

Special
Christmas
Edition

the checkup

your pulse on preparedness

A Kansas Healthcare Coalition Publication



December 2020

Dear Members and Partners,

I'm so grateful for all the sacrifices that you have made this year to support and serve others. May this Christmas be a time for you to rest and recover, and to reflect on all that you have achieved in 2020. Sending blessings to you and your families this holiday season, and prayers for a safe, blessed New Year.

Warmly,
Tami



“Gifts” to Combat COVID 19

The gifts provided by the HCCs are not the typical ones found under your tree, but are nonetheless, super important. Our region will soon have resources that can be obtained by using our online shopping cart for ordering resources. The N-95 masks are ordered and will soon be available for request online at kshcc.com.

Additionally, the HCC Statewide Cache will open soon with additional Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including nitrile gloves, 3 ply masks, isolation gowns, face shields and N95 Masks. If you are a *Member in Good Standing* with the coalition, you will be able to order and arrange delivery of the needed PPE online, kshcc.com.

Non-healthcare Entities - Need help getting the PPE needed? Check out the Business PPE Stopgap Program: <https://kdem.kansasgis.org/businessPPE>. Please also reference this press release: <https://governor.kansas.gov/governor-laura-kelly-announces-personalprotective-equipment-program-for-kansas-businesses/>.

As always, if you are in need of resources, unable to obtain them when needed from your vendors, the regional cache or the HCC Statewide Cache, then please contact your local Emergency Manager for assistance with the Strategic National Stockpile resources.

Christmas gifts came early this year for many receiving the COVID19 Vaccine. Governor Laura Kelly announced that the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine began arriving in Kansas on 12/14. The vaccine has been received in several ultra-cold storage locations across the state. A total of about 24,000 doses is expected. For details about the delivery of the vaccine and the Kansas Vaccination Plan, see <https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/284/COVID-19-Vaccine>.



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Community Talk / Report-Out



A bi-partisan effort has formed an initiative to regularly communicate critical data to better inform regional and state leaders as they navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. Every Tuesday, reports will be shared from the seven state regions. The information, which will be presented by local health leaders, will inform state leadership about the immediate needs facing communities as they continue to respond to COVID-19. Wichita restaurateur, Jon Rolph, has been asked to chair the seven regional calls. To sign up and receive these discussions weekly, go to (<https://covid.ks.gov/report-outs/>). Have a positive story to share? Please send it to ksregionalreport@gmail.com. Our NWK region will report out at 3:30 pm with Paula Bitter, DNP, ARNP, Russell County Health Department Administrator and Jason Kennedy, Ellis County Health Services Administrator and other healthcare professionals.

Mission Control App

Mission Control App has in the past been very useful to 30+ hospitals in Kansas for patient transfer. Now, the app has been secured by KDHE for all 124 hospitals in Kansas and is helpful in finding placement for patients. Mission Control calls hospitals to see if able to accept COVID patients. Currently, the app is transfer focused, but will eventually have other features added. The app will extend into the KC Metro area and cover part of the KC, MO area too. The app does not replace EM Resource which tracks bed capacity nor Teletracking via Health & Human Services.

Update on Our Workplan Due Dates

The revised Governance Document, Response Plan and Preparedness Plan have been submitted to KDHE. The Executive Committee will review the Budget Period 3 Work Plan, Training Plan and Budget by January 1, 2020 all three will be sent to the full membership in January for review and comment.



Readiness & Response Coordinators in Kansas

Andrew Conyers has been hired as the new Metro Readiness & Response Coordinator (RRC) covering Leavenworth, Wyandotte, and Johnson counties. His background experience includes 5 years in Public Health Preparedness with Johnson County. He has also spent quite a bit of time at MARC in a number of committees working on regional priorities. States Andrew, "I'm looking forward to being a useful resource for the KS Metro Healthcare Coalition members." Other RRCs include:



Danielle Marten
North East RRC



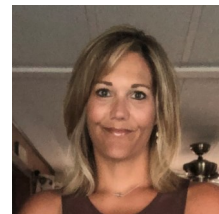
Fred Rinne
South East RRC



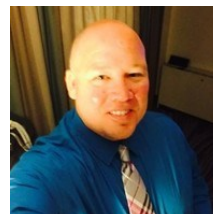
DeAnn Konkell
S. Central RRC



Beth Vallier
N. Central RRC



Mindi Bremer & Jon Blackburn
South West Co-RRCs



Other important members of the team: Kerry McCue, COVID 19 Grant Acute to Post Acute Care Project Manager, Jazmine Sauvage, Office Assistant and Charlie Keeton, HCC Statewide Cache Contractor.



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Thanks to every NWK HCC Member & Partner! A special thanks to our Executive Committee: Chair: Roy Litfin, Vice Chair: Paula Bitter, Secretary: Rae Stewart, Emergency Mgmt.: Mike Haase, Public Health: Cheryl Goetz, Hospitals: James Pemberton, EMS: Chris Venters, Healthcare: Lori Eichman & Clinical Advisor, Paul Young.