Sustainable Public Health
Preparedness and Response Systems:
The Role of Training, Education, and Research

Coordinating Office for Terrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

NACCHO Public Health Preparedness Summit
February 18, 2009
Congressional Mandate that Centers for Public Health Preparedness be established at accredited schools of public health to:

- Establish **core curricula** for certificate programs, bachelors and masters degree programs
- Develop **competency-based training programs** for public health practitioners
- Ensure **content** of training programs **responds** to the needs of State, local, and tribal public health authorities
- Facilitate **Academic-Workforce Communication** to define, assess gaps in and evaluate impact on needs of involved community for public health preparedness and response
- Conduct **public health preparedness and response systems research**
CDC Preparedness and Response
Training, Education, and Research Programs

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Research for Maintaining Sustainable Public Health Preparedness and Response Systems:

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Sustainable Public Health Preparedness and Response Systems: The Role of Training and Education

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Centers for Public Health Preparedness

27 Centers for Public Health Preparedness (CPHPs) funded through a cooperative agreement with CDC

- **Purpose:** To strengthen terrorism and emergency preparedness by linking academic expertise to state, local, and tribal agency needs

- **Approach:** CHPs work in close collaboration with state, local, and tribal agencies to develop, deliver, and evaluate preparedness education based on community need

- **Program Priorities:**
  - Collaborate with health and public health agencies across the nation to help them meet preparedness education and learning needs
  - Maximize outreach of existing preparedness materials
  - Enhance the evidence base for effective preparedness education
CPHP Accomplishments through Sept 08

- Conducted 2,012 activities reaching over 300,000 learners
- Planned activities expected to reach more than 30,000 learners this year
- Served all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands and US territories with at least one CPHP activity
- Created 35 preparedness training and education resource guides on various preparedness topics from network collaboration groups
- Developed 1,446 education resources posted online for public use
- Published numerous peer-reviewed manuscripts and presentations on preparedness workforce and training issues
Key Drivers of CPHP Program Change

Pandemic All-Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA (Sec. 304))

HSPD-21 (37)(38) National Strategy for Public Health and Medical Practice

Federal Education and Training Interagency Group (FETIG)
  - A mechanism for Federal coordination, policy, and strategic guidance per HSDP-21 and PAHPA directives
  - Focusing on public health and medical disaster preparedness and response core curricula, training, and education
  - Across executive departments and agencies
Key Initiatives for the CPHP Program (2009-2010)

- One year extension for the CPHP program through 2010
- New non-research Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for preparedness and response training and education
  - Anticipated publishing in Spring, FY 2010
  - Limited to accredited Schools of Public Health
  - Designed to support PAHHA [Section 304] provisions
  - Anticipated reduction in the number of funded Centers devoted to training and education
- Core competencies for the public health preparedness and response workforce (est. December, 2008 – July 2010)
Sustainable Public Health Preparedness and Response Systems: The Role of Research

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Outline

- What does the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA) legislation require?
- What is public health preparedness and response systems research?
- What research is being done to sustain public health preparedness and response systems?
Mandated that Centers for Public Health Preparedness (CPHP) conduct:

“(7) PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEMS RESEARCH.

In consultation with relevant public and private entities, the Secretary shall define the existing knowledge base for public health preparedness and response systems, and establish a research agenda based on Federal, State, local, and tribal public health preparedness priorities. As a condition of receiving funding from the Secretary under this subsection, a Center shall conduct public health systems research that is consistent with the agenda described under this paragraph”
COTPER Charge to the

- Provide recommendations regarding research priorities for emergency preparedness and response in public health systems specific for the expertise in schools of public health.

- Identify opportunities and 3-5 top-priority research areas that will result in measurable outcomes and near-term impact over the next 3-5 yr.
Contextual Considerations: Scope Focused on Public Health Emergency and Response Content

- Systems in context of public health emergency preparedness and response
  - What system improvements at the local level provide added value for public health response?
- Includes management of public health materiel, personnel and information supply chains in complex and rapidly changing systems
  - How do we provide more effective support at the federal level?
What is Public Health Systems Research?

“A field of study that examines the organization, financing, and delivery of public health services within communities, and the impact of these services on public health.”


“Public health systems are the constellation of individuals and organizations in the public and private sector that provide information and assets to promote population health, provide health care delivery, prevent disease and injury and include health care providers, insurers, purchasers, public health agencies, faith-based organizations, and entities that operate outside the traditional sphere of health care. Public health systems research investigates the functions, operations, structure, and interactions of public health systems.”

CDC/COTPER, 2008
Why public health preparedness and response systems research?

- $7Billion in funds infused into state and local preparedness

- Need a rigorous and systematic investigation to:
  - quantitatively describe the complex system,
  - identify gaps and,
  - apply research findings to affect policy and programmatic improvements

- Young field fosters innovative approach

Committee on Research Priorities in Emergency Preparedness and Response for Public Health Systems, Board on Health Sciences Policy, Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, January 2008.

- Convened committee of academicians and practitioners with knowledge and expertise in Preparedness and Emergency Response
- Conducted a public meeting and workshop to obtain expert views on research priorities in emergency preparedness and response for public health systems
- Identified priority research areas likely to result in “measureable outcomes” and “near-term impact” over 3-5 years
Program Linkages: Centers for Public Health Preparedness (CPHPs) and Preparedness and Emergency Response Research Centers (PERRC):

- CPHP and PERRC programs are co-located in the Coordinating Office for Preparedness and Response (COTPER) / Office of the Director (OD):
  - CPHP resides in the Learning Office for Preparedness and Response/COTPER/OD
  - PERRC resides in the Office of Science and Public Health Practice/COTPER/OD
- CPHP and PERRC Program Officials recognize the role of training and education in the translation of research findings to public health practice
- Annual CPHP and PERRC grantee meetings are co-convened
- PERRC Program Official participates in CPHP Principal Investigator conference calls
- CPHP Program Official participates in PERRC Research Translation Workshops
Priority Research Themes Proposed in IOM Letter Report:

- **Enhance the Usefulness of Training** **excludes formative and summative evaluation studies (such as training evaluation, program evaluation, needs assessment or analysis)**
- Improve Communications in Preparedness and Response
- **Create and Maintain Sustainable Preparedness and Response Systems**
- Generate Criteria and Metrics Applicable to An All-hazard Approach to Preparedness to Measure Effectiveness and Efficiency
Preparedness and Emergency Response Research Centers

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Questions?