2024-2025

NEW JERSEY HEALTHCARE COALITIONS (NJHCC) ORIENTATION PACKET

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This Orientation Packet Includes

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Who & What are the NJHCCs

Mission

The mission of New Jersey's Healthcare Coalitions (NJHCCs) is to promote and enhance the emergency preparedness and response capabilities of healthcare entities throughout the state.

By participating in the NJHCCs, members benefit from emergency management support, collaboration, assistance, networks and expertise from peers and coalition leadership. Leadership has direct lines of communication to state and federal partners to meet member needs. The focus is to support members' efforts by:

- Connecting them to share experiences and expertise to improve individual planning efforts
- Understanding member emergency management planning status and needs via one-to-one meetings, calls, meetings for specific HCC member types, coalition meetings and more
- Engaging local, state and federal entities to provide expertise based on topics of interest to coalition members during meetings
- Encouraging engagement in topic-specific workgroups that are member-initiated, such as workplace violence, exercise development, response plan development, etc.
- Assisting in organizational regulatory compliance
- Developing and implementing exercises to test plans and identify gaps and solutions to resolve them
- Providing structure during an event that focuses on healthcare needs and solutions as well as state and federal requirements.

What We Do

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) promote capabilities to improve healthcare delivery before, during and after an emergency.

New Jersey's Healthcare Coalitions work to achieve these capabilities through activities based on the state's needs. These capabilities give New Jersey's health and medical partners the opportunity to develop and implement a statewide strategic vision for health sector preparedness and response.

Regional Coalition Map

North Healthcare Coalition
Counties Served: Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Morris, Passaic, Sussex and Warren

Central Healthcare Coalition
Counties Served: Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, Somerset and Union

South Healthcare Coalition
Counties Served: Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem
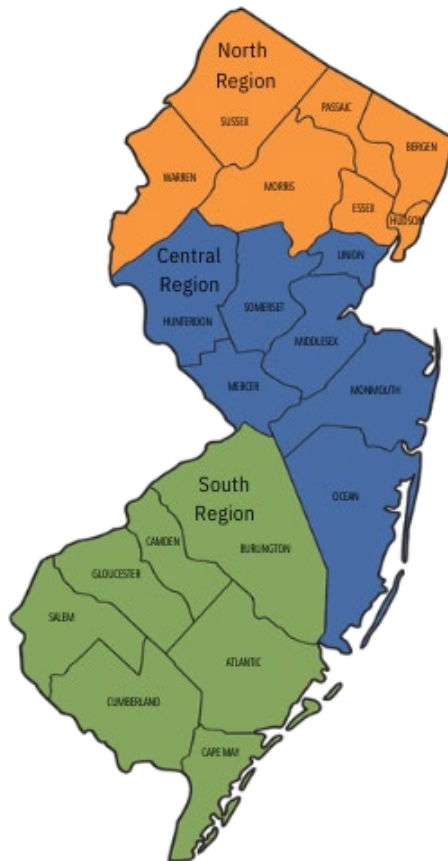
NJHCC's Leadership Team

North Healthcare Coalition

HCC Leaders:

Steven Sarinelli

Tom Calimano

HCC Clinical Advisor:

Ammundeep Tagore, MD, MBA, MSHA, FAAEM, FACEP

Central Healthcare Coalition

HCC Leaders:

Scott Skrivanek

Robert "Bob" Field Jr.

HCC Clinical Advisor:

Ammundeep Tagore, MD, MBA, MSHA, FAAEM, FACEP

South Healthcare Coalition

HCC Leader:

Lawrence Phillips

Robert "Bob" Saunders

HCC Clinical Advisor:

Alexander "Alex" Kuc, MD

NJHCC Emergency Management Support Team:

Interim Director of Emergency Management:

Theresa Edelstein

Regional Coalition Managers (RCM):

Brett McCormick

Ryan Cassidy

Ednan "Eddie" Rizvi

Anthony Sokolowski

Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC):

Jax Wigert

Incident Management Systems Specialist (IMS):

Kirk Kiernicki

NJHCC EM Support Team's Role

The NJHCC EM Support Team's primary responsibility is to support all three regional healthcare coalitions.

