Strategies for Developing Working Partnerships – examining lessons learned from COVID 19

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State Perspectives on Strengthening Partnerships

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Andrea Skewes

- University of Nevada, Reno - MPH
- Has worked in public health for 9 years
  - WIC, MCH, immunizations, & environmental health
  - Preparedness for 5 years
- Interim State MRC Coordinator from 2023
- State-level MRC workgroups: Core Competencies Training Plan, Media Campaign, State Summit Planning Team
Background

Local health departments
- 15 MRC units in Utah
- MRC in local health code
- Responsible for volunteer management
- State MRC coordinator

Utah Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
- Funding
- Systems
- Technical assistance
Lessons learned: COVID-19 partnerships

**Successes**

- Strengthen relationships with local MRC coordinators
- Able to test Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing waivers
- Improved visibility of MRC within the state
- Local MRC units strengthened partnerships

**Challenges**

- Early on limited communication and coordination of what MRC coordinators and units faced
- “Can we use the MRC?”
- Volunteer call to action
Looking forward

Strengthen existing partnerships

• Support local MRC partnerships
• Volunteer Donation and Coordination Team (VDCT)
• VOAD partners
• Emergency management
• Userserve Utah
County Perspectives on Strengthening Partnerships

Anne Carta
Senior Program Coordinator
Marin County Department of Public Health
Pandemic Response & Partnerships

February 2020: 275 Volunteers
July 2023: 864 Volunteers
400+ volunteers 1+ shift

Activities:
• Call Center & Provider Hotline
• Contact Investigations
• Testing and results
• Logistics and planning
• Vaccinating
• AFN, SNF/RCFE, and schools outreach
• Test kit distribution

COVID Volunteer Hours:
• FY20: 3,424
• FY21: 17,516
• FY22: 5,495
• FY23: 1,170
Total hours: 27,605

MRC Coordinator in the Emergency Operations Center Medical Health Branch
Post-COVID Partnerships

• Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Coalition
• Marin Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters
• Regional Disaster Councils
• Marin EMS Agency
• Overdose Free Marin
• Marin County Community Response Teams
• County of Marin Behavioral Health & Recovery Services
• Marin County Office of Education
MARIN LIFESAVING SKILLS TRAINING

LEARN
✓ HANDS-ONLY CPR
✓ AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR
✓ STOP THE BLEED
✓ NARCAN

REGISTRATION REQUIRED:
https://marinmrc.eventbrite.com

2023 TRAINING PLAN
Strategic planning with equitable training goals.

BI-MONTHLY CLASSES
OPEN TO ALL RESIDENTS!

REGIONAL CLASSES
Offered in partnership with Ready Marin & Regional Disaster Coordinators

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
We’re working with non-profits in the Marin County Public Health Community Response Team program to expand access to underserved communities.

SCHOOLS
We’ve partnered with Marin County Office of Education to build an equitable and sustainable training program that is supported by MMRC volunteers as-needed.

SAVE A LIFE!
CHECK OUT OUR UPCOMING CLASSES!
Overdose Free Marin

• MMRC supports tabling activities & special events/trainings.
• Narcan administration included in Lifesaving Skills training.
• https://odfreemarin.org/
• Professional mental health support during a crisis in the community or in schools.

• Partnering with Marin County Behavioral Health & Recovery Services and Marin County Office of Education

In times of community crises, we can all bounce back with resilience and hope given support, caring, and access to resources.
Bridget Velasco, Maui District Health Office
Hawai‘i Department of Health
Community Partnerships
Bridget Kaumeheiiwa Velasco

University of Hawai‘i- Mānoa: MPH, Phd
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Public Health work:
2019- current: Preparedness
2013-2019: Injury prevention
Challenges and Beyond
Contact information

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Table Discussion

• Did you gain new partnerships during COVID-19 – how?
• Did you lose partnerships during COVID-19 – why?
• Did the partnerships you had before COVID-19 change during the outbreak – how and why?