

Currently in the Coalition

Updates from the Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition—December 2021

Highlights from the National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference

Last week, several members of the Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition leadership team had the opportunity to attend the National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference. We had some excellent speakers on responder resiliency, cybersecurity, and more. Look for our updates in the coming months on our county-level Coalition meeting agendas (and read more below & on page 5).



Keynote speaker Dr. Tania Glen gave a wonderfully informative presentation about mental health in the healthcare world, first responder resiliency, and post traumatic stress. This is currently a critical issue in our industry. We look forward to sharing some of the many resources she has produced with our members and partners. In the meantime, you can find many of them on her website [here](#).



Joshua Corman, founder of I am the Cavalry (.org) and strategist for CISA on COVID-19 and healthcare, gave a thought provoking presentation on Cybersecurity in Healthcare Delivery, and particularly spoke on critical issues during the pandemic. He described the increased strain on the healthcare system, subsequent excess deaths, and present condition and worrisome future of our overtaxed healthcare resources. He provided two interesting resources for further reading ([here](#) and [here](#)). Cybersecurity is area that has been steadily moving up in priority in our hazard and vulnerability assessments over the years. We are actively looking for trainings and exercises to help our members improve preparedness in this area, and other relevant topics from this conference!



Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition

Citrus, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk & Sumter Counties

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Upcoming Coalition Meetings

Pinellas CHAMP:

December 10th

Pasco Health & Medical

Preparedness Coalition:

December 13th

Sumter County ESF-8 Working

Group: December 15th

For more info on attending these meetings, please reach out to the County Chairperson. Contact info is available on [our website](#).

From late January to early October 2020, the U.S. had 299,000 more deaths than the typical number during the same period in previous years (excess deaths)

At least
2 out of 3
of these excess deaths were
from COVID-19

The largest percentage increases were
among people who were **Hispanic or
Latino and adults aged 25-44**

Important Info & Updates

Message from the Public Health Communications Collaborative re: Omicron Variant

As scientists continue to learn more about the Omicron variant, emphasizing the core messages of protection and prevention is the best way to promote public health strategies, combat misinformation, and build trust. Here are sample topline messages:

The best way to prevent the spread of this new variant or any other variant is to get vaccinated, get a booster if you are eligible, and wear a mask in indoor public settings or in crowded environments.

Vaccination is the best way to protect against COVID-19. Being vaccinated decreases the likelihood you will get sick and makes it less likely you will need hospitalization or die if you get infected.

As we learn more about COVID-19 and its variants, we update our guidance accordingly. Our recommendations are based on the latest data, and we continue to monitor new data.

Download [graphics to share these messages](#), and visit our [Answers to Tough Questions](#) for additional messaging guidance and messages about the Omicron variant. We have also added new supporting messages to answer questions such as, “Why do new COVID-19 variants continue to emerge?” and “Why are COVID-19 cases still rising if vaccination rates are going up?”

For more insights about how public health professionals can communicate what we know (and what we don’t know) on the Omicron variant, we recommend NPR’s ["Omicron variant puts a new spin on COVID risk communication"](#).

Flu Activity Rising: It’s Time to Get the Vaccine!

The 2020-2021 influenza (flu) season in the United States was historically quiet since so many people took steps to mitigate COVID-19 exposure (e.g., masking, hand washing, travel restrictions, and school closures). As a result, reduced population immunity could make this flu season more severe. Nationwide, both laboratory-confirmed influenza detection and outpatient visits for influenza-like illness have increased in recent weeks.

Every year, flu vaccines prevent millions of illnesses, tens of thousands of hospitalizations, and thousands of deaths. More than 100 million doses of flu vaccine have already been distributed around the country. It is also good news that both the flu and COVID-19 vaccines can be given at the same time, which increases convenience and reduces missed opportunities to vaccinate. [Read more here.](#)



Federal Cybersecurity Updates

CISA Releases Capacity Enhancement Guides to Enhance Mobile Device Cybersecurity for Consumers and Organizations—CISA has released actionable [Capacity Enhancement Guides](#) (CEGs) to help users and organizations improve mobile device cybersecurity.



- The [CEG: Mobile Device Cybersecurity Checklist for Consumers](#) provides steps for consumers, including using strong authentication and enabling automatic operating system updates.
- The [CEG: Mobile Device Cybersecurity Checklist for Organizations](#) provides steps to help organizations secure mobile access to enterprise resources.

