

August 18, 2023

CDC's Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program is a critical source of funding, guidance, and technical assistance for state, local, and territorial public health departments to strengthen their public health preparedness capabilities and improve their response readiness. The Division of State and Local Readiness (DSLR) Friday Update provides information and resources for PHEP recipients and other preparedness planners. Please share the newsletter with your colleagues.

For more information, visit the CDC State and Local Readiness website or contact us at preparedness@cdc.gov.





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Upcoming Deadlines

• **September 29** – 2022 Public Health Crisis Response NOFO Application



PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

Recording Now Available for July 26 HPP-PHEP Recipient Meeting

PHEP recipients can review the meeting <u>recording</u> from the July 26 PHEP and Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) recipient meeting. During the three-hour joint meeting, CDC and the Administration for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) provided programmatic updates, discussed development of new HPP and PHEP funding opportunity announcements for fiscal years 2024-2028, and gathered recommendations on joint preparedness and response strategies for the next five-year performance period.

CDC PHEP Connects Webinar Scheduled for September 13

CDC's next PHEP Connects webinar, "Public Health Preparedness at Port of Entry and the Communicable Disease Response Plan," is scheduled for 1 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, September 13. High traffic at points of entry, such as airports,



ports, and ground crossings, can play a key role in the spread of disease. A communicable disease response plan provides a framework for responding and reporting illness in a timely manner. During this PHEP Connects webinar, presenters from CDC's Quarantine and Border Health Services Branch in the Division of Global Migration and Quarantine will provide an overview of how public health communities work together to prevent the spread of disease at these points of entry. Presenters will describe how they collaborate with local public health departments to protect the health of the public at U.S. borders and beyond. Following is the participant information.

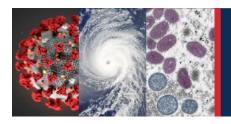
Participant Information

Dial-In: (669) 254-5252 (Audio only)

Meeting ID: 161 241 1865

Passcode: 569595

Web Link: https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1612411865



Emergency Response Activities

CDC Provides Resources for Wildfire Smoke Exposure

CDC is working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and state officials in Hawaii to support the response to the recent wildfires on the island of Maui. Federal teams, resources, and equipment are supporting state and local partners.

CDC recommends that public health and health care professionals in areas affected by wildfire smoke be on the alert for possible adverse effects of smoke exposure, particularly among individuals at higher risk of severe outcomes. The acute signs and symptoms of smoke exposure can include headache, eye and mucous membrane irritation, dyspnea (trouble breathing), cough, wheezing, chest pain, palpitations, and fatigue. Wildfire smoke exposure may exacerbate respiratory, metabolic, and cardiovascular chronic conditions like asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and congestive heart failure.

Dry conditions in much of the United States increase the potential for wildfires in or near wilderness areas. Following are CDC wildfire resources that jurisdictions might find useful.

- Stay Safe After a Wildfire
- Keep Food Safe After a Disaster or Emergency
- Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (WASH)-related Emergencies & Outbreaks- Social Media and Graphics

CDC Fact Sheet on Mudslides and Landslides Available Online

With the potential landfall of Hurricane Hilary on the West Coast, view CDC's National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) Mudslides and Landslides Fact Sheet. This resource provides general guidance on mudslides, which impacted jurisdictions may encounter due to increased rainfall.



What's on the Calendar

- **September 13** PHEP Connects Webinar (1 p.m. to 2 p.m. EDT)
- September 20 CDC PHEP Recipient Call (2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EDT)



Preparedness and Response Resources

CDC's Public Health Infrastructure Center Launches Two New Resources

The Public Health Infrastructure Center has released two new resources.

The Public Health Infrastructure Grant's (PHIG's) Health Department recipient profiles provide an overview of CDC's historic investment in public health infrastructure. The data visualizations showcase how the more than \$3.6 billion investment toward infrastructure will impact 107 health departments. They



include 50 states, Washington D.C., eight U.S. territories and freely associated states, and 48 large localities.

Fiscal year 2022 funding data and jurisdictional profiles are now available on the <u>CDC Grant Funding Profiles site</u>. The profiles provide quick access to information about CDC funding provided to health departments, universities, and other public and private agencies in U.S. states, territories, and Washington, D.C. The data parameters, including what data are included or excluded and how included data are categorized, are available in the "About the Data" file for each year on the profiles site.

