

The Montana Health Care Coalitions Newsletter is a publication of the Montana Hospital Association published on Thursdays.



Montana Hospital Association | October 19, 2022

Welcome to a special Wednesday edition of the Health Care Coalitions Newsletter. No newsletter will be published next week.

New & Noteworthy

EMResource API Update

Thank you to all those that were able to attend the Juvare API Kick-Off webinar on Monday, October 3. We already have 4 facilities that have received the files for testing and setting up the API!

If you were unable to join the webinar, I encourage you to view the recording [here](#), the passcode is **9gb%m*hn**. Facilities are encouraged to complete the [interest form](#), even if you have additional questions or are seeking approval for commitment.

Please share the [Partner Interoperability Guide](#) which will provide a better idea of what the interface entails.

Please reach out Casey Driscoll, EMResource API Specialist, at 406.457.8045 or casey.driscoll@mtha.org with questions.

Updated QSO-21-08-NLTC COVID-19 Infection Control

On September 26, CMS revised the survey guidance for COVID-19 focused infection control for acute and continuing care providers and suppliers.

View the updated Survey Tool [here](#).

CDC Updates Ebola Risk Assessment and Management Guidance

On October 7, CDC updated its [Interim Guidance on Risk Assessment and Management of Persons with Potential Ebola Virus Exposure](#) to incorporate guidance issued in response to the outbreak of Sudan ebolavirus in Uganda for which health departments are recommended to follow-up with travelers. Specific updates include:

- Guidance for monitoring persons with no known high-risk exposures and
- Travel guidance for persons being monitored who have no known high-risk exposures.

DPHHS Seeks to Consolidate Temporary Staffing Contracts at Health Care Facilities to Reduce Costs, Create Efficiencies

The Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) today announced its plans to consolidate temporary staffing contracts at health care facilities to reduce costs, increase efficiencies, and streamline contract administration within the agency.

Each DPHHS health care facility currently maintains multiple contracts for companies that offer temporary traveling medical professionals hired to work at these facilities. To consolidate the contracts, DPHHS is now seeking proposals on a new master contract for these services.

“Due to continuous health care workforce shortages, DPHHS facilities must at times leverage travelers to fill our critical staffing needs,” DPHHS Director Charlie Brereton said. **“As part of our ongoing facilities reform, we devised this new approach to allow for a competitive bid process that could result in substantial savings to the state. While utilization of travelers is a longstanding practice that has spanned multiple administrations, the Department is committed to ensuring their appropriate use and reevaluating ways to reduce associated costs across our facilities.”**

The Request for Proposal (RFP) will involve five state-run facilities including the Montana State Hospital, Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center, Intensive Behavior Center, Montana Chemical Dependency Center, and the Montana Veterans Home. The Southwest Montana Veterans Home and Eastern Montana Veterans Home are excluded from this proposal, as both manage and pay for their own staffing under existing private contracts with DPHHS.

The [RFP was posted](#) on the Department of Administration’s State Procurement website today. Once at the website, those interested can search ‘Facility Staffing Services’.

“DPHHS encourages existing contractors and other vendors to submit a proposal for consideration,” Brereton said. **“We anticipate awarding the contracts in the coming months.”**

Brereton said travelers on current assignment at one of DPHHS’s facilities will not be impacted. Assignments will be made through the new contracts as they become available. Brereton also said the new RFP was identified as a way to improve operations at Montana’s state-run health care facilities.

To increase accountability and drive improvements through a common reporting structure, DPHHS consolidated all state-run health care facilities under one division that is now led by a Chief Health Care Facilities Officer. This position is responsible for managing the operations of the [Healthcare Facilities Division](#), as well as developing and implementing policies that promote patient safety and quality care.

Hospital Incident Command System Survey

After our prolonged COVID and now MPX (Monkeypox) responses, the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) National Advisory Committee (NAC) has decided to take advantage of the many opportunities that hospitals have had to use the HICS.

This is an exciting chance for you to provide input and comments so we can compile some of the best practices, suggested changes, and improvements to be added to the HICS Program during the future revision.

Please review the [flyer](#) and complete the HICS Survey/Questionnaire which combines inquiries about the Pre-COVID and COVID/MPX emergency management performance of HICS during the past few years.

[HICS Survey](#)

The survey includes basic questions which we request everyone to complete to the best of their ability. The detailed Demographics will assist in analysis of the responses with regard to the perspectives of the respondents. Using this data, we hope to gain added insight into the performance of HICS. Our ultimate goal is to improve the HICS Program by capitalizing on our collective experiences throughout the last several years.

Deadline for Submission: November 30, 2022

Thank you again your participation in this important project. Your feedback will help improve the next version of HICS by representing the culmination of lessons learned by actual HICS users.

Advance Stroke Life Support Training

MSU-Northern is offering Advanced Stroke Life Support training to EMS and health care providers throughout the state. View the [flyer](#) for additional information.

At the moment they have some grant funding to cover training costs, but in the future there will be a fee for this training.

If you are interested in hosting this training for your facility, contact Jaime Duke at jaimie.duke@msun.edu.

Data & Situational Awareness

Update on Transition from TeleTracking to NHSN

On December 31, 2022, the TeleTracking contract will expire and reporting will transition to NHSN. Please check out the [transition webpage](#) (UPDATED) and resources for questions. Transition preparation will be ongoing with webinars, standing meetings and frequent webpage updates. **Reporting activities will not change until mid-December and facilities using EMResource to report should see no changes to daily reporting process.** There will be no impact or changes to reporting for the LTCF, Dialysis and Healthcare Personnel Vaccination COVID-19 modules in NHSN. There will be no significant changes to the reporting questions as a result of the transition.