The EM Support Team facilitates and manages workgroups; develops regional response, recovery and disaster specific plans/annexes; and supports the NJDOH ESF-8 desk during regional-level responses. In addition to planning, response and recovery duties, the EM Support Team also takes on a support role when information needs to be relayed to wider healthcare audiences, whether through digital messaging efforts or via bimonthly HCC in-person meetings. Additionally, when available, the EM Support Team facilitates the coordination of equipment via donation, state and federal funding opportunities and in-kind support amongpeer groups during emergencies.

The team also provides National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliance, Continuity Of Operations Plan (COOP) assistance, exercise/plan development, among other regulatory compliance and training-based duties.

In addition to support-based projects, the EM Support Team develops, with the expertise of NJHCC members, exercises that any NJHCC member can take part in to test their response plans, address any gaps and learn in a safe and low-stakes environment.

The EM Support Team also serves as an information repository and information gathering service; if you or your team has a question that only acute care emergency managers can answer our team will poll the entirety of New Jersey's acute care emergency managers for a response through a "Colleague Question". The results of the colleague question will be shared with the requesting party as well as all other NJHCC members within that member type. No identifying information (i.e. name, organization, etc.) will be shared throughout the process. In addition to colleague questions, the EM Support Team will periodically send out relevant emergency management information via email and in-person meetings. This information can include, but is not limited to, respiratory disease reports from the New Jersey Department of Health, preparedness and readiness resources from HHS ASPR and resources from regional and state partners.

Additionally, during localized or facility-level responses the EM Support Team will periodically check in with the emergency manager/health officer/facility director/etc. to ensure that the affected organization and its team has everything needed to respond to the event that is currently impacting their community/facility/residents/etc.

Support provided by the EM Support Team includes, but is not limited to: Information gathering, active surveillance of potential natural disasters, active surveillance of potential public health threats, active surveillance of cybersecurity incidents and threats that might impact healthcare entities, assistance in connecting with regional and state-level organizations and assets.

Finally, the EM Support Team keeps a pulse on events and potential events ranging from locally reported accidents to global catastrophes. This is done through a variety of surveillance methods including traditional media consumption, emergency management specific notification networks such as *Breaking News Network*, the National Biosurveillance Integration Center (NBIC) daily/SPOT reports, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) alert digests, among a variety of other trusted sources. If the team believes a potential event rises to the higher level of notification, a phone call, email, mass-email campaign or Juvare Incident Management System (IMS) alert may be utilized to push timely notifications to NJHCC members. As an example, if the RCM oncall learns through a trusted source that a potential mass casualty incident/event (MCI/E) has occurred, the RCM on call would likely reach out to the closest hospital, local/county OEM, etc., to exchange information regarding the

event to ensure all affected facilities and entities are in the loop. The RCM will also be on hand to assist the members with specific requests.

More information on EM Support Team services can be found below in the [Conferences, Exercises, Training, and Support](#) sub-section.

NJHCC EM Support Team's Contact Information

While our team enjoys getting to know as many members as possible, for the sake of operational continuity, we will not be sharing RCM business phone numbers or emails in this document. With that in mind, our 1-800-457-2262 hotline is staffed 24/7 by the RCM on call.

EM Support Team Hotline 1-800-457-2262

Please use the hotline number as a means of first contact in the event of an emergency for which you would like assistance from the EM Support Team. The NJHCCs are **NOT** an emergency medical service/response organization; the NJHCCs are an emergency management support agency.

As a secondary form of contact, or in the event of a non-time-constrained request please reach out to us at **RHCC@NJHA.com**.

Conferences, Exercises, Training, and Support

NJHCC develops, facilitates and supports a variety of engagement opportunities for all three HCCs and the greater healthcare industry. All opportunities, including education programs,that the NJHCC EM Support Team directly develops and facilitates are typically open to all healthcare aligned staff. Some of these opportunities include:

- NJHCC workplace violence (WPV) conference and resources
- Tabletop exercises (TTXs) and functional exercises that focus on a specific hazard as identified by the NJHCC membership and/or the Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP)
  - Previous exercise topics have included:
    - Burn
    - Chemical
    - Facility Evacuation
    - Infectious Disease
    - Pediatric
    - Radiological
- Hazard vulnerability assessments (HVAs)
- Active Shooter Training
- Advanced Burn Care and Triage Training
- Other avenues of support including:
  - Industry and field-specific best practice guidance
    - Colleague Questions
      - The EM Support Team will facilitate an anonymous information discovery process by asking peers within your desired professional field tailored questions to answer your query

- o NIMS and regulatory compliance support
  - § Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) development support and review
  - § Regulatory compliance document and resource discovery
- o Cybersecurity response and recovery support
  - § Specifically in the form of connecting impacted entities with cybersecurity subject matter experts (SMEs), state and federal partners
- Amplifying emergency management and preparedness-related training opportunities, toolkits, playbooks, etc.

