University Medical Center
Salvation Army
St. Joseph/Candler Hospital
YMCA of Coastal Georgia

INTRODUCTION

The emergency support function of Health and Medical services involves direction and coordination, operations, and follow-through during an emergency or disaster.

Purpose

ESF-8 Health and Medical provides operational guidance to departments/organizations that are assigned to work within this ESF. The mission of ESF-8 is to provide the mechanism for coordinated County assistance to municipal resources by addressing the public health and medical needs of residents, disaster survivors and emergency response workers during disasters, potential disasters or events that have the potential to impact the public health. This however is not a tactical response document. ESF-8 Health and Medical establishes the framework for the implementation of procedures addressing the local identification, registration, evacuation and sheltering support of individuals with access and functional needs.

Scope

ESF-8 acts to meet the Health / Medical and essential elements of information needs of operations to include emergency medical services personnel, facilities, vehicles, equipment and supplies for disaster survivors, including those with functional and access needs in an emergency or a disaster.

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

General

During an emergency or disaster, ESF-8 may be activated to support operations and assist with the development of a common operating picture. The scope, scale and magnitude of the threat/incident will dictate which support agencies will be requested for the support of ESF-8 Health and Medical in the EOC.

Preparedness

a. Identify and coordinate the deployment of doctors, nurses, patient care technicians and other medical personnel to disaster areas as necessary.

b. Develop and maintain listings of available medical supplies, equipment, ambulance services, hospitals, medical care clinics and first aid units to support disaster response operations.

c. Establish procedures to ensure the continuity of health and medical services to the community.

d. Identify locations for the establishment of staging areas for medical personnel, equipment and supplies as necessary.

e. Identify facilities and/or locations to utilize as medical care centers should the primary emergency care facilities not be available.

f. Coordinate with local healthcare entities (hospitals, nursing homes, youth and adult clinical facilities) to establish procedures for the reduction, evacuation and relocation of patients.

g. Establish procedures for requesting medical assistance teams to provide support to disaster response and recovery operations.

h. Coordinate procedures for the provision of medical and dental care as necessary.

i. Establish plans that reflect the needs of all persons to include those with physical disabilities, special medical needs, communication disabilities, and non-English speaking individuals.

j. Coordinate the identification of individuals experiencing functional, access and/or medical needs within the general populous (including those individuals within Long Term Care Facilities) to conduct a needs assessment and coordinate assistance as necessary.

k. Establish procedures in conjunction with local and state stakeholders for the evacuation and relocation of individuals experiencing functional, access and medical needs.

l. Identify procedures to maintain accountability for and monitoring the general wellbeing of individuals experiencing functional, access and/or medical needs during the evacuation or relocation process.

m. Coordinate with ESF-6 Mass Care/Sheltering to ensure the delivery of food services to individuals who may be mobility impaired.

n. Establish procedures in conjunction with both ESF-6 Mass Care/Sheltering and ESF -18 Animal Services to protect the public from communicable diseases and the contamination of food, water and drug supplies to include veterinary drugs.

o. Establish procedures for the identification of disease, vector and epidemic control.

p. Establish procedures for the distribution of emergency immunizations.

q. Identify procedures for the inspection of individual water supplies.

r. Coordinate the development of sanitary inspection procedures and implement protocols to control unsanitary conditions.

s. Develop and maintain a listing of available laboratory testing facilities.

t. Ensure for the monitoring of essential public health information and coordinate with ESF-15 External Affairs for dissemination as appropriate.

u. Establish procedures for the rapid provision of crisis counseling and mental health/ substance abuse assistance to individuals, including the organization and training of crisis counseling teams.

v. Maintain relationships with government agencies, professional associations, private sector entities and volunteer organizations to provide mental health and substance abuse assistance during emergency or disaster events.

w. Coordinate the development of MOA's with appropriate agencies/organizations for the provision of services to assist individuals and families affected by the emergency or disaster.

x. Ensure all ESF-8 personnel integrate NIMS principles.

Response

a. Coordinate the delivery of health and medical services during an emergency or disaster event.

b. Coordinate the provision of medical personnel, equipment, pharmaceuticals and necessary supplies to support operations.

c. Coordinate with ESF-6 Mass Care/Sheltering for the provision of health and medical services during sheltering operations as necessary.

d. Conduct a situational assessment to determine the need for the implementation of health surveillance programs.

e. Establish procedures for the management of public health and sanitation services as necessary.

f. Coordinate the evacuation and/or relocation of individuals experiencing functional, access and/or medical needs as appropriate and communicate any limitations or resource needs to GEMA/HS.

g. Coordinate with ESF-6 Mass Care/Sheltering and ESF-11 Agriculture/Food and Water for the provision of food services to individuals experiencing medically induced dietary restrictions.

h. Provide for the issuance of Public Health notices regarding necessary clean-up actions on private properties.

i. Coordinate the provision of mental health and recovery services to individuals, families and communities as necessary.

j. Coordinate the provision of essential public health information support to emergency medical services providers.

k. Maintain a process for the distribution of all relevant health and medical information to the general public in cooperation with ESF-15 External Affairs and the state Department of Public Health.

