Welcome to the first issue of the ISDH Division of Emergency Preparedness newsletter! I want to take a moment to recognize the outstanding team members who lead the efforts to protect Hoosiers from a multitude of public health and safety issues and encourage you to engage with them to see how we can strengthen our partnerships.

We’ve all heard the Boy Scout motto of “Be Prepared.” This means always being in a state of readiness to do one’s duty. It’s a creed that our Division of Emergency Preparedness follows every day. Whether it’s meeting with healthcare coalitions across the state, holding training exercises or partnering with ISDH programs and other state, local and federal partners for a response to a flood, this team tackles issues with professionalism.

We are fortunate to have a wealth of expertise at our disposal, and that is more critical than ever during what is a time of transition for the division. As some of you may know, Lee Christenson has left his role as director, and Billy Brewer, the division’s director of operations, is serving as interim director. While we plan to post the director’s position soon, I am confident that the important work being done by the division will continue without interruption and encourage you to reach out to Billy at jambrewer@isdh.in.gov if you haven’t already connected.

Although National Preparedness Month isn’t until September, I want to acknowledge you all for the work you do to ensure that your communities are prepared year-round.

Disaster can strike at any time, but we seem especially cognizant of it when we enter severe weather season or are battling an outbreak of disease. I know that the work we do here at ISDH to address these challenges would not be possible without all of our partners across the state.

Thank you for all of your support. Enjoy the newsletter!

Yours in Health,
Kris Box, MD, FACOG
Indiana State Health Commissioner

For more information and contact information, visit: https://www.in.gov/isdh/17855.htm
Save a Cop Program

Police officers face danger every day, and they deal with life-threatening situations on every shift they work while keeping the public safe.

Save a Cop is an eight-hour class offered free to police officers in Indiana. Officers are taught how to also save their own lives or the life of their partners.

Here is what we know:

Of the 100 percent of preventable police officer shooting/stabbing deaths, 60 percent were from extremity hemorrhage, 32 percent Sucking chest wound and 6 percent die from an airway issue. Most all that happens while the scene is too volatile for fire and EMS to get in to help save them.

How it all started in District 1:

Save a Cop started with a call for help to Gary McKay, a former Kokomo Police officer turned emergency preparedness Manager for Community Hospital in Munster. The Kokomo area had recently lost a Howard County Sheriff’s Deputy who was shot and bled to death from his wound. McKay was able to locate the training through the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) and began making the contacts needed to bring the training to Indiana, particularly Howard County.

McKay found a program through FLETC titled Tactical Medical for First Responders, which was designed to define a Medical Threat Assessment, to include a medical plan for a tactical operation. Students learn how to apply techniques to control life threatening bleeding during Care Under Fire in a HOT ZONE. Additionally, they will perform techniques to treat life threatening and non-life threatening injuries during Tactical Field Care in a WARM ZONE. During the program students demonstrate lifting, moving and extricating victims from a tactical or hostile environment during Tactical Evacuation Care.

McKay recruited training partner Lori Postma, a registered nurse, firefighter and the emergency preparedness coordinator, from Franciscan Health in Northwest Indiana, to help instruct the program.

The Indiana District 1 Hospital Emergency Planning Committee (HEPC) was able to sponsor three SWAT medical specialists and nine law enforcement officers to become instructors through the program at FLETC in South Carolina and bring it back to Indiana. The program took on the moniker of Save a Cop in the district. That program began and the instructors are credited with training hundreds of police officers. D1 HEPC has 12 instructors trained and willing to teach the life-saving techniques.

Here is what’s needed:

After successful completion of the eight-hour training, each police officer receives a kit containing life-saving tools. Each kit costs $115 and contains a tourniquet, chest seal, combat gauze, clot forming gauze and an airway tube.

What can you do?

You can sponsor a cop or a whole department by your donations. The HEPC is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization and gladly accepts any donation you may like to give. Checks can be sent payable to: District 1 Hospital Emergency Planning Committee, P.O. Box 188, Schererville, IN 46375.

For more information, contact the District 1 Hospital Emergency Planning Committee:

D1 Hospital Emergency Planning Committee, P.O. Box 188, Schererville, IN 46375

Gary McKay, Community Hospital gmckay@comhs.org, 219-513-2580
Lori Postma, Franciscan Health Munster lori637.lp@gmail.com, 219-712-0774
Amish Schoolhouse Gets Hepatitis A Vaccinations

After getting a report of an Amish child with hepatitis A, the Indiana State Department of Health jumped into action because many of the children in that community are not fully vaccinated. The next day, Preparedness was on-site at the Amish school and worked with the teachers to get information and permission slips in the hands of parents. They were all returned within one day.

Going to an Amish school to vaccinate children presents some unique challenges. Through preparedness planning and CDC Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant funding, ISDH met these challenges head-on and hosted a successful clinic.

**Challenge #1:** No electricity. With the two-day shipping, ISDH was able to quickly get a battery back-up for a fridge to keep vaccination at temperature and to fuel lanterns for light.

**Challenge #2:** No heat. The children’s classrooms were heated with wood fires, but the clinic room had no heat source, and yes it was cold — it was the week of the Polar Vortex. The team dressed in layers and used toe warmers. The office manager kept things moving.

**Challenge #3:** No running water. Thankfully inside there was a hand water pump and liquid hand soap. This kept staff from needing to go to the pump outside to wash their hands.

At the end of the day, 19 vaccinations were given, and the team was packed up and heading back to the office in about an hour and 15 minutes.

District 6 Healthcare Coalition utilized HPP funds to purchase 600 Stop the Bleed Control Supplies and 60 Tourniquets to be distributed in all D6 counties. The kits will go to the county EMA for local distribution and training. The HCC utilized local partners and Delaware County MRC volunteers to package the individual items into pre-packaged kits, which allowed for a huge cost savings allowing for such large numbers of kits! Congrats, District 6 HCC!