New Heat-Related EMS Activation Surveillance Dashboard Available Online

The new <u>Heat-Related EMS Activation Surveillance Dashboard</u> is a new resource for supporting extreme heat preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation activities. Created in partnership between the HHS Office of Climate Change and Health Equity and the Department of Transportation (DOT) National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the dashboard uses nationally submitted emergency medical services (EMS) data to track EMS responses to people experiencing heat-related emergencies in the pre-hospital setting. For more information regarding how to use this dashboard, view the <u>companion document</u>.

ASTHO Hosts Webinar on Artificial Intelligence in State and Territorial Public Health

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) will host a webinar on "Artificial Intelligence in State and Territorial Public Health" from **2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, August 22**. Tools that leverage artificial intelligence (AI) have become increasingly available. With more accessibility comes more opportunity for automation, efficiency, and data-driven decision-making. Presenters will introduce AI and its potential applications in state and territorial public health. Presenters will also discuss ASTHO's role in continuing the national conversation around AI in state and territorial public health. Register here to attend the webinar.



News You Can Use

CDC Recruits Director for New Division of Readiness and Response Science

CDC's Office of Readiness and Response is recruiting a director for its new Division of Readiness and Response Science (DRRS), which will be stood up effective October 1. DRRS's mission is to develop and implement the science of readiness and response; build scientific expertise to address health disparities and community mitigation; evaluate state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) readiness and response; and inform a broader framework for evaluating CDC's and partners' readiness state.

No previous federal experience is required for the position, which will be located in Atlanta. More information about this position and how to apply is available at:

- <u>USAJOBS Job Announcement</u> 0601 Health Scientist Announcement
- USAJOBS Job Announcement 0602 Medical Officer Announcement

Both announcements close August 31, 2023. Questions about this detail can be directed to Ian Williams, deputy director for the Office of Readiness and Response, at iaw3@cdc.gov.

CDC Recommends New Tool to Protect Infants from Leading Cause of Hospitalization

CDC is recommending a new immunization starting this fall to help protect all infants under eight months of age and some older babies at increased risk of severe illness caused by <u>respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)</u>. RSV is one of the most common causes of childhood respiratory illness and results in annual outbreaks of respiratory illnesses in all age groups. Each year, an estimated 100 to 300 children younger than five years of age die due to RSV.

CDC recommends one dose of Nirsevimab, which was <u>approved last month</u> by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), for all infants younger than eight months, born during – or entering – their first RSV season. This is typically fall through spring. For a small group of children between the ages of eight months and 19 months who are at increased risk of severe RSV disease, such as children who are severely immunocompromised, a dose is recommended in their second season.

For more information, visit CDC's <u>RSV in Infants and Young Children</u> webpage. Read the full press release at <u>CDC Recommends a Powerful New Tool to Protect Infants from the Leading Cause of Hospitalization</u>.

CDC Releases Provisional Estimated Suicide Deaths in United States

CDC recently released the <u>latest provisional estimates for suicide deaths</u> in the United States in 2022. After declining in 2019 and 2020, suicide deaths increased approximately 5% in the United States in 2021. The provisional estimates indicate that suicide deaths further increased in 2022, rising from 48,183 deaths in 2021 to an estimated 49,449 deaths in 2022, an increase of approximately 2.6%. However, two groups did see a decline in numbers, American Indian and Alaska Native people (down 6.1%) and those ages 10 years to 24 years old (down 8.4%).

CDC announced seven new recipients in CDC's <u>Comprehensive Suicide Prevention Program</u>. This program now funds 24 recipients to implement and evaluate a comprehensive public health approach to suicide prevention, with a special focus on populations that are disproportionately affected by suicide. CDC's <u>Suicide Prevention Resource for Action</u> offers states and communities evidence-based strategies to prevent suicide.



Online Resources

CDC MMWR Reports

- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, August 18
- Progress Toward Poliomyelitis Eradication Pakistan, January 2022–June 2023
- Effectiveness of Monovalent and Bivalent mRNA Vaccines in Preventing COVID-19—Associated
 Emergency Department and Urgent Care Encounters Among Children Aged 6 Months—5 Years —
 VISION Network, United States, July 2022–June 2023
- Epidemiologic and Clinical Features of Mpox in Adults Aged >50 Years United States, May 2022– May 2023
- Notes from the Field: Outbreak of Norovirus Linked to a Food Establishment Illinois, November 2022

Mpox Guidance and Resources

- UPDATED Mpox Vaccines are Free
- UPDATED Demographics of Patients Receiving TPOXX for Treatment of Mpox
- UPDATED Interim Clinical Considerations for the JYNNEOS Vaccine
- UPDATED Mpox Vaccination Program Provider Agreement

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