Facilities are encouraged to attend one of the upcoming webinars listed below:

NHSN Data Transition Updates and Q&A

October 21, 1100 - 1200 MT

[Register](#)

NHSN Data Transition Updates and Q&A (Replay)

October 25, 1100 - 1200 MT

[Register](#)

Facilities who do not currently have an NHSN OrgID are strongly encouraged to begin the process of acquiring one as quickly as possible.

Missed Data in TeleTracking

If a facility misses a day reporting into EMResource and TeleTracking, there is a process for doing a manual entry backdate. Users must log into the TeleTracking then click on Add New Entry. There is now a dropdown where you can choose the date to submit data for. This process is much simpler than uploading the template for missed data. **Ensure that ALL fields are entered or the data will not be counted for compliance.** We still encourage hospitals to enter data into EMResource *daily* by 1200.

Upcoming Events

Meetings

Health Care Coalition Executive Committee Meetings

Eastern Region - November 9, 2022, 0900 - 1300 at Glendive Medical Center - Glendive

Southern Region - November 11, 2022, 1000 - 1200 via [Zoom](#)

Central Region - November 17, 2022, 0900 - 1100

Webinars

NETEC Town Hall: Preparing Frontline Healthcare Workers for Ebola

October 20, 1000 - 1100

NETEC experts will lead a discussion about the current landscape of the Ebola outbreak, Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) considerations, lab safety precautions, transport, and training and preparedness needs for frontline workers.

[Register](#)

NHSN Data Transition Updates and Q&A

October 21, 1100 - 1200 MT

[Register](#)

NHSN Data Transition Updates and Q&A (Replay)

October 25, 1100 - 1200 MT

[Register](#)

CISA Active Shooter Preparedness Webinar

October 25, 1000 - 1200 MT

[Register](#)

K0105 Public Information and Warning

October 31 - November 4, 0900 - 1600 daily

[Register](#)

CISA 2022 National Summit on K-12 School Safety and Security

November 1 & 2, 2022

[Additional Information](#)

RHC Emergency Preparedness Series

November 2, 9 and 16, 1100 - 1200 each day

[View Flyer](#)

[Register](#)

PER 404: Logistics and Supply Chain Resilience in Disasters

November 7 - 10, 0800 - 1200 daily

Hosted by FEMA Region 8, Presented by the University of Tennessee

Registration Deadline: October 24

[Register](#)

HHS IEA Weekly Monkeypox Briefing

Thursdays, 12:00 MT

[Register](#)

First Responder Resilience TeleECHO Program

Every other Monday, 14:00 - 15:00 MDT

[Register](#)

EOC Virtual Classes hosted by EMI

View the full Course Catalog [here](#)

Montana Health Network Course Catalog

In-Person Trainings

G205 Recovery from Disaster - Out of State

October 19 and 20, 0830 - 1700 each day

Lovell, WY or virtual

[Register](#)

POC: LaRae Dobbs, emc@bhcounty.com

Crisis and Emergency Risk Communications (CERC) Operations Course

October 27 - 28, 0800 - 1700 daily

Registration Deadline: October 21

[Registration](#)

2022 Big Sky EMS Education Symposium

November 4 and 5, 0700 - 1830

Billings Hotel & Convention Center, Billings

Register by October 28 for Early Bird Rates: 2 days - \$147.90, 1 day - \$91.80

Registration after October 28: 2 days - \$168.30, 1 day - \$102.00

[View Agenda](#)

[Register](#)

Preparedness 2022 Conference - Hosted by Yellowstone County LEPC

November 10, 0930 - 1530

First Interstate Bank Operations Center, Billings

[View Flyer](#)

[View Agenda](#)

Save the Dates

Assisting Individuals in Group and Individual Crisis Intervention

(CISM Basic Group and Individual Peer Support)

November 15 - 17, 2022, 08:00 - 17:00

Glacier Conference Center, 1375 US 93, Kalispell

[View Flyer and Registration](#)

CISA Region 8 Securing Public Gatherings Webinar

November 17, 1000 - 1200

[Register](#)

K0428 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Train-the-Trainer (Virtual)

Multiple dates beginning December 2022

[View Flyer](#)

Colorado Wildland Fire & Incident Management Academy

January 7 - 12

Colorado College, Colorado Springs

February 20 - 24

Marriott, Colorado Springs

[Register](#)

Tribal Nations Training Week

March 11 - 18, 2023

Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) in Anniston, AL

CDP training is completely funded for state, local, and tribal emergency responders to include travel, meals, and lodging.

[Register](#) through CDP

ICS449 Train-the-Trainer for FEMA ICS Courses

March 27 - 31, 2023

Fort Harrison, instructed by TEEX

Registration coming soon

| Engagement & Other News

CISA Cyber Update

Click [here](#) to view the most recent CISA Cyber Update.

No-Cost Cybersecurity Courses Available

Course Name: [Cybersecurity for Everyone](#)

Course Name: [Detecting and Responding to a Cyber Attack](#)

Questions?

We are committed to supporting you and answering questions as quickly as possible. Please send any questions or comments to hppcoordinators@mtha.org.

Visit the [Montana Regional Health Care Coalitions](#) website for additional information and resources.



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