Monroe County Health Department utilizes MRC Volunteers to conduct hepatitis A vaccines clinics. It was a great response!

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DIVISION OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:
Who We Are and What We Do …

District and Local Readiness

The District and Local Readiness (DLR) section supports local public health and healthcare preparedness throughout Indiana. This section works with local health departments, hospitals, healthcare coalitions and other public health and healthcare partners in each district.

The DLR administers the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant, which includes the City Readiness Initiative (CRI) program grant and Healthcare Preparedness Program (HPP) grant. There HPP Program awards funds to all 10 healthcare coalitions while the PHEP program provides funding to all 93 participating health departments in the state. Healthcare coalitions focus on assisting all types of local healthcare partners, emergency management, emergency medical services and public health in identifying gaps in preparedness, determining the specific jurisdictional priorities and developing plans for building and sustaining preparedness and response capabilities.

Operations

Operations consists of emergency planning, emergency operations, medical countermeasures, public health volunteers and preparedness analysis, as well as coordination with other agencies at ISDH on the PHEP-HPP Cooperative Agreement. Emergency planning deals with the development and care of the division’s preparedness and response plans.

Emergency Operations serves as the Emergency Support Function 8 Public Health and Medical Services (ESF-8) coordinator in the Indiana State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) during disasters and statewide emergencies. In conjunction with the Division of Strategic National Stockpile (DSNS), the Medical Countermeasures (MCM) program collaborates with the Indiana State Police, Indiana National Guard, Indiana Department of Transportation, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, and other agencies to support the distribution of pharmaceuticals, countermeasures, personal protective equipment, medical supplies and other related items in response to disasters and statewide emergencies. The volunteer program is administered by the Emergency Volunteer Registry of Volunteers for Indiana (SERV-IN), which is a statewide electronic registration system of public health, medical, and non-medical volunteers who desire to assist during an event or disaster. Visit the ISDH YouTube channel for informative SERV-IN videos.

Resource and Evaluation

The Resource and Evaluation program supervises the Training and Exercise and Logistics programs. This section is responsible for the evaluation of emergency plans, maintenance and deployment of resources. This section responds to emergencies and disasters while maintaining the readiness of the ISDH DEP resources.

The Resource and Evaluation section guarantees a cooperative approach to Training and Exercise throughout the state by collaborating with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security in the development of the State Training and Exercise Plan. The Resource and Evaluation section consists of the following areas: Training, Exercise, Logistics and Communication.

DIVISION CONTACT

James “Billy” Brewer
Interim Division Director
317-233-9249
jambrewer@isdh.in.gov

Megan Lytle
Director of DLR
317-233-3218
mlytle@isdh.in.gov

Vacant
Director of Resource and Evaluation
317-234-1195

Need a little help? Visit either of these two websites:
## Upcoming Trainings and Events

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<tr>
<th>APRIL</th>
<th>MAY</th>
<th>JUNE</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4/17-4/18</strong></td>
<td><strong>4/27</strong></td>
<td><strong>6/3-6/5</strong></td>
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<td>ICS 400 Advanced ICS Command will be held at Hendricks Co Government Center in Danville, IN. Please register online at <a href="https://acadisportal.in.gov">https://acadisportal.in.gov</a></td>
<td>District 7 Full Healthcare Coalition Meeting beginning at 10am at Ivy Tech Community in Terre Haute, IN</td>
<td>All Hazards Finance/Administrative Unit Leader Fire Department (Tippecanoe) Layette, IN</td>
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<td><strong>4/19-4/20</strong></td>
<td><strong>4/29-4/30</strong></td>
<td><strong>6/5-6/6</strong></td>
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<td>IDHS Executive Leadership Development in La Porte, IN. Registered at <a href="https://acadisportal.in.gov">https://acadisportal.in.gov</a></td>
<td>MGT 324– Campus Emergencies Prevention, Response, and Recovery Wayne County Administration Building in Richmond, IN. <a href="https://acadisportal.in.gov">https://acadisportal.in.gov</a></td>
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<td><strong>6/13-6/14</strong></td>
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<td>Morgan County POD Game Exercise starting at 1 pm at Paul Hadley Middle School located at 200 W. Carlisle St. Mooresville, IN</td>
<td>ICS 300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents Peabody Library, Columbia City, IN. Register at <a href="https://acadisportal.in.gov">https://acadisportal.in.gov</a></td>
<td>MGT 447-Managing Food Emergencies: Strategies for a Community Response in Decatur Co EMA, Greensburg, IN. Register at <a href="https://acadisportal.in.gov">https://acadisportal.in.gov</a></td>
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<td>District 8 District Retreat at French Lick Conference Ctr 8670 West State Rd 56 French Lick, IN Please click link for further details: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/4th-annual-district-8-eppc-conference-and-exercise-tickets-55155502593">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/4th-annual-distric</a></td>
<td>IDHS Executive Leadership Development will be held at South Bend Fire Training Center in South Bend, IN. Please register online at <a href="https://acadisportal.in.gov">https://acadisportal.in.gov</a></td>
<td>ICS 400 Advanced ICS Command Pine View Government Center, New Albany, IN. Register at <a href="https://acadisportal.in.gov">https://acadisportal.in.gov</a></td>
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### How do I sign up for training?

To take training courses offered by local, state and federal partners, you will need to obtain a Public Safety Identification (PSID) number from the State of Indiana and a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Student Identification (SID) number. Obtaining your PSID will also provide you access to Acadis the State of Indiana’s online course and training management system. Click [here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/4th-annual-district-8-eppc-conference-and-exercise-tickets-55155502593) to find out more and register.