Holiday-Related Public Service Announcements from the FBI— Here are a few reminders of the darker side of online shopping for the holidays.

- [Cyber Criminals Likely Developing and Selling Scamming Tools to Harvest Credentials of Brand-Name Consumers](#)
- [Holiday Scammers Take Advantage of Online Shoppers](#)

Upcoming Trainings & Events

Until Help Arrives Training

This month, we will be hosting an [Until Help Arrives class](#) AND an [Until Help Arrives Train-the-Trainer class](#), both at the Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition's new training room at 7300 Bryan Dairy Road, Suite 450, in Largo. Until Help Arrives includes **Stop the Bleed**, as well as other simple steps that may save a life. The Until Help Arrives class is open for all members & partners and will be held on Wednesday, December 15th from 8am - 12pm. The Train-the-Trainer class will be held the day before on December 14th from 8am - 5pm, and has more specific requirements for attendees. These students will also assist in teaching the class on the 15th. More info and registration available at the links above.



Federal Consortia Training for Florida Health Care Coalitions

The Health Care Coalitions in Florida have joined together, under the leadership of the Northeast Florida Health Care Coalition, to offer a variety of courses from federal-level training consortia. Our December offerings are listed below, so you can check your calendars and click on the dates below to get registered soon! You can also access these on FloridaHCC.org; our 2022 offerings for Quarter 1 [are available here](#) and will be on the calendar soon.

- [December 14th](#) - **Hospital Incident Command System**, 2 hr class (10am - 12pm Eastern). Provider - Center for Domestic Preparedness.

2021 Plugged In: The Eye of the Storm Recording Available

We hosted an excellent finale to the 2021 Plugged In Speaker Series in November. Our speaker was Jack Parrish, a NOAA AOC Flight Meteorologist and a Gulfstream G-IVSP High-Altitude Jet Project Manager. Mr. Parrish has continuously served as one of the AOC Flight Directors (Meteorologists) aboard the NOAA WP-3D Orion aircraft since 1983, and in 2021 flew his 42nd hurricane season for NOAA. During that period, he has entered the hurricane's eye 650 times in approximately 80 hurricanes. He discussed the work of NOAA "hurricane hunters" and what the job entails and how it's evolved. He also explained how changes in weather and climate patterns may affect hurricane preparedness and response. The recording of this webinar is available [here](#).

MGT323: Instructor Development Workshop with LSU NCBRT

NCBRT is offering this 20 hour class via Zoom several times in Winter and Spring 2022. (We are letting you know now because it a popular class and these will likely fill up.) This course primarily serves to give insight into adult education and enhance the instructional skills and styles of experienced instructors. The course focuses on best teaching and training practices, and it enhances understanding of instructor competencies set by the International Board for Standards for Training, Performance, and Instruction. This course also fulfills the instructor development prerequisite to become and ICS instructor/take L-449. [More info and register here.](#)



Emergency Management Training

Here are upcoming EM trainings available for registration on [SERT TRAC](#).

- **G-400 Advanced Incident Command System Command & General Staff**—December 14-15 in New Port Richey or January 6-7 in Bradenton
- **PER-386 Whole Community Economic Recovery**—December 16th in New Port Richey
- **G-300 Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents**—January 19-21 in New Port Richey or January 25-27 in Winter Haven or January 25-27 in Tampa
- **L-105 Public Information Basics**—January 12-14 in Largo
- **G-205 Recovery from Disaster: The Local Government Role**—January 27-28 in Bradenton

Hydrology 101—Virtual Training Course

The Hydrology 101 course provides a refresher of all products, services, and tools that are available to monitor hydrologic conditions across the area. With our primary flood season often starting in January and continuing through Spring, this course offers a great opportunity to refresh your understanding of hydrology basics!

The Hydrology 101 course will be presented four times starting in mid January and continuing into early February, so you can pick the date and time most convenient for you and/or your organization to participate in this training. Register for these courses here: [January 13th @ 2pm](#), [January 20th @ 10am](#), [January 25th @10am](#), or [February 1st @ 2pm](#).



Florida Week at the Center for Domestic Preparedness: April 3rd—9th, 2022

The Florida Department of Health is proud to announce that registration for [Florida Week at the Center for Domestic Preparedness](#) has opened!

These FEMA, Department of Homeland Security trainings are being held by the FEMA, Center for Domestic Preparedness located at 61 Responder Drive, Anniston, AL 36205. Please refer to their website at <https://cdp.dhs.gov/about> for details about this federal facility and their vaccine and other COVID-19 protocols.