Resources to Support Exercise Development

Below are several resources to assist your organization in the development of emergency preparedness exercises. The NJHCC EM Support Team will work to ensure these links are updated, but these lists are under the stewardship of their original publishers.

Additionally, the EM Support Team is always on hand to assist in providing resources, advice and staff to participate in your organization's exercises (depending on staff availability). Please reach out to our team at RHCC@NJHA.com for any questions or requests.

Exercise Development

FEMA National Standard Exercise Curriculum (NSEC)
- § NSEC Overview
- § Incident Command System (ICS) Resource Center

Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)
- § FEMA HSEEP Overview
- § Find an HSEEP Course Near You
  - o Emergency Management Institute (EMI) – Emmitsburg, Md.
  - o Traditional Classroom Setting – Local to Regional
  - o Virtual Classroom Setting

FEMA EMI Independent Study (IS) Courses
- § IS-120 – An Introduction to Exercises
- § IS-130 – How to be an Exercise Evaluator

Helpful Contacts/Resources/Support Agencies

Below are several resources to assist your organization throughout the emergency management cycle. These resources are subject to change based on their original authors and publishers. The NJHCC EM Support Team will work to ensure these links are updated, but these lists are under the stewardship of their original publishers.

NJ-Specific Resources

Municipal, County and Regional EM Aligned Agency Directories
- Office of Emergency Management (OEM), Access and Function Needs (AFN) County Coordinators, & EMS Coordinators
- Municipal, County, & Regional Public Health Officers
- County Alcohol and Drug Use Directors & County Mental Health Administrators

State Agency Resources, Websites & Phone Numbers
- New Jersey Department Of Health (NJDOH)
  - NJDOH Office of Disaster Resilience
- NJLINCS
- New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM)
  - Main #: 609-963-6900
- New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (NJOHSP)
  - Main #: 609-584-4000
  - Email: OHSP@njoshp.gov
- New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU)
- New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
  - New Jersey Forest Fire Service (NJFFS)
- New Jersey Department Of Transportation (NJDOT)
- NJ TRANSIT
- NJ Turnpike Authority – Turnpike and Garden State Parkway
- Health and Human Services of New Jersey (HHSNJ)
  - NJ211

Electric Utility Company Resources
- Atlantic City Electric Outage Map
- Borough of Madison Utilities
- City of Vineland Utilities
- Jersey Central Power and Electric Outage Map
- Orange and Rockland Outage Information
- PSE&G Outage Information

Transportation and Port Authority-Related Resources
- Traffic Alerts & Traffic Cameras
  - 511NJ
  - Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission
  - NJ TRANSIT
    - NJ Transit Office of Emergency Management
  - Amtrak
    - Amtrak Police Department
  - NJDOT
- Port Authority Resources
  - Delaware River Port Authority
  - Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

Severe Weather-Related Resources
- National Weather Service (NWS)
  - Forecast Office Philadelphia/Mt Holly (PHI)
    - Main #: 609-261-6600 (M-F, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.)
    - Direct #: 609-261-6600 (24 hours)

- Email: phi.skywarn@noaa.gov
- Forecast Tools
  - Local Forecast
  - Snow and Ice Forecast
  - Hazardous Weather Outlook
  - Hazardous Weather Briefing
  - Emergency Managers Hazardous Weather Briefing
  - River Gauges and Forecasts – Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service
- o Forecast Office New York, NY (OKX)
  - ***Please Note:*** *The NWS OKX Office covers portions of Northern New Jersey*
  - Main #: 631-924-0037 (M-F, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.)
  - Direct #: 631-924-0383 (24 hours)
  - Email: okx.operations@noaa.gov
  - Forecast Tools
    - Probabilistic Winter Weather Forecasts
    - Hazardous Weather Outlook
    - NWS New York Emergency Manager's Page - Summer
    - NWS New York Emergency Manager's Page - Winter
    - NWS New York Coastal Flooding Page
    - NWS New York Hydrology Page
    - River Gauges and Forecasts – Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service

