

# gshcc connect

Granite State Health Care Coalition  
Fall 2023 Newsletter



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Foundation for  
Healthy Communities

## Director's Message

Greetings to all,

Another year will be coming to a close. We continue to see highs and lows in health care, weather, and many other areas. We are said to be in a period of recovery as we transition towards the "new normal." A quick definition says that recovery is a return to a normal state of health, mind, or strength. A further read says it is similar to the process of getting better. This is the challenge we all face as professionals and individuals. Only through continued support of each other and the valued work that we do, can we get better and regain our strength. This coalition is strongest because of your continued participation, support, input, and willingness to address problems as well as share successes.

Thank you for your dedication and passion, and please remember if you do not take care of yourself, you may not be able to take care of others.

-Scott Nichols  
GSHCC Senior Director

# Thank You

Thank you members and partners for your continued dedication to your staff, patients and residents as we continue to navigate COVID-19 recovery and prepare for upcoming events. We could not do our work without your collaboration and support, and we thank you for your continued guidance as we move forward as a system.

- The GSHCC Team



**SCOTT NICHOLS**  
Senior Director



**SHAYLIN LIPMAN**  
Program Coordinator



**VICTORIA PAIGE**  
Exercise & Training Officer



**DAKOTA HAYES**  
Planner

## GSHCC Membership

All partners are valued Granite State Health Care Coalition general members, but part of the mission of the GSHCC is to garner formal support, encourage collaborative approaches to information and resource sharing, and support continuity of health care service delivery. To establish a membership structure, the GSHCC is encouraging general members to become supporting members of the Coalition by signing a Letter of Support.

Supporting members are eligible for additional benefits beyond what is extended to general members, including more specific technical assistance, exercise evaluation assistance, and more intensive educational opportunities. Please see the [GSHCC Letter of Support and Member Benefits](#) information. If you would like to become a Supporting Member, please sign the Letter of Support and email to [gshcc@healthynh.org](mailto:gshcc@healthynh.org).



[Learn more about GSHCC Membership](#)

### CONTACT US

We are actively seeking new members from state and local public and private organizations across the continuum of care.

To become a member or to learn more about the GSHCC, contact us at [gshcc@healthynh.org](mailto:gshcc@healthynh.org)

# CDC Infection, Prevention, and Control Grant

The GSHCC, in collaboration with the NH DHHS - DPHS - Health Care Associated Infection Program (HAI), is continuing to host workshops that provide information and Train-the-Trainer modules throughout the state through May 11, 2024. These workshops are made possible under the CDC's *"Nursing Home & Long-term Care Facility Strike Team and Infrastructure Project."* Activities are designed to build infrastructure, resiliency, and to increase infection prevention and control measures across Long-Term Care, Skilled Nursing, and Residential Care Facilities throughout the state. These workshops include two Train-the-Trainer modules: one on how to Fit Test Employees on N95 masks and a second one on how to use GloGerm beyond hand hygiene to improve staff knowledge. Participating facilities are provided their own N95 Fit Test Training and GloGerm Training Kits.

Additionally, the workshops discuss quality improvement and auditing of infection control programs. Additional information and opportunities provided through NH Needs Caregivers include: funding for infection prevention and control certifications, program support for recruiting licensed nursing assistants and personal care attendants, and mentor programs such as Infection Control Amplification in Nursing (ICAN). Through NH Needs Caregivers support, **21** individuals are currently pursuing Infection Control certifications, **11** have found employment in a LTC or SNF settings, **60** are currently enrolled in an LNA course, and nearly **200** have reached out with interest in the program. More than **120** staff across **65** LTC and SNF facilities have participated in these workshops.

Workshop resources include:

- [CDC's Project FirstLine](#)
- [CDC's Infection Control Assessment and Response \(ICAR\) Tool](#)
- [National Emerging Special Pathogens Training and Education Center \(NETEC\)](#)
- [NH Needs Caregivers](#)



# HPP PLANNING ACTIVITIES & PROGRAM OUTLOOK

Learn about where the Granite State Health Care Coalition will be focusing planning and program efforts in upcoming grant years.