Application and attendance at Florida Week 2022 is at minimal cost (your time) to approved local, state, private, or volunteer response team members, or to their agencies/organizations. The CDP Travel office arranges each student's airfare, ground transportation, on-site accommodations, and meals to ensure a positive, seamless experience. Please see the [CDP's Travel Information webpage](#) for additional details and the [CDP Student Handbook](#).

As an Authorized Provider (AP) by numerous accreditation organizations, students can earn Continuing Education credits in the form of Contact Hours, CE, CME, or CNE units, an important service for students' professional development and occupational requirements. Please see the [CDP's Continuing Education](#) webpage for a matrix of course names, CE credits, and the associated accrediting organization.

Listed in each Course Overview (links below) is a list of pre-requisite courses that must be taken prior to registering for the course. Please ensure that these courses have been completed before applying for the class. Additionally, each course has a limited number of slots and will be filled on a first come first serve basis. Click on the course title for additional details.

Seating capacity is as follows:

[Healthcare Leadership for MCI Events](#) (HCL/ICE): 60 seats

[Hospital Emergency Response Training for MCI—Basic TTT](#) (HERT-B-TtT/ICE): 40 seats

[Environmental Health Training in Emergency Response](#) (EHTER OPS/ICE): 24 seats

[Framework for Healthcare Emergency Management](#) (FRAME/ICE): 40 seats

Please keep in mind, that all students attending CDP training will have a requirement to be fully vaccinated and show evidence to that end upon arrival.

Suspicious Activities Reporting Training

Tailored Suspicious Activities Reporting training is available to Line Officers, Private Security, Fire, EMS, Probation, Parole, Corrections, Public Safety Tele-communicators, Emergency Management, Maritime, Public Health/ Healthcare Partners, and Explosive Precursors Point of Sale individuals. It is free, available online, and can be completed in about 30 minutes. Agencies are encouraged to make this a standard and ongoing requirement for both new and continuing employees. Training can be accessed by visiting [SAR Training](#).

VILT Classes

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Office for Bombing Prevention (OBP) and the Center for Domestic Preparedness have partnered to provide bombing prevention awareness learning opportunities for first responders, public safety personnel, and private sector partners through Virtual Instructor-Led Training (VILT). VILT courses provide basic bombing prevention information ranging from IED construction and classification to the terrorist attack cycle. All online virtual training courses are conducted with a live instructor. VILTs are great for participants with time constraints as most classes are approximately one-hour in length and can be taken independently. Go to [VILT Monthly Schedule](#) for more information.



FEMA



National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference 2021

Our Coalition, Well Represented!

Here is the team of Coalition Staff and Board Members that represented the Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition at this year's national conference in Orlando. Pictured from left to right: David Selbach, Franklin Riddle, Eugene Banks, Turea Sheppard, Hunter Zager and Larry Green.



Our Executive Director, Franklin Riddle served on two speaker panels highlighting successes of the Florida Health Care Coalitions. One presentation was on The Florida Model—ASPR/SHA Cooperative Agreement and the other on the Florida Health Care Coalition Task Force. Both presentations highlighted the collaborative relationships that we have with other coalitions in Florida and the Florida Hospital Association that have improved overall preparedness in our state. Our team networked with other attendees (both human and canine!) and multiple vendors, including the DLX Team, the source of several of our Coalition's tents & shelters.



COVID-19 Vaccine & Testing Sites

◇ Use the [Florida Vaccine Locator](#) to find a site near you. Vaccines are available at many commercial pharmacies, medical clinics, offices and all county health departments.



◇ Homebound Vaccinations:

⇒ DeliverRxd Pharmacy in Tampa offers at home delivery COVID-19 Vaccinations at no cost for those in Hillsborough & Pinellas counties. Booster dose available to those who are immunocompromised. Call to make an appointment: (813) 932-6266. Visit [their website](#) for more info.

◇ [CVS Pharmacy](#), [Walgreens](#), [Publix](#), [Walmart](#), [Sam's Club](#), [Winn-Dixie](#), and [Costco](#) are offering vaccinations and/or testing at many locations throughout the region.

◇ Citrus

⇒ COVID-19 Vaccination available at the UF/IFAS Extension, 3650 Sovereign Path in Lecanto. To make an appointment, visit bitly.com/citruscovidvax.

⇒ Testing—Nomi Health provides no-cost COVID-19 testing at the Central Ridge Community Center, 77 Civic Circle in Beverly Hills. This drive-thru site is open MWF from 7am-7pm. Appointments are recommended—[schedule here](#). Both rapid and PCR will be available while supplies last.

