

# Currently in the Coalition

Updates from the Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition—October 2022

## Hurricane Ian Response & Recovery: A Message from our Executive Director

Our hearts are broken for the lives lost and the lives upended by Hurricane Ian. We are humbled by the resiliency and strength of endurance demonstrated by our healthcare system and all of the staff and other responders before, during, and in the aftermath of the destruction left behind by Ian. The Coalition is grateful to the many healthcare facilities that have supported each other with facility evacuations, patient and resident transfers, transportation, and for all those sending resources to support the response efforts.

For some the road to recovery will be weeks, for many others several months, as our colleagues, staff, families, friends, and communities begin to assess and rebuild. Regardless of your geographic location or boundaries, the Tampa Bay Health Medical Preparedness Coalition and all of the Florida Health Care Coalitions remain steadfast in our continued commitment to our members, and the healthcare sector as a whole. TBHMPC will continue to support those in need, and continue to provide pertinent information, training, funding, and other educational opportunities in the name of preparedness, resiliency, collaboration, and partnership. Our thoughts and prayers are with all who are suffering and for the lives lost. We are all in this together.

One team. One fight. Florida strong.

Respectfully,  
Franklin Riddle

For additional Hurricane Ian information and updates, please click on the agency logos below.



Mission to Care. Vision to Lead.



AGENCY FOR HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION



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:  
October 7th

Hernando County ESF-8  
Working Group:  
October 13th

Pasco County HMPC:  
October 17th

Citrus County ESF-8 Working  
Group:  
October 26th

Manatee CHAMP:  
October 26th

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

## Coalition Response to Hurricane Ian

The primary role for our Coalition in the response to Hurricane Ian was information sharing, however, we have also had the opportunity in this response to deploy some of the equipment in our Mission Ready Packages. Medical cots were deployed to Special Needs shelters and receiving facilities in the long term care community. TBHMPC leadership and logistics staff also supported FEMORS/DMORT in establishing field operations in Charlotte and Lee Counties using Coalition assets and personnel.



## Important Info & Updates

### **DHS/CISA: October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month - See Yourself in Cyber!**

Throughout October, we will focus on what it means to “See Yourself in Cyber,” whether you are already working in cybersecurity, or you’re a vendor or supplier, an infrastructure owner or operator, a student, a job seeker, or an individual who uses the internet for work, school, or entertainment.

- For individuals and families, we encourage you to See Yourself taking action to stay safe online. That means enabling basic cyber hygiene practices: update your software, think before you click, have good strong passwords or a password keeper, and enable multi-factor authentication (meaning you need “More Than A Password!”) on all your sensitive accounts.
- For those considering joining the cyber community, we encourage you to See Yourself joining the cyber workforce. We’ll be talking with leaders from across the country about how we can build a cybersecurity workforce that is bigger, more diverse and dedicated to solving the problems that will help keep the American people safe.
- For our partners in industry, we encourage you to See Yourself as part of the solution. That means putting operational collaboration into practice, working together to share information in real-time, and reducing risk and build resilience from the start to protect America’s critical infrastructure and the systems that Americans rely on every day.



We encourage everyone to visit CISA’s [Cybersecurity Awareness Month webpage](#) and [NCA’s Cybersecurity Awareness Month](#) website for more information on how to get involved, as well as tools and resources they can use to help promote cybersecurity through October.

### **CyberSecureFlorida Project**

Cyber Florida recently announced the CyberSecureFlorida initiative designed to assess the strengths and weaknesses of Florida’s collective critical infrastructure. The initiative was kicked off with the phase 1 assessment period which begins October 1, upcoming regional town hall meetings, and a URL to the Cyber Florida website with additional information, timetables, and updates. The town hall meeting in region IV is scheduled for Tampa on October 11. Phase 1 **includes healthcare and public health** and includes an anonymous 150-question survey open to agencies’ IT/OT staff who are interested in participating in the initiative. [Click here](#) for more information and [to register for the October 11th meeting](#). **Please consider having your IT staff participate!**

### **TBHMPC Joins the Amazon Smile Program**

Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition is now enrolled in the Amazon Smile Program. Please add TBHMPC (WCF) as your designated charity & a small portion of your eligible purchases will be donated to the Coalition (0.5% of every eligible purchase) by Amazon. You may also add the TBHMPC (WCF) as your preferred charity in the Amazon App. There are no extra fees or hidden costs and the donations come from Amazon directly to the TBHMPC (WCF). You must use the Smile link or the transaction does not count. There will be a message in your purchase screen that identifies the purchase as Amazon Smile eligible and if from a web browser there will be a tab that says "Supporting: TBHMPC (WCF)." After each purchase a message will appear stating that a donation has been made so that you know you have made a contribution. Here’s

the link: : <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/20-4507312>.



