

RC/PIO News & Notes 7-12-2024

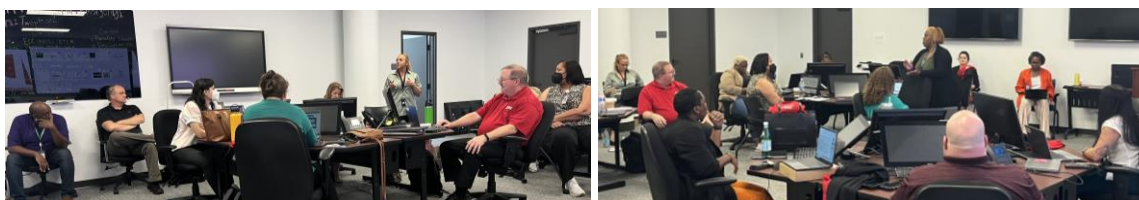


FROM Eric Jens, GA DPH Risk Communicator
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News and Notes

Hot temperatures continue in Georgia while much of Texas continues recovery efforts in the wake of Hurricane Beryl. State DPH Emergency Preparedness staff met mid-week to finalize the previous budget period and plan for the year ahead. We'll have more on that meeting and others to highlight this week.

State EPR Grant Kick Off meeting



State Emergency Preparedness and Response kicked off the grant year Wednesday. Updates on planned activities and response preparations were discussed as they pertain to the next 12 months. I had the opportunity to present Communication protocols and best practices to the group. Felix Lawson talked about hurricane preparedness and anticipated actions based on individual roles. Veronda Griffin provided an update on planning requirements. Other topics included budgeting, purchasing, travel, and more. There were opportunities to ask questions, share ideas, and sync everyone's calendar as best possible to make the most of available opportunities between now and the end of next June.



Media/CERC Training

Registration is expected to open in about two weeks for the next DPH Media / Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication training. The tentative plan is to host the session in Rome on September 19. Thanks to everyone from District 1-1 and the state for helping to organize this event. We anticipate another training this winter and the following to be held in March.

Return to Work

Beginning August 19, the Governor’s Office has decreed that state DPH workers return to office at least twice per week. The Twin Towers location is nicer but smaller according to Chris Rustin. He provided an overview of the new location on a Return to Work meeting Tuesday. Many of us have already been working from the office more frequently since the move from 2 Peachtree was finalized 14 months ago. With less available space, some will be working in office from a hotel-style desk using the 'Where’s My Desk’ application. Commissioner Toomey says she is looking forward to seeing and learning from everyone in person.



	West Tower			East Tower		
	GBA			Department of Education		
19th Floor	Dept. of Public Health			Community Health		
	Dept. of Administrative Services			Dept. of Education		
17th Floor	Professional Standards Commission	Dept. of Public Health		COEP Dept. of Natural Resources AOC		
	State Accounting Office			Dept. of Natural Resources Vacant Charter Schools		
15th Floor	Dept. of Public Health			Dept. of Natural Resources		
	GTFCF (Ethics)	GVRA	Behavioral Health	Community Health		
	GVRA			Dept. of Natural Resources		
	Dept. of Administrative Services			Community Health		
	OIG	State Board of Pardons & Parole	Secretary of State	Dept. of Natural Resources		
10th Floor	Dept. of Education	Dept. of Public Health		Student Achievement Dept. of Veterans Services		
	Office of Commissioner of Insurance			Community Supervision Early Care and Learning		
	Secretary of State			Early Care and Learning		
	Office of Commissioner of Insurance			Pardons and Paroles		
	Behavioral Health			4th Floor: Dept. of Public Health		
	Dept. of Natural Resources	Fulton	Marta	Dept. of Law (Medicaid Fraud) Common Other		
	Secretary of State	Common	Other			

Next Week Preview

Highlights for next week include a quarterly BioWatch meeting Monday in Lawrenceville. There are a handful of other Emergency Preparedness related meetings and webinars, most scheduled for the first half of the week.

About “News & Notes”

“News & Notes” is a weekly communication aimed at risk communicators and public information officers within Georgia’s 18 public health districts. The goal of the communication is to increase preparedness through the exchange of information about significant events, training, and other planned activities. Some information herein may be considered FYUO or For Your Use Only. Please be judicious when forwarding. For questions, comments or to submit information for inclusion, contact Eric Jens at Eric.Jens@dph.ga.gov