## **Chemical Emergency Surge Annex**

The GSHCC is working on compiling a Chemical Emergency Surge Annex that applies to a surge event involving chemical events in New Hampshire. This annex centers around chemical surge including determining local risks for chemical events, decontamination assets, a review of CHEMPACK, coordinating training for members, and ensuring coordination with HAZMAT resources. This Annex will be made available upon its completion.

For additional information on chemical surge, see the link below.

**[ASPR Topic Collection: Chemical Hazards](#)**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

# 2023 GSHCC Virtual General Membership Meeting

**November 1, 2023**

**8:30am - 1:00pm**

 [Register Today](#)

All members, partners and stakeholders are invited to attend the meeting.

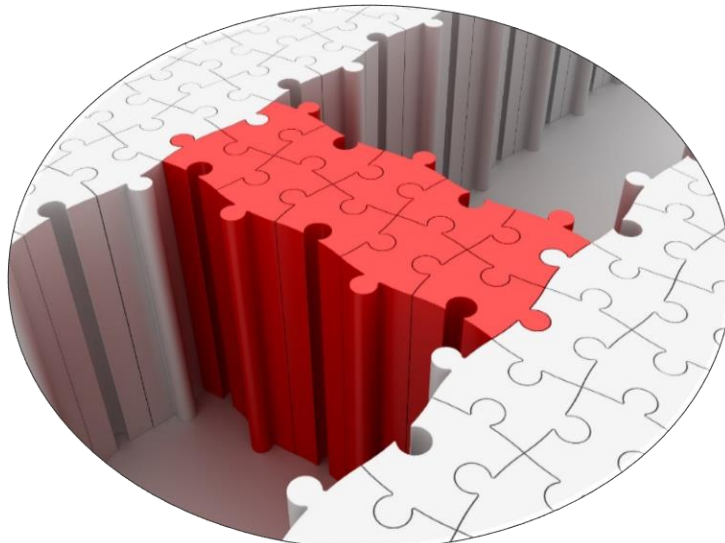
There is no fee to attend. Registration closes October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

*The meeting will consist of three plenary sessions including:*

### **Trauma and Resilience Workshop Overview**

*Dr. Tania Glenn, PsyD, LCSW, CCTP, President, Tania Glenn & Associates, PA*

This session is designed to educate participants on the types and effects of stress that confront professionals who serve in stressful occupations. The course employs hands-on, reality-based examples that are both useful and enlightening, as well as lessons learned from the experiences of the instructor. Participants will be provided with the necessary tools to recognize and understand the signs and symptoms of stress, to recognize the types of incidents that will need follow-up care and effective ways for managing stress. This fast-paced workshop utilizes lecture with PowerPoint and videos.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

# 2023 GSHCC Virtual General Membership Meeting

### **Disaster Medical Advisory in Disaster and Non-Disaster Situations**

*Carole Totzkay, MS, CHES, Public Health Preparedness Planner, NH DHHS*

*Dr. Jonathan Ballard, MD, MPH, CMO, NH DHHS*

The state's health department, GSHCC, RDHRS, and the state's health care system are working together to establish a robust foundation for coordinated medical response. The number one role of the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC) is to develop and circulate best practices in the allocation of scarce resources. This might occur in non-disaster situations or other situations. This session will discuss the role of the SDMAC within the State's Medical Response Framework and provide an opportunity in spring 2024 to further the dialogue.

### **After the Festival: A Retrospective Review of the Las Vegas Mass Shooting Observations, Insights and Lessons Learned**

*Dr. Chris Lake, Ph.D., Executive Director, Community Resilience, Nevada Hospital Association*

On October 1, 2017, Las Vegas experienced the worst mass shooting in American history. This session will review the events that occurred from a health care perspective. Observations, insights and the lessons learned (OILs) by hospitals, first responders, and the practitioners who provided care to the 800 injured patients, will be highlighted. System-wide changes that have been made and the effectiveness of these changes will be discussed looking back six years post-event.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## *Save-the-Date*

### **2024 GSHCC Conference**

#### *A Brand New World: Leaning into New and Emerging Threats*

**Southern New Hampshire University - Manchester, NH**

**May 8, 2023**

**9:00am – 3:40pm**

The 2024 GSHCC Conference will take place on May 8, 2024 at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, NH. This will be an in-person event.

