**Georgia Mountains (Region B) Healthcare Coalition**

**Quarterly Meeting via Conference Call**

**Minutes**

**May 20, 2020**



**Attendees:** Please see list of participants posted to GHA 911.org and [www.garegionb.org](http://www.garegionb.org) for this conference call

Convened: 10:00 AM Adjourned:12**:**00 PM

**Opening Remarks and Introductions**

**Coalition information/updates**

**Matthew Crumpton**

* **Pediatric Surge Tabletop Exercise (TTX) After Action Report and Budget 2020-**2021 available on GHA 911.org and Region B website
  + Region B and Region K complete TTX. 4 objectives, 39 participating organizations, 3 support personnel, 69 participants. Initial planning November 19, 2019. Dec 5 midterm planning, and Dec 15 final planning. TTX Jan 29. Key point successes include collaboration with regional partners and utilization of Everbridge messaging. Opportunities – additional coordination with CHOA, pediatric specific staff training, grief support and CISM inclusion in plans. Grief Support/CISM training planned for March but cancelled due to COVID-19.
* **2019-2020 Budget Update**: EMAG, TECC, TNCC, ENPC, RTDC training all cancelled due to COVID-19. $58,000 reallocated to purchase additional Bioesque and sprayers. Send request for Bioesque and sprayers to Matthew or Donna Sue. All request will be evaluated based on availability of resources. Additional funding from the state may be available to purchase additional sprayers and Bioesque.
* **2020-2021 Budget** - Executive team finalized budget of $152,000 and will be forwarded to GHA. Activities include training and care for patients in rural areas. In state travel reductions: EMAG reduced to 16 participants, MATF Planning reduced to 12, travel reimbursement reduced to 3 people/10 times, PREP summit sponsor 4 people. Out of state travel reductions: NHCC reduced to 4 participants, Mark Stepp’s meeting reduced to 2 participants. Approved 4 people to attend out of state training for infectious disease training. Approval must be acquired prior to travel/training. Additional funding:
  + Equipment – HVAC units
  + Supplies – additional backpacks for regional participants, tabletop and brand recognition supplies, FR57 replenishment, triage tags, tablecloth, food and space for training.
* **COVID19 Response** – Today marks the 69th Operational period of the NGHS Incident Command Center. ICC had been operational 7 days per week. Beginning 5-18-2020, the ICC is staffed Monday, Wednesday, Friday. All visitations halted unless it is an end of life circumstance then visitation limited to 2 people for 2 hours. Surgeries are gradually being resumed after all surgeries being cancelled in mid-March. The trend is flattening for NGHS. There have been 69 deaths and 514 discharges for NGHS. All patients entering an NGHS hospital are being tested. Face masks are recommended to be worn when in public. All staff at NGHS are required to wear face masks while in the facilities. If any facility needs face masks, reach out to Matthew or Donna Sue. N95s and isolation gowns are being cleaned and sterilized to help slow the burn rate. A 20-bed mobile hospital is being assembled on the NGMC Gainesville campus. Peak census 138 was reached 2 weeks ago. Gainesville and Braselton campuses expanded ICU capacity to meet the census needs.
  + EEI - Information must be updated 7 days per week
  + PPE – still limited, isolation gowns being made by churches and correctional institutes, NGHS also purchased washable gowns.

**PH, GHA and State Updates**

* + **District 10 Public Health** – outreach to vulnerable populations, assisting with PPE distribution
  + **District 2 Public Health** -PPE delivering continuing 3 times per week, amounts anticipated to decreasing, contact local health department for testing.
  + **Georgia Hospital Association,** update from Lanetta – Continue to update facilities information.
  + **Georgia Department of Public Health State updates** - Tuesdays and Thursdays conference calls with State regarding PPE and medications. Georgia expected to receive 3 shipments of Remdesivir.

**Hospital, EMA, LTC, Behavioral Health, ARC, other partner updates**

* + **Long Term Care Facilities** – New Horizons utilizing National Guard to help sanitize, other measures include cleaning and sanitizing packages prior to entering the facility. Testing for residents and employees at LTC facilities underway.
  + **American Red Cross** - Hall County Corona Virus task force reevaluating the community evacuation facilities due to the upcoming hurricane season to reduce the risk associated with COVID-19.

**Open Forum**

* + Thanks to Frances Franks for completing the TTX AAR. This document is beneficial to grant funding. Additionally, Frances has been on the frontlines of the COVID-19 units including hands-on experience on things that went well and opportunities for improvement. This experience will prove to be beneficial regarding infectious disease response, Infectious Disease Annex, and future grant funding.
  + National EMS week

**Closing**

* + Send any requests, clarifications, or questions to Donna Sue or Matthew
  + Please share information and meeting minutes with Executives and co-workers at your facility