

HPP:

- The Office of EMS (OEMS) continues to participate as part of the DHHS Incident Management Team (DHHS IMT) in response to the COVID-19 Outbreak to support efforts specifically related to Healthcare Stakeholders. Current operations are focused on:
 - Working as part of the DHHS IMT in developing guidance/plans, providing situational awareness, and sharing information, to ensure that the concerns of the healthcare community are considered and addressed. Current areas of focus include, planning for the statewide distribution of vaccine and patient movement operations in response to medical surge due to COVID.
 - Managing the ordering, receipt, storage, vetting, and delivery of Personal Protective Equipment essential to maintain healthcare and associated operations statewide through the OEMS Support Cell and the Mocksville warehouse.
 - Managing the recruitment, onboarding, training, and deployment of healthcare professionals as members of Long-Term Care Strike Teams, or individually, to support the operations of Long-Term Care facilities affected by COVID-19 statewide through the LTC Support Cell

Except for the Mocksville warehouse operations, most OEMS staff members are supporting these operations remotely instead of from the Wright Building or the State EOC. Communications concerning these operations should be made through OEMSSupportCell@dhhs.nc.gov or 919-855-4688

- As part of the COVID-19 vaccination planning team, HPP staff have been maintaining and updating the External Relations - Healthcare Annex of the NC COVID-19 Vaccination Plan. The HPP is the lead for this annex and serves as the main liaison to healthcare sector stakeholders providing routine vaccine planning updates, and assisting with operational activities such as vaccine provider enrollment, the onboarding of providers to various vaccine specific IT systems and any other training or education related to COVID-19 vaccine.
- HPP staff also continue to support hospitals and other healthcare providers in relation to COVID-19 therapies that are expected to gain Emergency Use Authorization in the coming weeks. The program plays a lead role in determining allocations of these limited resources to providers and sharing information about their proper use with under emergency use authorization.
- During the month of October, OEMS Support Cell and Mocksville Warehouse staff processed 1360 requests for personal protective equipment (PPE) from healthcare and non-healthcare facilities across the state. These efforts resulted in the coordinated delivery of 3.9 million pieces of PPE to these facilities within 1-2 days of request.
- Mobile Disaster Hospital (MDH) assets are currently deployed in Hamlet at Sandhills Medical Center on standby for any hospital overflow due to COVID.
- MDH staff traveled to FL in September to pick up the remaining FORT shelters that will replace the Cogen ICU. We received the remainder of the asset in Mocksville the last week of October and are currently setting up this asset and configuring wrap-around support for the entire Mobile Disaster Hospital. The FORTs asset will remain set up for review and tweaking into the first of 2021 unless deployed. The Cogen ICU modules that were deployed to Grady in Atlanta are now set up in the parking lot at the Mocksville warehouse being used as climate-controlled storage for MDH assets.
- HPP program staff completed end of year grant requirements (both budgetary and programmatic) for the budget period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. COVID-19 funds are available for projects through June 30, 2021 and 90% of funds have been allocated to the eight (8) regional healthcare coalitions.

- The HPP program received a Notice of Award from the Department of Health and Human Services. Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) for the budget period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. The award included \$6,083,849 in HPP funds and \$2,607,932 in COVID-19 funds. Projects for the COVID-19 funds have been finalized and consist of both regional and statewide projects. Contract amendments for the Healthcare Coalitions share of \$6,083,849 have been executed.
- Contract amendments for FY20-21 that include COVID-19 funding for Healthcare Coalitions share of \$2,607,932 are in process with a proposed effective date of December 1, 2020. The purpose of these fund is to help the coalitions recoup and continue to support their regions as we continue through the COVID-19 response.
- Billy Langston joined the OEMS staff on October 19th as the HPP Training and Exercise Coordinator. Billy brings over 30 years of EMS service in North Carolina with extensive operational and response experience. He will also be supporting the COVID IMT response initially.
- We have completed interviews for the HPP Grants Coordinator Position was posted and hope to announce our candidate soon. This position will support our HPP Business Office as we continue manage multiple contracts and funding streams.
- The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) has approved a new, mandatory state VIPER template. This template is required for all VIPER users. This new template includes an expansion of the state event talk groups, landing zone talk groups and add a law enforcement only statewide events zone. This new template is a result of “lessons learned” from large incidents, such as Hurricane Florence. The timetable for implementation has not yet been established, but users are encouraged to go ahead and have this updated template programmed.
- The EMSC Advisory Committee continues to meet regularly via WebEx. Since the last update, the Family Advisory Network (FAN) subcommittee has met to establish goals and a process to identify and onboard a representative to join the EMSC advisory committee in the role of a FAN representative. Recommendations will be presented at the next advisory committee meeting.
- EMSC continues to meet and coordinate with groups outside of our department as well as EMSC coordinators from other states. In collaboration with UNC, the PECC+ program mentioned last month launched successfully on October 5th with applications loaded on the EMS for Children webpage. Interested EMS agencies can apply until December 4, 2020.
- Links to EMSC training opportunities have been repaired on the EMS for Children webpage.
- Important reminders:
 - Cyber threats continue to target healthcare organizations. Please be vigilant when opening emails and report any suspicious email/activities to your IT team
 - Utilize the agency Shift Duty Officer [(919) 855-4687/ DHSR.NCOEMS.SDO@dhhs.nc.gov] contact information for emergent events or incidents that affect your regions and/or counties