This collaborative and educational event will provide attendees with an opportunity to network with colleagues from around the state and attend interactive sessions.

Stay tuned for additional information! A formal save-the-date will be released in mid-December and registration will launch in early 2024.



# TRAINING INFORMATION

COMING SOON!

The GSHCC team continues to provide free training to our members. A web-based training and exercise calendar is currently under development. Trainings may include Incident Command System (ICS), Introduction to Emergency Management, N95 Fit Testing Train-the-Trainer, Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) writing, MedSled, Juvare

## **Continuity of Operations (COOP) Planning Training**

### **FEMA EMI- IS- 1300- Introduction to Continuity of Operations**

The Emergency Management Institute (EMI) has a free online course to provide knowledge to participants on continuity planning. The course objectives include defining the importance of continuity planning for organizations and communities, description of key elements of a continuity program, and the whole community approach to continuity planning.

## **Public Information Officer (PIO) Training**

### **FEMA EMI- IS-29.A - Public Information Officer Awareness**

This course is designed to familiarize participants with the concepts underlying the PIO role. This course can provide a basic understanding of the PIO function for those new to the position. Additionally, it can provide those in executive level roles the necessary knowledge of PIO roles and responsibilities during an emergency.

### **E0105: Public Information Basics**

The Emergency Management Institute (EMI) has an in- person three-day course that provide participants with basic skills of communications, understanding and working with the media and techniques to perform effectively as a PIO in times of an emergency response.

## ONLINE TRAINING

### **FEMA Emergency Management Institute**

*(Independent Study  
Program)*

### **Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP)**

### **National Emerging Special Pathogens Training and Education Center (NETEC)**

## NH TRAINING

### **NH HSEM**

### **NH Fire Academy & EMS**

### **STEP Calendar**



# COALITION EXERCISE INFORMATION

## Medical Response & Surge Exercise (MRSE)

The MRSE is an annual requirement for the GSHCC. Core partners across the health care and public sectors will be requested to participate in this operations-based exercise. The exercise is designed to stress the health care system in New Hampshire through the event of a sudden surge of patients. The exercise scenario will test the functional surge capacity in the state of New Hampshire and identify gaps in the process of coordinating patient movement in a high stress event.

### 2023 GSHCC MRSE

The GSHCC team and core partners will be conducting the MRSE annual exercise on December 6, 2023. Core participants include hospitals, NH DHHS, DPHS, Bureau of Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery (EPRR), Regional Public Health Networks (RPHNs), Long Term Care (LTC), NH HSEM, and Department of Safety (DOS). The exercise objectives and scope include evaluation of emergency preparedness plans and procedures for state agencies, health care facilities, and the GSHCC team, as well as assessment of the GSHCC capabilities to respond to a medical surge event, the GSHCC ability to properly communicate to core members during a medical surge event, and the GSHCC ability to source data resources to core members during a surge event.

Please contact Victoria Paige, [vp Paige@healthynh.org](mailto:vp Paige@healthynh.org) for additional information about the MRSE.



# COALITION EXERCISE INFORMATION

## **Radiation Emergency Surge Annex Tabletop Exercise (TTX)**

### **Lessons Learned**

The Radiation Emergency Surge Annex Tabletop Exercise was conducted on July 12, 2023 with support from core partners. Exercise participants included the core partners of hospitals, EMS, NH DHHS, DPHS, Bureau of Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery (EPRR), Regional Public Health Networks (RPHNs), Long-Term Care (LTC), and the Department of Safety (DOS).

The GSHCC identified key takeaways and lessons learned from the Radiation Emergency Surge Annex Tabletop Exercise. The GSHCC identified multiple strengths from the exercise including partner ability to access state resources. Additionally, many hospitals have predetermined locations to support patient surge. Lessons learned from the exercise included that healthcare facilities should consider incorporating radiological training resources in training plans with the support of DHHS and the GSHCC. RPHN roles and responsibilities in a mass casualty incident (MCI) need to be defined further.

