

# Preparedness Brief

Edition 44 - April 2009

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## Program Update

### APC Network

Nationwide local health departments (LHDs) work every day on the front lines to combat threats to the health of their communities.

However, a significant number

## Featured Articles

### “Vulnerable Populations”—What is in a Definition?

Costanza Galastri, MA, Senior Analyst at NACCHO

Providing effective support and care to vulnerable populations prior to, during, as well as following a disaster is—unquestionably—a critical priority for local, state, and federal agencies and organizations nationwide.

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### The Health and Disability Project at the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)

Jocelyn Ronald, Program Associate at NACCHO

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) established the Health and Disability Project in 2005 to fund five demonstration projects through a cooperative agreement with the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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## A Story from the Field

### Preparing the Latino Community for Public Health Emergencies

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of these LHDs still lack the crucial resources and in-house expertise to effectively plan for severe threats such as pandemic influenza, emerging infectious diseases, terrorism, and catastrophic natural disasters.

Kay Aaby, RN, MPH; Rachel L. Abbey, MPH, and Nancy Newton, MPH (Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services)

Studies have found that Latinos and other minority communities are less likely to have an emergency plan, and as a whole, feel unprepared to deal with emergencies when compared to non-minority communities in the general population.

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Since 2003, the Advanced Practice Centers (APC) network has been at the forefront of public health preparedness. This network serves as a vital knowledge hub by providing LHDs nationwide with preparedness tools that can be quickly and easily integrated into local plans, procedures, and practices. These tools are essential instruments that LHDs routinely employ to assess their vulnerability, and

## News, Reports, and Journal Articles

### **Disaster Preparedness and the Chronic Disease Needs of Vulnerable Adults**

Nancy Aldrich, William F. Benson

Source: [www.cdc.gov/Publications/](http://www.cdc.gov/Publications/)  
(Volume 5, Number 1)(2008)

This article focuses on the importance of planning and coordination among groups of public health and emergency preparedness professionals.

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### **Disaster Preparedness for Vulnerable Populations: Determining Effective Strategies for Communicating Risk, Warning, and Response**

Helen Sullivan and Markku Hakkinen

Source: [http://magrann-conference.rutgers.edu/2006/speakers\\_list-with-abstracts.html](http://magrann-conference.rutgers.edu/2006/speakers_list-with-abstracts.html)  
(2006)

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to strengthen their response capacity.

In October 2009, the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), will award approximately \$3.2 million to LHDs, to identify a network of APCs. Selected APCs will serve as learning laboratories, training grounds, and promotion channels in support of local public health preparedness and response.

Funding will be available Oct. 1, 2009 through Sept. 29, 2010.

If you are interested in applying for the APC project, please indicate your interest to Costanza Galastri at [cgalastri@naccho.org](mailto:cgalastri@naccho.org) by close of business (5 P.M. EST) on

This paper addresses the challenges and strategies preparedness planners face when working with vulnerable populations.

[More](#)

## **Identifying and Protecting Vulnerable Populations in Public Health Emergencies: Addressing Gaps in Education and Training**

Association Schools of Public Health

Martha S. Wingate, DrPH; Emily C. Perry, MPH, CHES; Paul H. Campbell, ScD

Prabu David, PhD; Elizabeth M. Weist, MA, MPH

Source: [www.publichealthreports.org/archives/archives.cfm](http://www.publichealthreports.org/archives/archives.cfm)

(Volume 122)(May–June 2007)

This article explores the effects of disasters on vulnerable populations and focuses on academic Centers for Public Health Preparedness (created by the CDC).

[More](#)

## **Disaster Planning and Risk Communication With Vulnerable Communities: Lessons From Hurricane Katrina**

David P. Eisenman, MD, MSHS, Kristina M. Cordasco, MD, MPH, Steve Asch, MD,

MSHS, Joya F. Golden, BA, and Deborah Glik, ScD

Source: [www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/](http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/)

(Vol 97, No. S1)(2007)

This is a "research and practice" paper that reviews and analyzes the planning and risk communication that was used during Hurricane Katrina with vulnerable communities.

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Friday, May 1, 2009.

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Additional information about the APC program and this RFP is available at: [www.naccho.org/APC/](http://www.naccho.org/APC/)

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Start making plans now to attend the NACCHO Annual 2009 Conference, set for July 29 – 31, in Orlando, Florida, at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort.

Visit: [www.naccho.org/events/nacchoannual2009/](http://www.naccho.org/events/nacchoannual2009/)

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NACCHO's Preparedness Brief is a monthly e-publication. For information or to submit an article or editorial please email us at [phpreparedness@naccho.org](mailto:phpreparedness@naccho.org).

