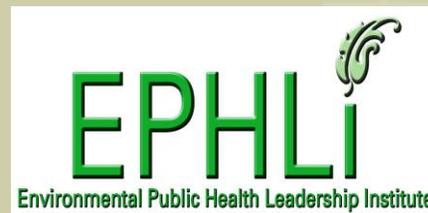


Cincinnati Public Schools Multi-Hazards Management: *Creating an Emergency Management Plan*

Jessica Shelly, MBA, REHS, RS



Background

- Cincinnati Public School District has 79 schools
 - All are within **3 miles** of manufacturing or industrial sites
- There was no district-wide Emergency Response Plan in place due to the lack of resources
 - Staff reductions of almost 5,000 in June 2005 due to budget restraints
 - Budget does not allow for expenditure of emergency preparedness supplies
- Cincinnati Public Schools responded to nearly 100 incidents involving weapons such as guns and knives in 2004-2005
- August 2005 -- three Cincinnati Public Schools were directly impacted by a Styrene tanker car leak that caused the evacuation and closure of the schools for over a week
 - Served as a “wake-up call” to the importance of preparedness

Shelter-in-Place → Evacuation

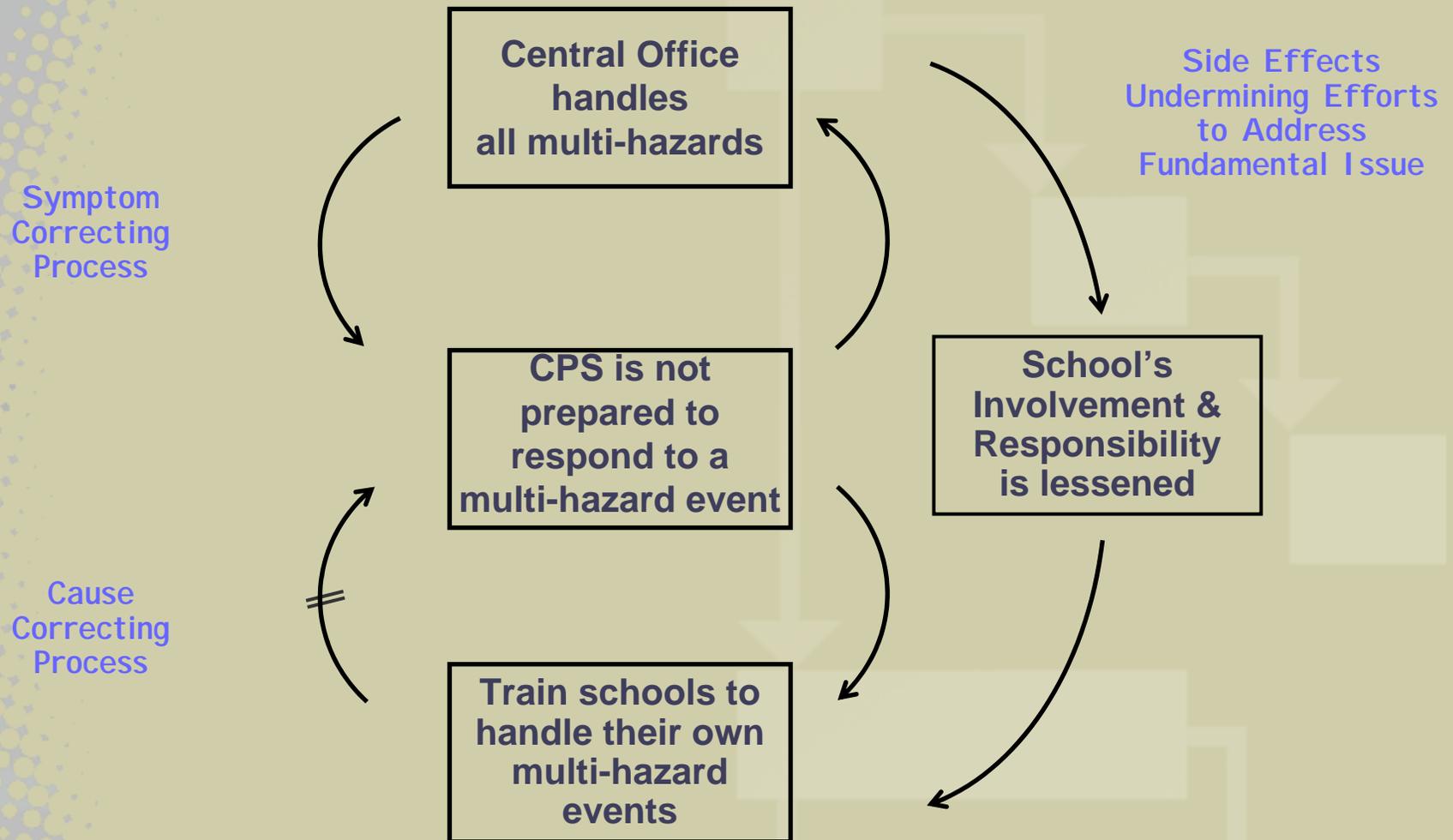


Problem Statements

- Cincinnati Public Schools were not prepared to manage a multi-hazard event caused by terrorist activity or natural source
- Cincinnati Public Schools did not have access to or understand emergency management fundamentals
- Cincinnati Public Schools did not have the time or resources to devote to development of an emergency management plan, training, exercises & drills, or community information

Causal Loop Diagram

Shifting the Burden



A \$890 Million Need to Plan & Train



Project Objective

- **Cincinnati Public Schools will respond to an emergency situation in a safe, effective and timely manner to accomplish the following priorities:**
 - **Priority I: Protection of Human Life**
 - **Priority II: Support of Health & Safety Services**
 - **Priority III: Protection of School System Assets**
 - **Priority IV: Maintenance of School System Services**
 - **Priority V: Assessment of Damages**
 - **Priority VI: Restoration of General Operations at each School**

Action Step – Apply for Grant Monies

- Only one out of four school districts that applied received this grant!
- We had perfect peer reviews and received all monies requested!
- \$500K over 18 months
- 79 Cincinnati Public and 35 Archdiocese schools
- Coordinated with County and City Agencies, Mental Health Board, American Red Cross, & Parents for Public Schools

Money from the grant will allow us to dramatically strengthen and improve capacity to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from crisis situations in its schools