Tri-State Area Agencies (DE, NY, PA)

Delaware

- Delaware Department of Health and Social Services
- Delaware Department of Transportation
- Amtrak
  - o Amtrak Police Department
- Delaware Emergency Management Agency
- All Ready Delaware

Pennsylvania

- 511 Pennsylvania
- Pennsylvania Department of Health
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
- Amtrak
  - o Amtrak Police Department
- Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
- Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority
- Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency

New York

- 511 New York
- New York State Department of Health
- Amtrak
  - Amtrak Police Department
- Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA)
  - Incident and Emergency Preparedness
- Forecast Office New York, NY (OKX)
  - Main #: 631-924-0037 (M-F, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.)
  - Direct #: 631-924-0383 (24 hours)
  - Email: okx.operations@noaa.gov
- Forecast Tools
  - Probabilistic Winter Weather Forecasts
  - Hazardous Weather Outlook
  - NWS New York Emergency Manager's Page - Summer
  - NWS New York Emergency Manager's Page - Winter
  - NWS New York Coastal Flooding Page
  - NWS New York Hydrology Page
  - River Gauges and Forecasts – Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service
- New York Department of Transportation
- New York Homeland Security and Emergency Services – Office of Emergency Management

Federal Agency Resources and Websites

- US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
  - Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response Technical Resources, Assistance Center (ASPR-TRACIE)
    - Plans, Tools, and Templates (EOP)
      - Member Type Focuses: Acute Care, FQHCs, Long Term Care, Home & Hospice Care, etc.
    - Plans, Tools, and Templates (EOP)
      - Member Type Focus: Public Health
    - Center for the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA)
  - CHEMPACK Program SharePoint – **Registration Required**
    - Click here to request access the CHEMPACK SharePoint site.
  - Office of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
  - Emergency Preparedness and Response
- Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)
- US Department of Homeland Security (US DHS)
  - US Coast Guard
  - US Coast Guard Auxiliary
    - Emergency Management & Disaster Response

- o [National Center for Biosurveillance Integration Center (NBIC)](#) - **Registration Required**
    - ▪ To request access to the NBIC SharePoint site please email CWMD.NBIC@hq.dhs.gov.
- [Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)](#)
- [National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)](#)
- [National Oceanic Atmospheric Association (NOAA)](#)
    - o [National Weather System Office of Water Prediction](#)
    - o [National Hurricane Center](#)
- [United States Geological Survey (USGS)](#)
    - o [USGS | National Water Dashboard - NJ](#)

What is the Juvare Incident Management System (IMS)

Juvare is an incident management system (IMS) software development studio that the HCC EM Support Team contracts with to utilize several IMS platforms including EMResource and eICS. Each platform offers a different solution to emergency management-related activities which are described briefly below.

Juvare's Primary Point of Contact

Kirk Kiernicki - IMS Specialist – Contact Kirk at RHCC@NJHA.com

Kirk serves as NJHCC's subject matter expert on the Juvare IMS Suite. He also leads the technical development of both EMResource and eICS. Additionally, Kirk will be the first person that new HCC members engage with about Juvare, whether that is to set up an account's permissions, learning how to navigate the platforms, or to discuss a new idea for either platform.

Juvare Advisory Board (JAB)

The JAB is a great way to get engaged with Juvare while also learning how others use the two available platforms. As NJHCC's primary route of developing ideas and new use-cases for both EMResource and eICS, this board is entirely made up of NJHCC members, with healthcare professionals representing every member type within the HCCs.

The primary purpose of the JAB is to help the EM Support Team develop and enhance both EMResource and eICS through lively discussions, suggesting new ideas for either system, engaging with external partners who also use Juvare products and in general being the champions of the Juvare IMS suite.

