



## **Big Bend Healthcare Coalition Quarterly Meeting**

**March 10, 2020**

**10:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. Eastern**

**Capital Area Chapter of the Red Cross**

1115 Easterwood Drive

Tallahassee, FL 32311

### **Meeting Summary**

#### **Welcome, and Introductions**

*The meeting was called to order by Chair Philip Doyle, Tallahassee Memorial Hospital and the following board members were present:*

- *Chad Abrams, Treasurer – Leon County EMS*
- *Holly Kirsch, Immediate Past Chair – Department of Health, Leon County*
- *Kevin Peters, Vice-Chair / Secretary – Leon County Emergency Management*
- *Gabriel Otuonye, Bond Community Health Center*
- *Paul Kovary – Seven Hills Health and Rehabilitation*

#### **Big Bend Healthcare Coalition Website**

*Melissa Franklin provided updates to the members on the new and improved BBHCC website. The website includes a variety of resources and member information, as well as regularly updated information regarding COVID-19 and other BBHCC sponsored events. Additionally, there was some discussion about the confusion between the old and new website, and Melissa will be working to ensure the old website address forwards to the new address from here on out. The new website can be found at: [www.bigbendhcc.org](http://www.bigbendhcc.org)*

#### **Trainings, Exercises, and Upcoming Events**

*Zach Annett provided the members with an update on the upcoming training and exercise opportunities being provided by the BBHCC. These offerings are pending any developments with the COVID-19 outbreak.*



#### Training:

- April 9-10 – Healthcare Emergency Management, Tallahassee, FL
- April 29 – Hazard Vulnerability Assessment workshop, Tallahassee, FL
- June 5 – ED Mass Casualty Response Course
- June 22-23 – Community Healthcare Planning

#### Exercises:

- March 24 – Active Shooter Tabletop for Healthcare Facilities
- April 7 – Coalition Surge Tool Exercise
- April 23 or May 6 (TBD) – Active Shooter Tabletop for Healthcare Facilities

Mr. Annett also mentioned a Nursing Home ICS course that will be brought to the Region in May or June, but the exact dates are still to be determined. If there are any other courses members are interested in, please contact Mr. Annett.

#### **COVID-19 Update – Epidemiology**

Megan Gumke, Florida Department of Health, provided an update and overview of the COVID-19 outbreak. She mentioned there is a State Incident Management Team currently set up in response to the outbreak and they are working diligently to ensure preparedness. She also answered various questions from members, many of which revolved around the testing procedures for suspected cases of COVID-19. At this time, if there are any suspected cases, they should reach out to their primary physician and allow them to make the decision on whether to test. Lab Corp and Quest diagnostics are now doing tests and should relieve some of the burden on the Florida Department of Health.

There was some discussion on how to help with Dialysis patients, as they are an extremely vulnerable population. The centers were encouraged to talk with preparedness officials outside of the meeting help solidify measures to ensure they are as prepared as possible during this time.

#### **Hospital Updates for COVID-19**

Philip Doyle, Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, provided an update on some of the preparedness activities taking place at TMH in response to COVID-19 and then opened the floor for other hospitals to provide insight on the actions they are taking.

#### **Infectious Disease Updates**

County Health Departments

Each County Health Department and local EM spoke about the activities taking place in their county in response to both Hep-A and COVID-19. All are actively monitoring the situation and taking proactive measures.



### **COVID-19 Drill**

*Mr. Annett facilitated a brief drill which provided members an opportunity to work through some basic scenarios regarding an outbreak of COVID-19 in their community. One of the biggest challenges identified during the exercise across all members was lack of PPE and other supplies. Facilities are encouraged to work with their local EM office to order resources.*

### **Coalition Member & Partner Updates**

*Kevin Peters, Director, Leon County Emergency Management, led the discussion for members to provide updates on their facilities and organizations. There was lengthy discussion on preparedness activities and best practices occurring at certain facilities as well as the availability of negative-pressure rooms at Bond Healthcare Facility.*

*There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.*