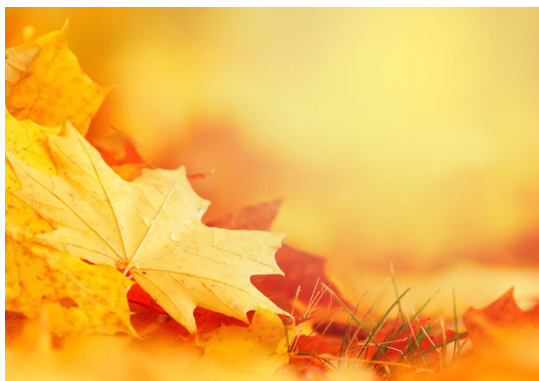


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Granite State Health Care Coalition
Fall 2024 Newsletter



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Foundation for
Healthy Communities

Director's Message

Greetings and hello to all,

Normally summer is a time to relax and recharge. This summer seemed to make a path all its own! We are now into the Fall and already moving forward at a steady pace. Much work lies ahead, with several projects that hopefully will make a positive impact on the work we do. With all that work ahead, what to do next or first? The best way to move forward is to sometimes stop and take stock of where you have come and assess where you want to go. That time is now. You are much further ahead than you were, and good things lie ahead. A positive mental attitude makes all the difference. New Hampshire provides a multitude of beauty that surrounds us daily. Take some in. If you are a fan of pumpkin, then you are definitely in your comfort zone this time of year! Taking care of yourself is the best way to be able to take care of others. Let us know how we can help. A team is only as strong as its weakest link, so let's keep all of us strong and ready for what is next!

Be safe and stay strong,

-Scott Nichols
GSHCC Senior Director

Thank You

Thank you members and partners for your continued dedication to your staff, patients and residents. We could not do our work without your collaboration and support. We thank you for your continued guidance as we conduct preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts for the healthcare and public health 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 GSHCC mission 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 encourages 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.



[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

HPP PLANNING ACTIVITIES & PROGRAM OUTLOOK

Learn about future Granite State Health Care Coalition planning and program priorities

NH GSHCC Readiness Assessment and Plan

The GSHCC is working on compiling a Readiness Assessment and Plan. The Readiness Assessment will consist of a survey and gap analysis to determine the GSHCC's capacity and capability to conduct Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) activities for 2024-2028. Findings from the gap analysis will inform the Readiness Plan. The Readiness Plan will include a Training and Exercise Plan that will include training opportunities, tools, and resources that apply to the healthcare workforce on topics relevant to NH.



2024-2025 GSHCC Hazard Vulnerability Analysis (HVA)

The GSHCC HVA is an annual deliverable conducted to inform GSHCC planning priorities, identify gaps, and enhance training and exercise planning. A survey was disseminated to over 1000 partners to assist the GSHCC team in identifying mitigation strategies as well as priority actions to build and sustain preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities across the state. The GSHCC completed its HVA Meeting on September 5th with more than sixty partners across the healthcare continuum in attendance. Partners reviewed the results of the HVA survey and discussed further developing mitigation strategies. The results of both the survey and meeting will be incorporated into a final HVA Report and shared with GSHCC membership by the January 31, 2025 due date.

HPP PLANNING ACTIVITIES & PROGRAM OUTLOOK

GSHCC Long-Term Care and Skilled Nursing Facility Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Program

A robust emergency preparedness program is critical for facilities in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a multitude of disasters and incidents. The GSHCC has developed organizational and instructional resources for Long-Term Care and Skilled Nursing facilities aimed at assisting in the development of facility emergency preparedness programs and emergency operations plans relative to federal and state emergency preparedness requirements.



UPCOMING EVENTS

2024 GSHCC General Membership Virtual Meeting



November 6, 2024

Virtual via Microsoft Teams

8:30am-12:30pm

[Register Here Today](#)

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

There is no fee to attend. Registration closes *October 30th*. Additional information below.

The meeting will consist of three plenary sessions including:

The Healthcare Cyber Threat Landscape: Risk, Impact, and Preparedness

John Riggi- National Advisor for Cybersecurity and Risk, American Hospital Association

Join John Riggi, National Advisor for Cybersecurity and Risk for the American Hospital Association and former FBI Cyber senior executive, as he provides his unique national and international perspective on the latest cyber threats including those arising from geopolitical tensions, third-party providers, and supply chain disruptions. John will discuss how best to prepare for, respond to, and recover from these disruptive cyber-attacks as well as the regional impact. He will discuss the rise he's seen in incidents of bad actors going after third-parties as well as effective risk management strategies. He will also provide his insights on the latest cyber legislative and policy developments. As John always says, *"This presentation is designed not to scare, but make aware, so we can prepare."*

Lessons Learned from the Liberty Hospital Ransomware Attack

Carolyn Wells- Trauma and Emergency Preparedness Manager, Liberty Hospital

Carolyn Wells of Liberty Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri will present on lessons learned from their recent ransomware attack and subsequent extended downtime event.