Recovery

a. Coordinate the restoration of essential health and medical care systems as appropriate.

b. Provide assistance with the restoration of permanent medical facilities and the return to normal operational status.

c. Coordinate the restoration of pharmacy services and the return to normal operational status.

d. Coordinate with entities providing care to individuals with functional, access and/or medical needs and establish a method for their return to appropriate Long Term Care Facilities or identified place of residence.

e. Provide assistance to facilities caring for Chatham County's vulnerable populations in the development and maintenance of emergency preparedness and response plans.

f. Conduct a situational assessment to determine the need for conducting environmental and epidemiological surveillance.

g. Continue necessary assistance throughout the re-entry process and until all health and medical concerns have been resolved.

Mitigation

a. Support and plan for mitigation measures.

Organization

The County EOC will be activated to coordinate a multijurisdictional level response.

Representatives from the applicable ESF-8 Agencies may be assigned to the EOC or alternate location, as best suited to meet incident needs and coordinate operations.

ESF Role Aligned to Core Capabilities

The following table lists the response capability that ESF-8 most directly supports, along with the related ESF-8 actions supporting the capability.

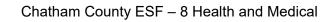| Core Capability	ESF-8 Health and Medical
Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services	• Provide lifesaving medical treatment via Emergency Medical Services and related operations and avoid additional disease and injury by providing targeted public health, medical, and behavioral health support, and products to all affected populations. This includes but not limited to: ➢ Hurricane Registry ➢ Disease prevention and protection
Health and Social Services	• Restore and improve health and social services capabilities and networks to promote the resilience, independence, health (including behavioral health), and well-being of the whole community. This includes but not limited to: ➢ Community Care Providers ➢ Medical Facilities

Responsibilities

Coordinating Agency	Actions
Chatham County Health Department	- Serve as the principle point of contact with ESF-8 Health and Medical from the EOC. - Coordinate ESF meetings to ensure constant state of readiness. - Conduct a situational assessment to determine the health and medical needs associated with the emergency or disaster event. - Establish a protocol for prioritizing response actions. - Provide leadership in directing, coordinating and integrating the overall countywide efforts to provide medical and public health assistance to disaster survivors. - Coordinate and direct the activation and deployment of resources to include health/medical personnel, supplies and equipment to support disaster response and recovery operations. - Coordinate the establishment of both active and passive surveillance systems to ensure protection of the public health. - Provide technical assistance in coordination to the response for: - Hazardous materials incidents - Safety of food and drugs - Radiological hazards - Vector Control - Mental health emergencies - Potable water/wastewater/solid waste - Victim identification/mortuary services - Coordinate the release of boil water orders, safety issues and pertinent information for the public health with ESF-15 External Affairs. - Provide support staffing to the EOC for the following positions: - Health and Human Services Branch - ESF-8 Health and Medical Services *DPH will be providing a liaison to the EOC to monitor and input data into the Hurricane Registry Evacuation Board during evacuations*

Supporting Agency	Actions
All Supporting Agencies	• Attend at least quarterly meetings to ensure planning functions are carried out to support this ESF. • Identify Agency staff representatives to support this ESF and other operational practices during emergency and disaster operations. • Ensure the presence of resources (human and physical) are in sufficient numbers to support the Agency's responsibilities to this ESF. • Conduct recovery and restoration tasks in coordination with the EOC/RCC and federal assistance program guidance. • Annually evaluate Critical Workforce staffing needs and report sheltering and/or equipment staging locations as requested. • Coordinate pertinent disaster recovery information with the County Joint Information Center (JIC). • Identify damages and/or losses and prepare an action plan for recovery activities. • Maintain records of expenditures and document resources utilized during response and recovery operations. • Develop appropriate Plans, Procedures, Mutual Aid Agreements, Checklists, Go-Kits and other supporting documentation as needed to facilitate execution of the Agency's responsibilities to this ESF. • Prepare to support the EOC as necessary. • Participate in drills, exercises and other preparedness events to evaluate the Agency's readiness to support this ESF. • Ensure Agency staff maintain NIMS compliance and report compliance measurements annually as requested.
American Red Cross	• Provide supplementary medical, nursing aid, and other health services upon request and in accordance with current capabilities. • Establish procedures to obtain the names of those affected by the emergency or disaster event to facilitate health and welfare communications between appropriate agencies and members of immediate family. • Provide assistance to disaster survivors for the replacement of personal medical supplies, glasses, dentures, hearing aids, wheelchairs and medications as appropriate. • Provide support for mental health counseling as available.