## Resources and Tools

### **Post-Report Conference--Working Conference on Emergency Management and Individuals with Disabilities and the Elderly**

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and U.S. Department of Homeland Security Administration on Developmental Disabilities

Source: [www.add-em-conf.com/confreport.htm](http://www.add-em-conf.com/confreport.htm)

(2006)

A document that highlights a conference that was held about emergency management and individuals with disabilities, along with the elderly in Washington,DC during 2006.

[More](#)

### **Interim Emergency Management Planning Guide for Special Needs Populations**

FEMA

2008

A comprehensive,emergency planning guide for state,territorial, tribal, and local emergency managers regarding special needs populations.

[More](#)

### **Vulnerable Populations Tools**

A list of helpful APC tools for vulnerable populations. Each tool is listed with a description and a link to the tool.

[More](#)

### **Individuals with Disabilities in Emergency Preparedness Executive Order 13347 Progress Report**

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[org](#)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Preparedness Brief Editors:

Source: [www.dhs.gov/index.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/index.shtm)

Zarnaaz Bashir, Editor-in-Chief

July 2005 – September 2006

Jack Herrmann, Editor-in-Chief

This report was formed by the Interagency Coordinating Council on Emergency

Megan Skupien, Lead Editor

Preparedness and Individuals with Disabilities (ICC). The report reviews the ICC

Costanza Galastri, Editor

background along with activities, accomplishments, and recommendations.

Janusz Wasiolek, Editor

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## **Emergency Preparedness Initiative (EPI) Guide on the Special Needs of People with Disabilities for Emergency Managers, Planners and Responders**

National Organization on Disability

Source: [www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/dbtacnortheast/r-emergency.cfm](http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/dbtacnortheast/r-emergency.cfm)

The National Organization on Disability (N.O.D.) produced the "Emergency

Preparedness Initiative (EPI) Guide" to summarize the issues among people living with

disabilities and how emergency planners can plan more effectively for a disaster.

[More](#)

## **AT-Risk Populations Project Engagement Meetings: Final Report**

ASTHO

Source: [www.astho.org](http://www.astho.org)

(September 2008)

This is a report that reflects information collected during various meetings that were

held during March 2008.

[More](#)

## **National Commission on Children and Disasters**

National Commission on Children and Disasters

The National Commission on Children and Disasters has been tasked with examining and assessing the needs of children as they relate to preparation for, response to, and recovery from all hazards. The Commission identifies the unmet needs of children by working cooperatively with a variety of stakeholders.

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## **Upcoming Preparedness Events and Trainings**

### **Emergency Care Partnership Program Conference**

DHHS and ASPR

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response Healthcare Facilities (ASPR) invites you to attend the Emergency Care Partnership Program Conference on June 15 - 16, 2009.

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### **NACCHO Annual**

Start making plans now to attend the NACCHO Annual 2009 Conference, set for July 29 - 31, in Orlando, Florida, at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort.

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### **Partners in Emergency Preparedness**

Washington State University

The Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference will be held April 14, 2009–April 15, 2009 at the Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center in Tacoma, WA.

[More](#)

## **National Environmental Public Health Conference**

The National Environmental Public Health Conference will be held on October 26-28, 2009 in Atlanta, GA. The deadline for abstract submission is Friday, May 8, 2009.

For information on the conference, visit

<http://www.team-psa.com/2009nephc/main.asp>.

[More](#)

## **UC Berkeley School of Public Health Presents the CIDER Summit 2009**

UC Berkeley School of Public Health Center for Infectious Diseases & Emergency Readiness

The CIDER Summit 2009 will be a 2-day educational conference co-sponsored by the California Association of Communicable Disease Controllers, California Department of Public Health, and University of California, San Francisco, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Division of Preventive Medicine and Public Health.

[More](#)

## **PlanFirst Webcast on Pandemic Influenza – Accomplishments and Challenges in State Planning**

April 29, 2009 2:00 EDT

To learn more about state-based public health pandemic planning accomplishments and efforts to overcome current challenges, please join the Webcast on April 29 to

hear from a panel of speakers.

[More](#)

## **5th Annual Emergency Preparedness Conference**

April 14-15, 2009

The conference will cover hospital-based best practices for emergency management planning, response and recovery including but not limited to: exercise strategies, surge capacity, defining and managing staff roles and responsibilities, and more!

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## **16th World Congress on Disaster and Emergency Medicine**

16th WCDEM is a biannual event convened by the World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine. It is the premier event for the discussion of disaster and emergency health.

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