

Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Centers Serving Tribal Nations

National Network of Learning Centers

The Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Centers (PERLC), formerly the Centers for Public Health Preparedness (CPHP) program, are a network of 14 learning centers funded by the Learning Office within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Office of Public Health Preparedness to strengthen emergency preparedness by linking academic expertise to state, local and tribal health agency needs. Established within accredited schools of public health, the PERLC are an important national resource for the development, delivery, and evaluation of competency-based preparedness education and related training. The PERLC offer over 15 years of experience in the development of emergency preparedness programs, and are supported by the most current information, instructional techniques, and nationally known subject matter experts. The PERLC are recognized for their capacity to adapt and tailor preparedness training to meet stakeholder needs.



PERLC Engaged with Tribal Partners

The PERLC have provided technical assistance, consultation and training in a variety of settings to increase preparedness planning among tribes. Detailed information on the public health preparedness and response training, education and technical assistance available can be accessed at the following websites:

University of Alabama, Birmingham, South Central PERLC (SCPERLC)

<http://www.southcentralpartnership.org/training>

University of Arizona, Mountain West PERLC (MWPERL)

http://mwperlc.arizona.edu/training_information

University of Washington, Northwest Center for Public Health Practice (NWPERLC)

<http://www.nwcphp.org/training/courses>

University of Oklahoma, Southwest PERLC (SWPERLC)

<http://swperlc.ouhsc.edu/>

Texas A&M University, College Station- Training and Education Collaborative System PERLC (TEC-PERLC)

<http://www.rural-preparedness.org/index.aspx?page=ef82a2c7-c259-4821-af7d-e9b0e583dfb5>

University of Minnesota, Simulations and Exercises for Educational Effectiveness PERLC (UM SEE-PERLC).

<http://www.sph.umn.edu/ce/perl/online/>

For more information about the PERLC program, email us at perlcprogram@cdc.gov or visit our website at <http://www.cdc.gov/phpr/perlc.htm>.



Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

PERLC in Action....

“ Because disaster-affected communities can't wait...”



- The South Central PERLC is currently working with the Alabama Poarch Band of Creek Indians and the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to educate leaders on the process of developing Continuity of Operations (COOP) plans for tribal departments and agencies. Interactive workshops are designed to familiarize tribal leaders with the essential elements in developing an effective COOP, including how to organize and coordinate the planning process, how to identify the department/ agency's essential functions, and how to decide when to suspend operations when required by long-term disasters.
- Tribal partners in Arizona, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, and Utah identified community resiliency as a priority and collaborated with the Mountain West PERLC at the University of Arizona to develop an approach to: 1) foster collaboration to develop common goals and objectives, 2) work collaboratively to develop a community resiliency resource profile (CRRP), 3) develop and tailor a strategy to address gaps identified in CRRP, and 4) implement and evaluate strategies through training and exercises. Current partners in this effort are communities of the Navajo Nation and the Santa Clara Pueblo in NM.
- In May 2012, the Texas A&M (TECS-PERLC), tribal leaders of the Oglala Sioux Tribe and the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, and the South Dakota Department of Health held a facilitated discussion and a tabletop exercise to test the tribes' emergency response plans. A wide range of stakeholders discussed the strengths and challenges each tribe has faced when responding to disasters, strengthening and building relationships, sharing best practices and lessons learned, identifying resources, and recognizing opportunities for organizations to work together.
- The Northwest PERLC works actively with Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board and other tribes in the region to design and implement specific training activities, assist in the development of a statewide workforce development strategy and support efforts to build greater capacity in assessment and training. Examples include assisting in the facilitation and evaluation of the annual Emergency Preparedness Conference, and assisting the Makah Tribe to conduct a community assessment including emergency preparedness.
- The South West PERLC has a long established relationship with the 39 sovereign tribal nations in Oklahoma. The SWPERLC is a member of the Inter-Tribal Emergency Management Coalition, which fosters partnerships among local, county and state tribal jurisdictions and addresses issues facing tribal public health and emergency response agencies. The SWPERLC offers preparedness and response training and technical assistance to member organizations and agencies.
- The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe requested the University of Minnesota's U-SEEE PERLC to develop a training video for tribal leaders on their responsibilities in preparing for and responding to a public health emergency. This need was echoed by other tribes in the area, including the Wisconsin-based Lac Courte Oreilles and the Ho-Chunk Nations. This video is relevant for tribal nations across the country.