



DISASTER PLANNING FIRESIDE CHAT JUNE 11, 2019

PRESENTERS:

Kate Remick, MD
Oscar Enriquez, EMT

LINKS:

[Link to Recording](#)
[PowerPoint Slides](#)
[RedCap CNE Survey](#)

RedCap CNE Survey QR Code



*Survey expires June 25, 2019

Next Fireside Chat:

September 3, 2019
11:00 – 12:00 CST

SUMMARY

During this Fireside Chat, the presenters reviewed the aim of Bundle 4: Pediatric Disaster Preparedness, which is that “by April 2020, 100% of the sites implementing the disaster bundle will have a plan that addresses 4 essential domains of pediatric disaster preparedness”. Oscar Enriquez, EMT, provided an overview of the Hospital Emergency Preparedness and Response Team (HERT) program in Texas.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

Overview of the HERT Program at Dell Children’s Medical Center, Ascension Health in Austin, Texas.

- A Hospital Emergency Response Team (HERT) is a specialized team of hospital personnel that work together before the hospital incident command team stands up for a specific disaster event. The team focuses on response and operational support for surge, decontamination, evacuation, and other hospital emergency events.
- There are 21 HERT team members including emergency department nurses and technicians, respiratory specialists, NICU/PICU personnel, and others. The team consistently maintains a minimum of 21 members to ensure continuity of coverage for a 24-hour timeframe.
- The team developed a participation form that includes program objectives, baseline training experience, badge ID information, and program training levels.
- The team developed a medical screening form that includes a safety baseline screening, medical clearance (as needed), and any health restrictions. This information is updated on an annual basis.
- A training curriculum and a suite of materials were developed. These are highlighted in both the [PowerPoint](#) and the archived version of the presentation.
- The team uses a system called [Send Word Now](#) (which is an electronic application). This system is used as an emergency notification system for the HERT program participants. The system is tested monthly, and members are expected to respond back with their ETA to assist.



- What makes the program efficient and effective?
 - Having only one leader direct the response
 - Pre-planned alternative care sites
 - Automating processes: premade paper charts, labels, and bracelets with alias registration names and unique number identifiers.
 - Coordination within your region (schools, fire agencies, volunteers)
 - Oscar Enriquez co-authored an article about this program in the Domestic Preparedness Journal (<https://www.domesticpreparedness.com/journals/destination-resilience/>)
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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- [CNE credit \(1.0 contact hours\)](#) is now available. **You must attend and sign into the live session in order to obtain CNE credit.** A link to the RedCap survey will be provided on the slides and in the chatbox during the webinar. You must complete the survey within 2 weeks of the session.
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QUESTIONS ASKED:

1. **Q:** How did you get buy in from leadership? In Wisconsin, we have fewer natural disasters. So, sometimes, it's hard to get everyone on board.

A: To start, it is important to ensure whatever you are developing is well organized for a presentation to your leadership. It is also important to show that this is a best practice, even if your state is not subject to natural disasters, other emergencies could occur that would require a structured response. Integration of emergency management into the business of continuity plan is also a way to get buy-in from leadership. Presenting data regarding current resources and the lay of the land can also help influence leadership.

2. **Q:** Would it be possible to post some of the tools shared during this presentation on the PRQC Web site?

A: This was approved by Mr. Enriquez.