DOH-CITRUS COVID-19 VACCINATIONS @ UF/IFAS EXTENSION
3650 W. SOVEREIGN PATH, LECANTO, FL 34461. FOLLOW THE SIGNS.
Appointments or walk-ins accepted. To make an appointment, visit bitly.com/citruscovidvax. Moderna, Pfizer & J&J vaccines available - booster shots for eligible individuals.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 8 AM - 5 PM	2 8 AM - 5 PM	3 8 AM - 5 PM	4 8 AM - NOON
5 8 AM - 5 PM	6 8 AM - 5 PM	7 8 AM - 5 PM	8 8 AM - 5 PM	9 8 AM - 5 PM	10 8 AM - 5 PM	11
12 8 AM - 5 PM	13 8 AM - 5 PM	14 8 AM - 5 PM	15 8 AM - 5 PM	16 8 AM - 5 PM	17 8 AM - 5 PM	18 8 AM - NOON
19 8 AM - 5 PM	20 8 AM - 5 PM	21 8 AM - 5 PM	22 8 AM - 5 PM	23 8 AM - 5 PM	24 CLOSED	25
26 8 AM - 5 PM	27 8 AM - 5 PM	28 8 AM - 5 PM	29 8 AM - 5 PM	30 8 AM - 5 PM	31 CLOSED	

DEC 2021

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

Florida HEALTH
Citrus County

⇒ Langley Health Services– To schedule an appointment for vaccine or testing, please call 352-419-5760 EXT: 4818. More information [HERE](#).

⇒ Additional Testing Locations can be found at [Florida Testing Locator](#).

◇ Hardee

⇒ Vaccine—Use [Florida Vaccine Locator](#).

⇒ Free COVID testing by appointment only. Please call 863-773-4161. 115 K.D. Revell Road, Wauchula, FL 33873. Monday– Thursday 8:30AM- 3:00 PM. Friday 8:30AM-10AM.

⇒ Testing by appointment at Prompt Care, 524 Carlton Street, Wauchula, FL. Phone number: 863-767-8333

◇ Hernando

⇒ Vaccine—Use [Florida Vaccine Locator](#).

⇒ Testing - Use [Florida Testing Locator](#).

- Get tested at the Hernando County Fairgrounds, 6436 Broad Street in Brooksville. [Appointments recommended](#) (not required). 7am—7pm daily.

NO-COST COVID-19 TESTING

Hernando County Fairgrounds - 6436 Broad Street, Brooksville

Open 7 days a week, 7 am - 7 pm

Drive-thru site. Appointments are highly recommended to avoid wait times. Visit <https://testing.nomihealth.com/signup/fl> or call (904) 295-0562 to make an appointment today.

◇ Hillsborough

⇒ ONE-STOP SHOP FOR COVID-19 TESTING, VACCINATIONS, ANTIBODY THERAPY TREATMENTS. West Tampa Community Resource Center, 2103 N. Rome Ave., Tampa, FL 33607 . Open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

⇒ Vaccine—Use [Florida Vaccine Locator](#)

◇ Manatee

⇒ Vaccines—Use [Florida Vaccine Locator](#).

⇒ The Florida Department of Health in Manatee County (DOH-Manatee) is offering free vaccines at the their clinic at 410 6th Ave E. Appointments are available between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on weekdays. Call (941) 242-6646 First and second doses of Pfizer (general public)

⇒ [COVID-19 Testing Sites for Manatee County](#)

- Free Testing at the Bradenton Area Convention Center, 1 Haben Blvd in Palmetto. Open 7am—7pm daily. Walk-up operation, no appointment needed. Government-issued photo ID is required. **The testing site at the Bradenton Area Convention Center will operate following hours around Christmas and New Years:**
 - ◇ Christmas Eve (Dec. 24): 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 - ◇ Christmas Day (Dec. 25): CLOSED
 - ◇ New Year's Eve (Dec. 31): Open normal hours (7 a.m. - 7 p.m.)
 - ◇ New Year's Day (Jan. 1): 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

◇ **Pasco**

⇒ Vaccines—COVID-19 Vaccination appointments are available Mondays & Fridays only from 8:00 a.m. – 4pm at 13941 15th, Dade City, FL 33525. Tuesday and Thursdays at 10841 Little Rd., New Port Richey, FL 34654. [More information here.](#)

