

EPR/LEPC 1/30/2019 Meeting
Meeting Began: 9:05AM
Meeting Ended: 10:00AM

In attendance

Dan Durkee	Warren County Public Health
J'nelle Oxford	Warren County Public Health
Laura Stebbins	Glens Falls Hospital
Mike Shaw	NYSDOH
Tammie DeLorenzo	Warren County Administrator's Office
Brian LaFlure	Warren County OES
Donald James	ARC/Warren County RACES
Amy Drexel	Warren County OES
Jessica Hitchcock	Elderwood at North Creek
Jill Guillet	NGIEC
Michael Webster	Warren County Sheriff's Office
Ginelle Jones	Warren County Health Services
Ann Marie Mason	Hudson Headwaters
Glen Gosnell	Washington County DPS

Opened with Laura Stebbins from Glens Falls Hospital discussing the HVA completed by the hospital for this year, Dan had the HVA up on the projector for everyone to view.

HVA Discussion and Updates completed by Laura Stebbins (emailed):

WARREN COUNTY EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE
GLENS FALLS HOSPITAL

JANUARY 30, 2019 REPORT

GFH 2019 Hazardous Vulnerability Analysis (HVA)

The annual development of the HVA includes: weather predictions from the NWS, Public Health updates, crime statistics, facility construction plans/projects, DOH, CMS, CDC information, and 2018 events/exercises/tabletop outcomes/lessons learned. The Glens Falls Hospital HVA identifies potential emergencies and the direct and indirect effects these emergencies may have on the organization operations and the demand for our services. The Glens Falls Hospital (GFH) HVA is reviewed annually by the Emergency Management Committee and revised as needed. The HVA is brought to the Warren County Emergency Preparedness Committee in January for review and any additional recommendations. This group reviews the monthly tabletop schedule based on the HVA or regulatory recommendations. The GFH HVA analysis includes the most current Warren and Washington County Emergency Preparedness Assessment (CEPA) update completed March 2017.

The GFH Pediatric Emergency Response Team provides an additional modified HVA specific to pediatric population to identify exercises and education needs. Psychological First Aid training added and location of pediatric patients changed.

The GFH off campus sites provide individual HVAs. Each site includes vulnerabilities/assets specific to their location and/or population served. This includes proximity to the railroad, heavily trafficked roadways, dams, distribution centers (pesticides), industry, etc.

2019 Review:

Top Risks as determined by probability &/or impact:

- Patient surge/medical & trauma (probability & impact)
- Mass casualty incidents- transportation/violence (probability & impact)
- Information system failure- intentional or incidental (impact)
- Blizzard/ice storms (probability & impact)
- Pandemic (impact)

Information Technology

- Globally, disruption of information systems both intentional (cyberterrorism, ransomware) and unintentional (weather, power loss) are major vulnerabilities. The impact on hospitals/healthcare as an essential service, would directly affect patient care & continuity of operations. The risk was increased in 2018 due to continual ransomware incidents nationally, and the impact increased due to the reliance on IT for all healthcare services. The preparedness planning included the designation of an IT work group in 2018 who completed Business Impact Analysis of individual departments. Decreased probability risk in 2019 due to improved distribution of power and installation of large capacity generator in the IT 4th quarter 2018.

Weather

- Weather patterns are monitored by NWS. There is not a need to modify the current weather hazards listed on the GFH HVA. GFH has weather checklists for staff to reference. This includes the off campus sites.

Infrastructure/Facility

- 96 hours without external support as identified by work group (refer to 96 hour resource matrix). Well installed in 2017 for non-potable water decreasing physical plant impact from 7.5 to 1.5. Water supply failure reduced from 0.5 to 0.3 for same reason
- Internal fire-fully sprinklered building.

Security

- Workplace violence slightly decreased from 0.8-0.5 based on the new visitor program at GFH with limited entry points & Security posted at the entry points to provide ID tags for visitors. Continual NAPPI (non-abusive psychological and physical interventions) training provided.