**[Find the Radiation Emergency Surge Annex AAR/IP here](#)**

## **Chemical Emergency Surge Annex Tabletop Exercise (TTX)**

The Chemical Emergency Surge Annex is a new annex that is currently under development. The annex will address risks for community chemical events, coordination of decontamination of patients in the hospital and EMS settings, mobilization of chemical countermeasures (CHEMPACK), reception center plans with public health partners, and the involvement and coordination of regional HAZMAT resources.

The Chemical Emergency Surge Annex Tabletop Exercise will be conducted in Spring of 2024. The GSHCC will partner with core members and subject matter experts to develop the exercise. The exercise will test a sudden surge of patients that require chemical countermeasures, reception center plans, HAZMAT resources and patient movement.

Please contact Victoria Paige, [vp Paige@healthynh.org](mailto:vp Paige@healthynh.org), for additional information.

# COALITION EXERCISE INFORMATION

## Granite State Health Care Coalition Exercise Calendar

The GSHCC is tasked to draft and finalize all annexes prior to June 30<sup>th</sup> of each budget period. All annexes must be exercised prior to June 30, 2024. The Coalition requests participation of partners from core membership sectors (emergency management, public health, EMS, hospitals) in addition to other healthcare partners. Below you will find the updated timeline of GSHCC exercises. Additional exercises may be added to support health care partners and their exercise requirements.

Please [contact](#) the GSHCC team with any questions or concerns.

## Granite State Health Care Coalition Exercise Calendar

Exercise	Timeline	Description	Participating Partners
<b>BP5 (July 2023 – June 2024)</b>			
Medical Response and Surge Exercise	12/6/2023	Annual requirement – MRSE Functional Exercise	Core Members, TBD
Chemical Emergency Surge Annex Tabletop Exercise	April 2024	Discussion-Based Exercise to validate the GSHCC Chemical Emergency Surge Annex	Core Members, TBD

# COALITION EXERCISE INFORMATION

## Exercise Resources and Assistance

### FEMA PrepToolkit

Have you scheduled your required exercise but not sure where to start? The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has an online portal that provides tools to support exercise design and development, conduct, evaluation and improvement planning. The portal follows all six components of the National Preparedness System (NPS) which ensures your exercise meets requirements.

 [FEMA PrepToolkit Online Portal](#)

### ASPR TRACIE

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Technical Resources, Assistance Center, and Information Exchange (TRACIE), has a technical resource reference page with lessons learned, templates and after-action reports (AAR) to utilize for your planning and exercise conduct needs. These templates encompass an all-hazards approach for health care needs with scenarios including but not limited to, active threat, cybersecurity, severe weather, utility failure, patient surge events and public health emergencies.

 [ASPR TRACIE](#)

### Tabletop Exercise Templates

The GSHCC has created an array of discussion-based tabletop exercise templates for use at your facility. These templates may assist facilities looking to meet annual exercise requirements per regulatory authorities. Discussion-based exercises are built for a four-hour timeframe allowing for a scalable and flexible response to a myriad of hazards which include electrical event, telephony denial of service/telephone scam, network outages, winter storm, rain event, infectious disease event and others! Each template follows the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) guidelines. If you are interested in receiving a copy of these exercise templates, please reach out to the GSHCC team at [gshcc@healthynh.org](mailto:gshcc@healthynh.org).

## GSHCC COVID-19 After Action Review #4- Recovery

The GSHCC completed the fourth and final iteration of the COVID-19 After-Action Review and Improvement Plan (AAR/IP). This process consisted of a survey, partner interviews and AAR/IP Report. This final iteration focused on the recovery phase of the pandemic, from July 2022 through June 2023, health care, public health, emergency medical services, and emergency management partners have shifted COVID-19 efforts from that of response activities to that of recovery.

### *After-Action Review # 4 - Recovery*

## GSHCC COVID-19 After Action Review-

### Master Executive Summary

The *2019 Novel Coronavirus: After-Action Report Master Executive Summary* incorporates:

1. Capture and share activities and experiences of GSHCC members and partners over the duration of COVID-19 Response and Recovery phases;
2. Offer an updated analysis of response and recovery activities from February 2021 through June 2023;
3. Tie together common themes across the previously four GSHCC reported phases; and
4. Provide recommendations to enhance current and future planning and recovery efforts.