Supporting Agency	Actions
Chatham Area Transit	• Provide transportation support in coordination with the evacuation of individuals experiencing functional and access needs. • Provide support staffing to the EOC for the following position: ➢ Chatham Area Transit
Chatham County Animal Services	• Provide support for the evacuation of pets during the evacuation of individuals with functional, access and/or medical needs. • Establish procedures for the reunification of pets to their owners post event. • Provide support staffing to the EOC for the following position: ➢ ESF-18 Animal Services
Chatham County Coroner's Office	• Coordinate mortuary service operations to include the establishment and operation of a temporary morgue.
Chatham County Mosquito Control	• Identify and monitor mosquito populations for the threat of disease. • Eradicate disease carrying mosquito populations.
Chatham Emergency Management Agency	• Coordinate a situational assessment to determine priorities regarding Health and Medical affects to the community. • Ensure agencies providing Health and Medical services have adequate support and all necessary resources are obtained.

Chatham Emergency Services	• Coordinate the evacuation of patients from the disaster area.
	• Coordinate the transportation of patients to medical facilities outside of Chatham County in accordance with approved trauma transport protocols.
	• Coordinate the following resources:
	  ➢ Advanced Life Support/Basic Life Support
	  ➢ Emergency Medical Technicians
	  ➢ Paramedic's
	  ➢ Procurement of Emergency Medical Equipment
	  ➢ Air Evacuation Resources
	• Coordinate critical incident stress debriefings for emergency responders.
	• Coordinate the integration of public and private services into the emergency or disaster response.

Supporting Agency	Actions
Chatham Emergency Services (Continued)	• Provide support staffing to the EOC for the following Position: ➢ Emergency Medical Services
Department of Family and Children Services	• Establish mental health crisis counseling centers as appropriate. • Provide support staffing to the EOC for the following position: ➢ ESF-6 Mass Care Services
Georgia Department of Agriculture	• Coordinate inspections of venues such as groceries stories and other facilities that fall under identified Department of Agriculture responsibilities. • Provide assistance in conducting damage assessments with matters related to farmland, commodities, livestock and structures.
Medical Reserve Corps	• Support the provision of medical services in accordance with identified agency protocols. • Maintain a current list of all volunteers and associated credentials to support disaster response operations.
Memorial Health University Medical Center	• Coordinate the evacuation of patients from the disaster areas as requested. • Coordinate the transportation of victims to medical facilities outside of Chatham County in accordance with approved trauma transport protocols. • Coordinate for Critical Incident Stress Debriefings for emergency responders as appropriate. • Re-supply field emergency medical service units with consumable medical supplies as available. • Conduct an assessment of hospital capabilities and damages. Provide the results of these assessments to the EOC. • Mobilize hospital staff as available and necessary to provide teams to support field treatment and triage sites. • Coordinate with emergency medical service units, surrounding hospitals and incident response support personnel to ensure that casualties are transported to the appropriate medical facility. • Coordinate with local emergency responders for the isolation and decontamination of incoming patients as necessary to prevent the spread of agents to other patients and staff members. • Provide staff for the establishment of a reception and support center for friends and family of disaster survivors.

Supporting Agency	Actions
Memorial Health University Medical Center (Continued)	• Provide patient identification information to the American Red Cross upon request and in accordance with appropriate procedures. • Establish mental health crisis counseling centers. • Provide support staffing to the EOC for the following position: ➢ Hospitals
Salvation Army	• Provide support for mental health services.
St. Joseph/Candler Hospital(s)	• Coordinate the evacuation of patients from the disaster areas as requested. • Coordinate the transportation of victims to medical facilities outside of Chatham County in accordance with approved trauma transport protocols. • Coordinate for Critical Incident Stress Debriefings for emergency responders as appropriate. • Re-supply field emergency medical service units with consumable medical supplies as available. • Conduct an assessment of hospital capabilities and damages. Provide the results of these assessments to the EOC. • Mobilize hospital staff as available and necessary to provide teams to support field treatment and triage sites. • Coordinate with emergency medical service units, surrounding hospitals and incident response support personnel to ensure that casualties are transported to the appropriate medical facility. • Coordinate with local emergency responders for the isolation and decontamination of incoming patients as necessary to prevent the spread of agents to other patients and staff members. • Provide staff for the establishment of a reception and support center for friends and family of disaster survivors. • Provide patient identification information to the American Red Cross upon request and in accordance with appropriate procedures. • Establish mental health crisis counseling centers. • Provide support staffing to the EOC for the following position: ➢ Hospitals
YMCA of Coastal Georgia	• Provide utilization of the West Chatham YMCA facility in support of the evacuation and return of individuals with functional and access needs.

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