⇒ [COVID-19 Testing Sites in Pasco County](#)

- DOH-Pasco has partnered with Nomi Health to provide drive-thru COVID-19 (PCR) testing at the Gulf View Square Mall in Port Richey 7 days a week from 7 am—7 pm. Appointments are not required, but highly recommended. [Make an appointment here.](#)

◇ **Pinellas**

⇒ [COVID-19 Vaccination Sites in Pinellas County](#)

⇒ [COVID-19 Testing Locations in Pinellas County](#)

- FDOH in Pinellas is offering free walk-up testing (rapid and PCR) at the Center for Health Equity, 2333 34th Street South in St. Petersburg. Open 9am – 5pm, Mon-Fri. **The last day this site will be open is December 23rd.**



◇ **Polk**

⇒ [COVID-19 Vaccination Sites in Polk County](#)- 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the following locations:

- Mondays - Lakeland Health Department, 3241 Lakeland Hills Blvd. in Lakeland;
- Wednesdays - Auburndale Testing location, 245 E. Lake Ave. in Auburndale;
- Thursdays - Bartow Specialty Care Clinic, 1255 Brice Blvd.;
- Fridays - Haines City Health Department, 1700 Baker Ave. E. in Haines City.
- Polk residents can also call 863-519-7911 to have a homebound vaccine scheduled.

⇒ [COVID-19 Testing Sites in Polk County](#)

- Nomi Health is operating the following sites in Polk County—RP Funding Center, Gil Jones Center in Winter Haven, and Baycare in Bartow. [More info & scheduling here.](#)
- Auburndale Testing and Vaccination Center - 245 E. Lake Ave., Auburndale, FL, 33823. Appointments are REQUIRED, to schedule an appointment please call (863) 519-7911.. Monday – Thursday: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.. Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

⇒ Central Florida Health Care has public events scheduled as follows:

- Vaccinations available Friday, December 10th from 9am—2pm at Fort Meade Community Center, 10 3rd Street SW, Fort Meade.
- CFHC offers mobile testing most weekdays. [Find out when and where here!](#)

◇ **Sumter**

⇒ Vaccines at Sumter County Health Department—Appt required. Call 352-569-3102 to schedule.

⇒ COVID Testing Sites

- Curative Testing is at 415 E. Noble Ave in Bushnell, Monday—Friday, 8am—4:00pm.

⇒ Langley Health Services– To schedule an appointment for vaccination or testing, please call 352-569-2992. More information [here.](#)

Even without the added stress of COVID-19, anxiety and depression often spike during the holiday season.



Simple gestures like a call, text, or holiday card can go a long way in bringing some joy to those that may need it.

Monoclonal Antibody Therapy & Locations

Monoclonal antibody treatments (MAB), also known as Regneron, can prevent hospitalization or death in high-risk patients with COVID-19 and are widely available in Florida. If you are 12 years and older and are at high risk for severe illness due to COVID-19, you are eligible for this treatment. Treatment is free and vaccination status does not matter. State-sponsored sites in our region:

(To find info on statewide therapy locations, [click here](#).)

- **DeliverRxd** is offering in-home monoclonal antibody treatments throughout the region. Call 813-932-6266 to schedule.
- **Hillsborough County**—West Tampa Service Center, 2103 N Rome Avenue, Tampa. 9am—5pm daily.
- **Manatee County** - Manatee Memorial Hospital Complex, 206 2nd Street East, Bradenton. Open daily 9 AM to 5 PM
- **Pinellas County**—Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 409 South Old Coachman Road, Clearwater. Open Monday – Saturday 9 AM to 5 PM
- **Sumter County**- Barnstorm Theater, 2720 Brownwood Boulevard, The Villages. Open daily 9 AM to 5 PM
- To make an appointment at any of these (or other state sites) [click here](#).



Dear family and friends,

This year join millions as they enjoy a digital experience with good ol' St. Nick by calling Santa's Hotline at **(605) 313-4000**.

Santa's Hotline is a welcome resource to share in the holiday spirit with friends and family and experience Santa Claus digitally.

When you call Santa's Hotline, you can leave a message with your wish list and let Santa know exactly what his elves should work on this year. Callers will be welcomed by Santa Claus himself! Call **(605) 313-4000**!



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Happy Holidays



Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition

Citrus, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk & Sumter Counties

We want to hear from you!

If you would like to share a highlight or best practice from your organization in a future Coalition newsletter or publication, please email it to Turea at TBHMPC2@gmail.com.