

## ADVANCED PRACTICE CENTERS

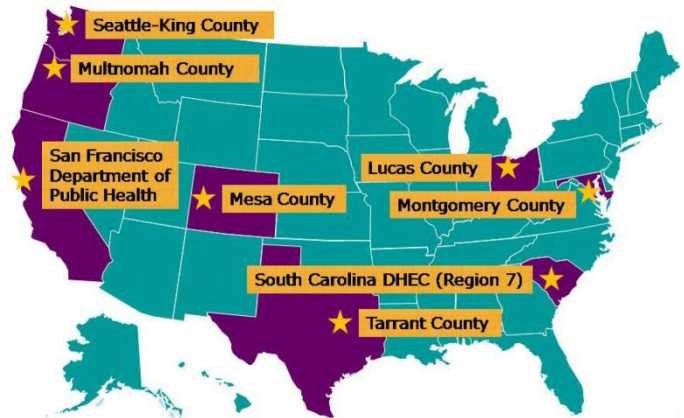
### *Ensuring Public Health Preparedness at the Community Level*

**NACCHO – and the more than 2,800 local health departments across the nation that work every day to prevent disease, promote wellness, and protect health – urge Members of Congress to provide \$5.4 million in FY2012 for the invaluable APC program; this level of investment will help ensure that the nation’s local health departments have the tools and resources they need to respond promptly and appropriately to a range of health hazards.**

### *Delivering Preparedness Resources to Local Health Departments Nationwide*

The Advanced Practice Center program started as a CDC pilot project in 1999, and has since expanded to a national program managed by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). The APC program funds eight local health departments to be innovative leaders in public health preparedness to develop, evaluate, and promote products and resources that other field practitioners can use to meet the preparedness requirements expected for their organization or community. Since its inception, the APC program has created over 150 products and hosted numerous workshops, webinars, and other in-person product presentations. The APC products and resources cover a wide range of public health preparedness issues including:

- Biosurveillance, Disease Detection, and Investigation
- Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive Preparedness
- Continuity of Operations Planning
- Environmental Health Emergency Preparedness
- Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place Planning
- Isolation and Quarantine Guidance
- Mass Care and Fatality Management
- Mass Medical Countermeasures Planning
- Pandemic Influenza Preparedness
- Building Partnerships and Collaborations
- Risk Communications Planning
- Volunteer Management
- Vulnerable Populations Planning



The APC products have multiple applications, from trainings and exercises to templates and reference guides. All of the products have been evaluated to meet excellence standards, which ensures that they are easy to use, have been reviewed by subject matter experts and have an identified utility to practitioners in the field.



## APC SITES AND CONCENTRATION AREAS

Each of the eight APC sites is comprised of subject matter experts in a variety of topic areas in public health preparedness.

### Mesa County (CO) Advanced Practice Center

The Mesa County APC created the *Blueprint for Volunteers in Hospitals and Rural Medical Centers*. The Center's main areas of expertise include:

- Rural public health preparedness
- Volunteer management
- Environmental health preparedness

### Montgomery County (MD) Advanced Practice Center

The Montgomery County APC has created over 27 products for local health departments. Most recently they created *A Prescription for Preparedness: An Online Community for Local Health Departments and Pharmacists to help Ready America for Emergencies*. The Center's main areas of expertise include:

- Vulnerable populations planning
- Online modeling for preparedness
- Community partnership planning

### Multnomah County (OR) Advanced Practice Center

The Multnomah County APC has developed four products including the recently created: *Inclusive Just-in-Time Training for Mass Prophylaxis/POD Operations*. The Center's main areas of expertise include:

- Workforce development
- Volunteer management
- Mass medical countermeasures planning

### San Francisco (CA) Advanced Practice Center

The San Francisco APC has created three products including the *Infectious Disease Emergency Response (IDER) Toolkit*. The Center's main areas of expertise include:

- Infectious disease preparedness
- Mass medical countermeasures planning
- Pandemic influenza planning

### Seattle & King County (WA) Advanced Practice Center

The Seattle & King County APC has created 16 products, including the recent product *Get Ready for Call Center Surge: A toolkit for Local Health Departments*. The Center's main areas of expertise include:

- Risk communications planning
- Vulnerable populations planning
- Community education outreach

### South Carolina Region 7 Advanced Practice Center

The South Carolina APC created *On The Safe Side A Security Planning Toolkit for Public Health Emergencies*. The Center's main areas of expertise include:

- Hospital preparedness
- Security planning
- Medical surge planning

### Tarrant County (TX) Advanced Practice Center

The Tarrant County APC has developed 18 products, including the recently created, *Pre-School and School Health Surveillance: A Guidance Kit*. The Center's main areas of expertise include:

- Nuclear and radiological preparedness
- Biosurveillance
- Workforce development

### Toledo-Lucas County (OH) Advanced Practice Center

The Toledo-Lucas County APC created *Transitional Framework for Pandemic Readiness and Response*. The Center's main areas of expertise include:

- Emergency response planning
- Environmental health preparedness
- Risk communications planning

## APC PRODUCT USERS

The APC products are being used by a variety of organizations and professionals working in the area of public health preparedness including: local and state health department staff, medical reserve corps and other volunteer organizations, universities and other training institutions, federal agencies, private businesses and community-based organizations, and many more.

In a recent survey of APC product users:

- 99% agreed or strongly agreed **the product was effective.**
- 99% agreed or strongly agreed **the product improved their organization's preparedness capacity.**
- 100% agreed or strongly agreed **the product improved their organization's preparedness capability.**
- 100% agreed or strongly agreed **they would recommend this product to other organizations.**