Action Step – Develop a Plan

Cincinnati Public Schools Emergency Management Plan has four sections:

1. Emergency Management Plan
2. Emergency Response Plans
 - CPS Incident Commander Action Steps
 - Incident Response Plan
3. Department Response Plans for each department
4. School Response Plans at each school

Action Step – Provide Training

MULTI AGENCY DRILL

TABLE TOP EXERCISE

WMD/HAZMAT AWARENESS

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANNING

VULNERABILITY & RISK ASSESSMENT

MULTI HAZARDS TRAINING

NIMS 700

Results to Date

- Emergency Management Plan written and approved by Board of Education in October 2005
- Major equipment, supplies, and training materials expenditures complete in December 2005
- Multi-Hazard Emergency Planning for Schools training culminating in NIMS IS 700 certification for all School Incident Response Team members in February 2006
 - Over 500 staff representing all 79 schools have been trained and certified

Benefits Already Realized

Collaboration, Compliance, Consistency

1. **Collaboration**: Ability for Cincinnati Public Schools to work with other emergency responders
2. **Compliance**: Cincinnati Public Schools is NIMS certified and can receive federal grant money
3. **Consistency**: All Cincinnati Public Schools follow incident command structure

Next Steps

- All schools receive Threat & Vulnerability Assessments
- Continue Training
 - School Incident Response Teams
 - Teachers, Staff, Students, & Parents
- Exercises
 - 2 Tabletops and 1 Major Simulation
- Communication
 - Web Site & Links
 - Informational Brochures in Several Languages
 - CPS Produced Videos
- Evaluation
 - Conducted by Research, Evaluation & Testing

National Goals Supported

- **CDC 21st Century Health Protection Goals**
 - *People Prepared for Emerging Health Threats*
 - Providing our students, staff, and parents the information they need to be prepared and stay safe & healthy
 - *Healthy People in Healthy Places – Schools*
 - Preparing every one of our schools for a multi-hazard is making schools a safer, healthier place to be
- **National Strategy to Revitalize Environmental Public Health Services**
 - *Goal IV: Communicate and Market*
 - Working diligently to help communicate and market the importance of emergency preparedness
 - *Goal VI: Create Strategic Partnerships*
 - Working in cooperation with city, county, state, and federal agencies

Thank You!

Questions, comments, suggestions?

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