When Everything Changes in A Minute: Lessons Learned from the 2023 New Hampshire Hospital Shooting

Allen Coen- Director of Facilities, New Hampshire Hospital

Allen will discuss high level lessons learned from the November 2023 New Hampshire Hospital active shooter event and provide an update on how the hospital is recovering nearly one year post-incident. Allen will also touch on best practices, mitigation measures, planning considerations, and how these lessons learned have changed their original planning assumptions and some steps they have implemented thereafter.

TRAINING INFORMATION

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 with 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 provides 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](#)

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

NEW Hospital Incident Command System (HICS)

GSHCC has developed a Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) training for hospital leaders. HICS was created by California Emergency Medical Services with Kaiser Permanente to assist hospitals in responding to emergency incidents. This training will review the scope and objectives of the HICS model of incident command operations including HICS materials (Incident Action Plan, Job Action Sheets, etc.). The course will also provide a hands-on activity to practice the HICS concepts. The course is recommended for hospital leadership and staff that would fulfill the roles of Incident Command. Partners can request the training by emailing the GSHCC team at gshcc@healthynh.org.

NEW How to Conduct a Tabletop Exercise

GSHCC has developed a training on how to conduct a tabletop exercise for healthcare. A tabletop exercise is one of the many forms of exercising emergency preparedness plans at healthcare facilities. This training will provide partners with hands-on training and materials on how to successfully plan, facilitate, and document the tabletop exercise. We recommend this training for all partners who are new to tabletop exercise concepts or partners who need to review concepts on conducting a tabletop exercise. Partners can request the training by emailing the GSHCC team at gshcc@healthynh.org.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

NEW – OPENING SOON!

Hospital Emergency Management Coordinator (HEMC) Orientation

The GSHCC is developing a Hospital Emergency Management Coordinator (HEMC) Orientation program for new HEMCs. This program will be a full day and in person course to welcome new HEMCs into their role and provide an overview of GSHCC and state resources. The training will provide the HEMCs with an overview of Juvare EMResource and eICS. HEMCs will also be introduced to the NH DHHS, DPHS, Bureau of Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery (EPRR). The program will become available by the end of Fall 2024. For questions about this program, please contact gshcc@healthynh.org.



COALITION EXERCISE INFORMATION

2024-2025 GSHCC Medical Response & Surge Exercise (MRSE)

The GSHCC team and core partners will conduct the annual exercise in March 2025. Core participants include hospitals, NH DHHS, DPHS, Bureau of Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery (EPRR), Regional Public Health Networks (RPHNs), Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs), Home Health Care, Long Term Care (LTC), EMS, and NH HSEM.

The exercise will test medical surge statewide.

Please contact Exercise and Training Officer Victoria Paige at vp Paige@healthynh.org for additional information about the MRSE.



COALITION EXERCISE INFORMATION

Granite State Health Care Coalition Exercise Calendar

The GSHCC is tasked to draft and finalize all exercise After-Action Reports (AARs) prior to June 30, 2025. The Coalition requests participation of partners from core membership sectors (emergency management, public health, EMS, and 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
BP1 (July 2024 – June 2025)			
Medical Response & Surge Exercise (MRSE)	March 2025	Functional Exercise to validate the <i>GSHCC Coordination Plan</i> , and corresponding Plans and Annexes, on response to a medical surge.	Core members

EXERCISE INFORMATION

Exercise Resources and Assistance

FEMA PrepToolkit

Have you scheduled your required exercise but not sure where to start? Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has an online portal that provides tools to support exercise design and development and tools to support partners in conducting evaluation and improvement planning. The portal follows all six components of the National Preparedness System (NPS) which ensures exercises meet 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 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 an electrical event, telephony denial of service/telephone scam, network outages, winter storm, rain event, infectious disease event and others! Each template follows the FEMA 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.

NH DHHS, DPHS, BUREAU OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, & 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



NH DHHS, DPHS, BUREAU OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, & RECOVERY UPDATE

State of New Hampshire ESF-8 Health and Medical Contact Information

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NH DHHS), Division of Public Health Services (DPHS), Bureau of Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery (EPRR) serves as the Emergency Support Function-8 (ESF-8) Health and Medical Lead and continues to work with the Granite State Healthcare Coalition to support partners through various emergency preparedness initiatives. As a reminder, support during surge, emergencies, and other urgent healthcare needs is available 24/7/365 by calling the **State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) ESF-8 desk at (603) 223-3729**. Staff members are available to assist with urgent needs and resource coordination.





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
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