Exercises

- NYSDOH Coalition Surge Test exercise between **March 29-April 12** (low notice exercise). Three hospitals in the region will be designated to evacuate; the other regional hospitals will be requested to accept the 450 patients evacuated. Please notify Laura S if your agency is interested in participating with Glens Falls Hospital.
- 1/16 evacuation TTX was phase one of the CST exercise.
- CST exercise is component of the NYSDOH Public Health exercise **April 12**.
- Continual shooter drills with off campus and hospital departments.

- Annual Chempack exercise pending.

Please contact Laura Stebbins if your agencies are planning exercises.

Tabletops

Excellent response from agencies interested in participating in the monthly tabletops:

- -Stephen DiRienzo NWS
- -FBI Special Agent Thomas Stewart
- -Red Cross Director Josh Moskowitz

Healthcare Coalition

- Pediatric Emergency Preparedness Work Group scheduled annual pediatric emergency preparedness exercise for **May 29, 2019**. Save the date!
- Mass Gathering Work Group focus is on notification of mass gatherings to hospitals and emergency response agencies to better prepare in the event of an incident. Planning includes definition of mass gathering. Currently >5000 people, but in smaller communities 500 could cause extreme challenges for small hospitals and response agencies.

Education

- Combat Application Tourniquet (CAT) training for GFH staff
- Psychological First Aid training for GFH staff -22 trained
- Disaster Mental Health Team (County & GFH) annual training **3/8** 9:30-12:30 at Warren County Sheriff's building
- Quarterly Provider Partnership in Emergency Preparedness meeting **March 1** at 7:30-8:30am in the GFH CLC

Thank you

Laura Stebbins, RN, MPS, CEN

Director of Emergency Preparedness

lstebbins@glensfallshosp.org

When Laura brought up ChemPack Dan discussed needing the sheriffs trained this year as well, just to go back over the logistics of it, more to come as we move forward.

Amy Drexel Updates (emailed):

LEPC Update

- HAZMAT consortium functional exercise on May 2, 2019

Warren County Office of Emergency Services - Agency Update

Plans

- The Warren County Mass Fatality plan was updated
- CEMP plan is being updated

Exercises

- HAZMAT functional exercise 5.2.19
- Public Health & Hospital exercises in Aprilish

Training

- ICS 400 coming in May
- Hosting the spring NWS SkyWarn in April/May.
- Infrastructure Protection Certification program

Real Events

- Riparius ice jam – formed quickly, then dispersed
- Large ice jam – watching it slowly grow
 - DEC has been getting footage with the drones

By Amy Drexel
Emergency Services Coordinator

Following Amy's update there was further conversation about how the Riparius ice jam is an example of how we are beginning to see ice jams in new places. Dan asked if there was a way for us to send out an alert about ice jams to agency home cares and such for planning ahead, Amy responded that for now until it is an imminent threat, she wouldn't suggest it. However tell agencies to make sure they are signed up for NY Alert because if the situation changed from normal activity to an emergency that is how they would push information out. Dan mentioned that he will send an IHANs alert this week to agencies reminding them that winter is here and for the best up to date emergency information to sign up for NY alerts. Brian also agreed with this statement as OES always uses NY alerts for more emergency situations happening.

Tammie DeLorenzo - nothing to report from the County Administrator's office

Jill Guillet – nothing to report – they have a nearly perfect compliance with flu vaccine this year, only 1 per-diem staff member is wearing a mask.

Donald James – a reminder - Red Cross has moved 333 Glen St is now their home. Everything is settled in. There has been a slight delay in the setting up the coms, will provide an update when they are set up.

They should be able to set up an independent wireless coms system with Glens Falls Hospital, The municipal center, Queensbury schools and the sheriff's office - independent of any infrastructure. Unfortunately the main player on that project was affected by the government shut down so that is the delay - no date but hopefully next month or so it will be up and running.