EMResource

EMResource Summary

EMResource (EMR) is the primary platform that members think of when you mention Juvare. EMR has a variety of use-cases depending on the challenge and response needs. As an example, acute care HCC members will typically use EMR to update emergency department (ED) divert statuses to indicate to EMS partners that they cannot accept certain types of patients (unless absolutely necessary) due to a variety of circumstances. EMR also allows the NJHCC EM Support Team the ability to conduct an inpatient bed survey in the event of a mass casualty incident (MCI). This information is vital to first responders as they perform field triage and begin to transport patients.

EMR also allows users to start events that trigger notification to organizational staff, affiliated facilities, county, regional and statewide partners of the specific event. An example of this could be regional flash flooding that might impact several facilities.

HCC members from settings outside of acute care have worked with the team to develop a variety of customized solutions and tools within the platform to better suit their teams. Below are a few tools that are currently being trialed or are already rolled out to the HCC membership.

- Certification tracking and expiration reminders EOC/JIC activation status
- Emergency department divert and facility status tracking
    - Including mobile, email, text and app notifications
- Equipment/inventory tracking and record keeping
- Mobile clinic/POD/shelter activation and supply statuses Supply par tracking

eICS

eICS Summary

eICS is an easy-to-use and quick-to-deploy emergency management platform that allows an organization to rapidly assign ICS command positions, assign response and recovery responsibilities and in general expedite your team's response to an incident. This platform, in contrast to EMResource, is more geared toward operations and preparedness. eICS has the capability to stand up a virtual emergency operations center (EOC) without the hassle of tracking down job action sheets in a cloud environment or developing responsibilities for each command position. Once your organization has been configured in eICS your simply use team logs-in and they can immediately begin their event-related duties.

While eICS' common use-case is active event-response, it can also be used across the entirety of the emergency management cycle. eICS features a robust and customizable hazard vulnerability assessment (HVA) tool as well as an in- depth and auto-generated AAR/IP process that makes debriefings more effective.

This platform also allows you the opportunity, once configured, to notify your staff, partners and other collaborators of an active emergency. At this time, this platform is not intended to be a replacement system for a community/organization-wide emergency notification system. Rather, this platform is meant to assist small- to medium-sized emergency management teams prior to, during and following an emergency event.

In conclusion, you can do quite a lot with eICS, ranging from conducting an HVA, to consolidating and accelerating your team's response to an emergency, and of course taking on the task of writing AARs.

Juvare IMS Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Do these platforms cost my organization anything?

A: All NJHCC-managed Juvare platforms are free to use. All platforms are managed and supported by NJHCC EM Support Team Staff.

Q: Is this system required by the N.J. Department of Health or any accrediting body?

A: No, but we highly recommend its use for the sake of situational awareness, in addition to the added benefit of streamlining a variety of daily and emergency event specific tasks.

Q: Does this system replace EMMIT/Can I place EMMIT requests through Juvare?

A: No, at this time we request that you continue to place supply requests through your municipal/county OEM's existing infrastructure.

Q: Does NJHCC offer training for the Juvare platforms?

A: Yes! On-demand, instructor-led, small group and self-paced trainings are free and available via NJHCC and Juvare's training page. Please use this **link** to request a Juvare IMS training session with our team.

Q: Can either of these platforms be customized?

A: Yes! Both platforms are highly customizable and new features are constantly being suggested, built and tested by HCC members, the JAB and the HCC EM Support Team Staff.

Closing

The NJHCCs are grateful for members' continued support and passion for the field of emergency management and preparedness, as well as for the generous support from the New Jersey Hospital Association, New Jersey Department of Health, ASPR and our partners across the state of New Jersey.

The NJHCC EM Support Team is on call 24/7, 365 days a year; please don't hesitate to contact our team via our 24/7 emergency hotline at **1-800-457-2262** or via our email at **rhcc@njha.com**. The EM Support Team will update this document at least once a quarter; any major changes will result in a new edition being delivered to all NJHCC members' emails in a PDF format. If you encounter any challenges accessing or utilizing this resource, or if you have any suggestions to improve this resource, please contact our team via the general department email listed above.

Finally, please use this **link** to access our ***Become a Member*** page to ensure your contact information is included on our roster. Additionally, please share this link with your peers as membership is entirely voluntary and free of charge!

If you are reading this document physically, please visit our website at www.NJHCC.org/contact-us.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to utilize this resource and for your continued dedication as we work together to safeguard the great state of New Jersey!

Best regards,

The NJHCC EM Support Team