## Upcoming Trainings & Events

### Hospital Emergency Response Team (HERT) Training

BayCare is graciously sharing spaces in Hospital Emergency Response Team (HERT) Trainings at St. Anthony's Hospital on Thursday, October 13th. HERT is the first line of defense for protecting the facility, team members, and patients from hazardous materials. HERT Training is open to both clinical and non-clinical staff who have an interest in responding to incidents and have met the criteria. Please contact Dirk Palmer, [dirk.palmer@baycare.org](mailto:dirk.palmer@baycare.org) (West Region) for more info. *[Audience: Current and prospective hospital emergency response team members]*



### Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Development Series – Antimicrobial Stewardship

The next webinar in the IPC Development Series is coming up on Tuesday, October 18th at 1:30pm via Microsoft Teams. This topic will be presented by Jacqueline Whitaker, RN, MS, CPHRM, CPHQ, CIC, FAPIC. Jackie is the Infection Prevention & Control Education Specialist for the Florida Department of Health in the greater Tampa Bay region. [Register here](#) and see [the flyer](#) for the schedule of more topics in the IPC Development Series. *[Audience: Anyone involved in healthcare infection prevention]*

### Hospital Emergency Response Team (HERT-B) Training

John Hopkins All Children's Hospital, the Coalition and FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness are offering a virtual Hospital Emergency Response Team Training for Mass Casualty Incidents (HERT-B) on Thursday, October 27th, 2022 from 8am – 4pm. [Register here](#). Train in the comfort of your own facility with your own PPE! *[Audience: Current and prospective hospital emergency response team members]*



### Virtual Federal Consortia Training for Florida Health Care Coalitions:

- **Healthcare Facility Preparedness – [October 11<sup>th</sup> at 10am – 11:15am](#).** This class examines the requirements and considerations for preparing a community and associated healthcare facilities to capably respond and recover from a health or medical emergency. It explores topics such as effective coordination, communication, and establishment of a common operating picture; understandings and agreements with relevant private sector, volunteer, and non-governmental organizations; caching and sharing of critical resources; planning considerations for addressing at-risk and special needs populations; and joint training and exercises to validate and improve community capabilities. *[Audience: Anyone in healthcare]*
- **Planning, Response, and Management of Radiological and Nuclear Incidents (HMTV4)- [October 27th, 10:00am-12pm](#).** An examination of the requirements, considerations, and tools for managing a radiological or nuclear event in a community. Addresses likely sources of a radiological or nuclear incident; Federal, State, and local response resources. The three phases of a radiological or nuclear response; elements of early phase response; radiological dosimetry calculations; a brief overview of Hotspot and the RadResponder Network; and intermediate and late phase response. *[Audience: Anyone in healthcare with an interest in radiological or nuclear incident response]*
- **Hospital Incident Command System – [November 10<sup>th</sup> at 10am – 12pm](#).** Introduction to the National Incident Management System and the National Response Framework. Explores the Hospital Incident Command System as a methodology for effectively applying the incident command system in a healthcare environment. The Hospital Incident Command System is discussed as it pertains to improving emergency management planning, response, and recovery capabilities for both planned and unplanned health and medical emergencies. *[Audience: Anyone involved in your HICS system]*



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### Emergency Management Training

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

- [October 19th-21st](#)—G-300—Intermediate Incident Command for Expanding Incidents at the Pasco County EOC in New Port Richey
- [October 19th & 20th](#)—G-400—Advanced Incident Command System Command & General Staff: Complex Incidents at the Polk County EOC in Winter Haven.

Keep up with other upcoming Emergency Management-related trainings across Florida via the [SERT TRAC website!](#)

## Home Care Association of Florida

The 5th Annual [Private Care Symposium](#) is right around the corner! You won't want to miss this full-day professional development program with tactics, tidbits, and treats for private pay home care providers.

The program will be held at the [Hollywood Beach Marriott](#) in Hollywood, Florida, starting with a reception on Wednesday, October 19, followed by a full day of sessions and networking opportunities on Thursday, October 20.

Check out our new session, *Why Recruit When You Can Retain?*, meet our special guest speaker during *Lunch With a Legislator*, and register to join an impressive array of industry leaders and influencers for this one-of-a-kind event!



## Coalition Highlights



TGH Facilities and Construction teams, prepared their AquaFence -water-tight barrier against storm surge. In the days leading up to the storm, the team worked tirelessly to prepare – setting flood risk panels on storm drains, transporting hurricane supplies, cleaning up construction areas, removing sunshades and prepping their energy plant.



Orlando Health's Air Care team lands at Bayfront Health St. Pete, with the first patient evacuated from Lee Memorial.



Bayfront Health staff during Hurricane Ian activation

Like many facilities in our area, JHACH prepared for impacts.



When impacts occurred elsewhere, JHACH assisted in the NICU evacuation of Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, making multiple trips to pick up these critical patients.



# HCA Florida Oak Hill Hospital

Locally, our caregivers from [HCA Florida Oak Hill Hospital](#) not only served our community during the storm, but also our state during recovery, with several leaders and caregivers traveling to the mini-mart, fuel, laundry, and shower stations set up in SW Florida for caregivers in need. While dealing with their own storm damage, they have showed up to reopen freestanding EDs and hospitals down south, so their community receives the care they need.



Hardee County was one of our area's most impacted counties by Hurricane Ian. They experienced significant power outages and intense inland flooding from rainfall and extremely high rivers. The response in Hardee has been supported by local, regional, Coalition, state, and out-of-state resources (all the way from Oregon!)





Emergency Management staffer Clayton Parrot has been handpicked by his peers in Hardee County to deploy and assist in Hurricane Ian recovery efforts south of us. Clayton used his skills as well as his experience as a Logistics Section Chief to support their emergency communications and disaster response plan.



Tampa Fire Rescue First Responders were deployed to impacted areas to assist those in need. Response activities ranged from rescuing residents from the flooded waters, to helping pass out clean drinking water.



**We want to hear from you!** If you would like to share a highlight or from your organization in a future Coalition newsletter or publication, please email it to Turea at [TBHMPC2@gmail.com](mailto:TBHMPC2@gmail.com).