Jessica Hitchcock – Nothing to report from Elderwood

Michael Webster - Nothing to report from WC Sherriff's Office

J'nelle Oxford – she has taken over the plan updating for the home health agency for Warren County Health Services now that Tammie DeLorenzo is with the County Administrators office. The plan had mentioned a VHS to be watched yearly by nursing staff on personal security – J'nelle and Amy will be working together to find a more updated personal security training video to watch then the VHS currently in the plans. As well, the VHS could not be located but Amy and J'nelle agreed it may be for the best as the information is most likely outdated and not along with the policies in place. J'nelle had a conversation with one of the Supervising PHN and the Assistant Director of Patient Services in regards to the special needs registry. While it is a brochure in all admissions packets it was agreed that the nurses should know to highlight that more upon admission, especially for those who are at a TAL 1 – hopefully a full staff nurses meeting will be occurring in two weeks where it can be brought to the attention of all staff as a resource.

Dan Durkee – Brought up the weekly flu season report from the state on the projector to discuss. As a reminder this report always a week behind. Flu is obviously increasing has not peaked yet. We are seeing a lot of influenza A, which is good because that is usually what the flu vaccine responds to. Last year many might remember it was influenza B that we mostly which is not as protected by the vaccine. So far flu is light but it is only January - no pediatric deaths yet except one very early in the season – we won't see anything on the older adult populations deaths because it isn't a reportable disease.

PH updates - we are working on the PHAD plan updates (previously the SNS plan) which is the phase in which we receive and then stock pile assets. It is not an end point, it is essentially the midpoint. PH exercise is set for April 11th as always we don't know a lot. Dan believes it's been 10 years since SNS/PHAD was last tested. Our county site has moved for the plan, we are no longer at county municipal center we will be at Warrensburg DPW facility. How much we will be asked to do is very unclear - we may be reaching out to partners or it may be a situation where we can just utilize staff internal. Warren County can offer PFA (psychosocial first aid) training to staff or community groups who would like it - it's a 3 hour training – very difficult to cut it any shorter than that however as there is a lot of 1 on 1 to practice skills in an interview type situation – it can be paired down at best to probable about 2 hours. PFA is not long term it is just what it says, first aid so it is helping someone cope in the immediate event or situation. Lastly, PH has brought on a few new staff which is nice - slowly we will incorporate them into emergency preparedness.

Brian LaFlure - nothing major from OES apart from Amy – they've been busy with ice jams and EMS coordinating / fire – however nothing huge yet.

Ginelle Jones – Nothing further to report from Health Services

Glen Gosnell – Similar to Brian they are busy. They had 3 residencies outside of Cambridge that were cut off due to an ice jam - White creek was over its banks – the normal 4ft wide bank was about 300 ft wide – so they had to work to evacuate some residents. It did go through one house - they also had to shut off power to residencies. Similar to Amy’s conversation earlier they are also seeing ice and water in places never seen before. There was a large water main break in Greenwich which was determined to be weather related as the main goes under a creek and due to ice jams boulders came down that creek and blew out the water line. It was a mess, as they fixed it, 2 more leaks also blew. He also encourages NY Alert they push information out through that system as well. They are having problems with transition from code red to NY Alert so they are currently still utilizing both systems to try and capture everyone. PH is updating plans as well. They have been able to get all Skilled Nursing Facilities in their county together – and host quarterly meetings as well as participating with their safety meetings. Working to try and get everything streamlined as most of them have their own opinions and plans for emergencies and what to do, however they will begin quarterly drills once the ground work has been laid.

Ann Marie Mason - Nothing much to report – they have decided to begin active shooter drills with all their sites and decided to start with a tabletop. There were a lot of agencies present and it was well received. On the 6th in the evening they will do an actual training at the clinic with Saratoga County – as they want to get staff trained internally before heading out to all the sites.

Mike Shaw – expressed the frustration for getting equipment from the SEMO yard, more paperwork, more agencies requesting, etc. He mentioned that Greenwich had to use firehouse from mutual aid because they couldn’t get it from the SEMO yard as the process became too involved and time consuming. After Greenwich the office in Glens Falls has decided to raise this concern and the conversation up the chain of command.

Dan notes eventually that will turn people off from reaching out for resources which is alarming.

Meeting Ended at 10:00AM with a short reminder that the rest of the year’s meeting dates are on the bottom of the agenda.