### *COVID-19 After Action Review Master Executive Summary*

# The GSHCC Website is Now Live

## Member Login Information

The Granite State Health Care Coalition website is now live! Many documents and resources have been made available on the website including plans, annexes, AAR/IPs, upcoming trainings, events, etc. There is more to come. All members and partners have been granted access to login to the “Members Only” section of the GSHCC webpage under a shared username and password. Upon login, members will see menu items appear under the “Members Only” section. Individual members will not be able to change login credentials.

To login to the website:

Link to website: [Members Login – FHC \(healthynh.org\)](https://healthynh.org/members-login)

Enter the following:

Username: [gshccmember@healthynh.org](mailto:gshccmember@healthynh.org)

Password: GSHCCmember100%23

Helpful tip:

- We suggest you click any “remember me” or “save my password” options and keep the password in your email to refer back to. If you forget the password, there is an option to reach out to the GSHCC team on the website (responses to requests are not managed 24/7).

Please let us know if there are any additional items you would like to see included on the website.

Please reach out to [gshcc@healthynh.org](mailto:gshcc@healthynh.org) if you encounter any challenges.

# NH DHHS, DPHS, Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Update

## Statewide Training and Exercise Program (STEP) Calendar

Access information on trainings, classes, webinars, and conferences related to public health, health care, emergency management and more via the Statewide Training and Exercise Calendar.

[Statewide Training and Exercise Calendar | Teamup](#)

For questions or to make a request to have your event added to the calendar, email: [STEP@dhhs.nh.gov](mailto:STEP@dhhs.nh.gov)

## New Hampshire Health Alert Network (HAN)

Health care providers and public health professionals can register as a recipient of the Health Alert Network (HAN) making sure you receive up-to-date information from New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services. Register [here](#) to sign up and see if you qualify

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Over the Counter COVID-19 Antigen Test-Kits Available

The State of New Hampshire is offering the following free PPE supplies and over the counter COVID-19 Antigen test kits to those who qualify. For additional information on how to request supplies through NH DHHS please see below. Please note supplies are limited and not all requests will be filled. PPE supplies are available for eligible verified non-profit entities only.



New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services



CONCORD WAREHOUSE PRODUCTS

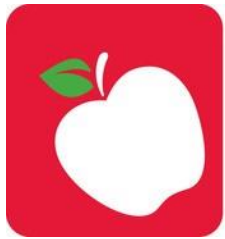
Item	Size	Case Count	Brands
Gloves, Nitrile	XS	1000	CleanGuard, Bio Net, Hand Plus
Gloves, Nitrile	Small	1000	ASAP, Bee Sure, CleanGuard
Gloves, Nitrile	Medium	1000	Cleanguard, Hongray
Gloves, Nitrile	Large	1000	ASAP, CleanGuard, Emerald, The Safety Zone
Gloves, Nitrile	X-large	1000	CleanGuard, The Safety Zone
Gloves, Vinyl	Medium	1000	Basic
Gloves, Vinyl	Large	1000	Basic
N95 Mask	One Size	200,440	Honeywell, 3M
KN95	One Size	600	Air Queen
3 Ply Mask	One Size	2000	JCJZ, Flucare, Hunan Conway, Ravjot, Zhibo, Kang Shen, Shijia
3 Ply Mask Junior	Small	1000	GeriGentle
Cloth Mask	One Size	500	WB
Coveralls	Large - 3XL	25 - 50	Varied
Universal Isolation Gowns	One Size	75	Flucare
Level 3 Isolation Gowns	Large - 2XL	85 - 120	TBG, Molecure, Lucca, Body Armor
Thermometers		1	BB love
Sanitizing Wipes	160 wipes	24	QYK
Hand Sanitizer	1 Gallon	4	Germs Be Gone

**Order Now**

To request free over the counter COVID-19 Antigen test kits, click [here](#)

To request free PPE supplies click [here](#)  
(eligible non-profit entities only)





# Foundation *for* Healthy Communities

The Granite State Health Care Coalition is an initiative of the Foundation for  
Healthy  
Communities, a non-profit organization that engages in innovative  
partnerships to improve health and health care in New Hampshire by  
addressing quality of care, access to care and  
community prevention.

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Please visit us online to view [past editions of the Granite State  
Health Care Coalition semi-annual newsletter.](#)

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