

Currently in the Coalition

Updates from the Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition—February 2024

February is American Heart Month

February is American Heart Month, a time when all people—especially women—are encouraged to focus on their cardiovascular health. We encourage all of you promote heart health this month to your staff, patients and clients. There are many national level organizations that have created excellent resources that you can use to share info on cardiovascular health, some of which are summarized below.

- *The Heart Truth* is an educational campaign from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, designed to raise awareness about heart disease as the leading cause of death in women. It provides free, science-based educational materials and information about [heart-healthy living](#), coordinate [American Heart Month](#), support [National Wear Red Day®](#), and more. It also established the [Healthy Hearts Network](#) to expand reach into local communities and collaborate with health and community professionals on heart health education initiatives.



- The CDC has put together an [American Heart Month toolkit](#) for health care professionals and clinicians to help support their patients, especially women, by listening to their heart. These resources can help your clinical team implement protocols, use data to improve health outcomes, and be inspired by other practices' success stories.



- The American Heart Association is encouraging everyone join the Nation of Lifesavers by learning CPR during American Heart Month. [Their website](#) includes links online class and to help find a local CPR class.



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Upcoming Coalition Meetings

Pinellas CHAMP:
February 2nd

Hernando County
ESF-8 WG:
February 8th

Hardee County Health
Care Coalition:
February 14th

Sumter County
ESF-8 WG:
February 15th

Moving forward, all counties will meet bi-monthly with a virtual option. For more info on attending these meetings, please reach out to the County Chairperson. Contact info is available on [our website](#).

Important Info & Updates

HHS Releases New Voluntary Performance Goals to Enhance Cybersecurity Across the Health Sector

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR), released voluntary health care specific cybersecurity performance goals (CPGs) and a [new gateway website](#) to help Health Care and Public Health (HPH) sector organizations implement these high-impact cybersecurity practices and ease access to the plethora of cybersecurity resources HHS and other federal partners offer. [Read more here!](#)

HHS Home Test to Treat Program Expands Nationwide

The federal government has expanded the [Home Test to Treat](#) program, a virtual community health program that offers free COVID-19 health services. Services available to eligible participants nationwide include at-home rapid tests, telehealth sessions, and at-home treatments. With its expansion, the Home Test to Treat program will now offer free testing, telehealth sessions, and treatment for both COVID-19 and for influenza (flu) A and B. It is the first public health program that includes home testing technology at such a scale for both COVID-19 and flu. Visit [COVIDTests.gov](#) to order your free COVID-19 tests and learn more.

American Medical Association (AMA): To Ease Physician Burnout, Boost Staff Training

"Physician burnout continues to plague the medical profession. But amid the relentless demands of the health care industry, the Confluence Health system in Central Washington is taking bold steps to implement innovative strategies to cut stress, enhance work-life balance and foster a culture of support. And these efforts are being noticed." Read the full [article](#) from AMA for more!

ASPR TRACIE: 2023 Year in Review

[This report](#) summarizes the highlights of the great work that ASPR TRACIE did during calendar year 2023 and includes links to all resources developed during that time. In particular, they:

- Created the [On-Campus Health Care Facility Armed Assailant Planning Considerations document](#) to help address health care workplace violence.
- Developed a suite of [five tip sheets](#) to help health care facility managers and emergency planners identify issues to consider when planning for and responding to utility failures.
- Published two issues of The Exchange: [Health Care Facility Water and Other Utility Outages](#) and [Innovations in Health Care Surge Capacity Management](#)

The ASPR TRACIE Assistance Center takes pride in delivering the highest quality technical assistance (TA) to all of our stakeholders and use of the Information Exchange has grown again over the past year. [Read more here!](#)

Effective July 1, 2024: Acute care hospitals required to join Joint Commission NHSN Group

Beginning July 1, 2024, acute care hospitals with ORYX® performance measurement requirements and that are required through a U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) program to participate in the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) system will be required to join the Joint Commission NHSN Group. Participation in the Joint Commission NHSN Group will be optional for critical access hospitals where participation in CMS programs is not required. The Joint Commission identified the NHSN system as a data source to evaluate patient safety and clinical quality performance by Joint Commission-accredited hospitals – many of which already participate in NHSN as a CMS program requirement. Read more [here](#).

Updated TBHMPC Participation Requirements

TBHMPC has updated the participation requirements for members to receive funding from the Coalition. The new criteria are listed below, and you can learn more at a county Coalition meeting soon!

- Have a current MOA on file
- 50% attendance of county level meeting in person or virtual (camera on to receive virtual credit)
- Participate in at least 2 drills or exercises provided by TBHMPC (each fiscal year)
- Participate in the TBHMPC Communications Drill (June/December)
- Participate in the TBHMPC Regional HVA process
- Timely submission of CEMP
- Be a good community partner (bonus points)

Upcoming Trainings & Events

2024 TBHMPC Great Tornado Drill on Wednesday, February 7th, 2024 at 10am

Join us this week for the TBHMPC Great Tornado Drill! This is a community-based drill where all actions take place at your individual organization/facility. The scenario will require you to activate or discuss your organization's shelter-in-place plan.

[Register here!](#)

Hospital Emergency Response Team (HERT)

Training - We have HERT classes being offered through Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital (JHACH) and Baycare. See below for registration info and/or who to contact.

- February 8th at Winter Haven Hospital – Contact Timothy.Allen@baycare.org
- February 20th at Morton Plant North Bay Hospital – Contact Dirk.Palmer@baycare.org

Emergency Management Training – Registration is available on [SERT TRAC](#).

G-300 Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents

- [Monday, Feb 12, 2024 - Wednesday, Feb 14, 2024](#)- Citrus County EOC
- [Wednesday, Feb 28, 2024 - Friday, Mar 01, 2024](#) - Hillsborough Public Safety Operations Complex

TBHMPC Ambubus Rally at Hillsborough Public Safety Operations Complex

TBHMPC and First Line will be hosting a training on our Regional Ambubus Capabilities at the Hillsborough County Public Safety Complex in Tampa on February 29th and March 1st, 2024! This all-day event will encompass training from FirstLine on the various types of ambubus kits, in addition to hands-on experiences with the ambubuses in the region. We are requesting ALL ambubuses in the Coalition region to attend, and bring their teams! (This will be a requirement for any future ambubus enhancement projects through TBHMPC funding.)



2024
GREAT TORNADO DRILL

Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition
Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Volusia, and Alachua Counties

**WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 7TH, 2024
AT 10AM**

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
STEP 1: SIGN UP BELOW.
STEP 2: PRACTICE YOUR PLAN.
STEP 3: SUBMIT DOCUMENTATION OF PARTICIPATION.

REGISTER HERE

Questions? Contact Hunter.Zager@TampaBayHMPC.org

FHA Town Hall: Multi-Drug Resistant Organisms Prevention and Control

The Florida Hospital Association and FDOH Hospital Acquired Infection Program will be moderating a Town Hall on Multi-Drug Resistant Organisms Prevention and Control at the USF College of Public Health Sam Hall Auditorium on Friday, March 8th from 1pm—2:30pm EST. Both in-person and virtual attendance options are available. [Click here for more information and registration.](#) (You will need to create an FHA account to register.)

Florida Health Care Association 2024 Upcoming Events

- [What Bug Am I: Understanding the Pathogens for Infection Prevention](#)– February 15, 2024. Learning more about specific pathogens can help infection preventionists determine potential sources and an action plan for preventing spread. This virtual, live training will feature FHCA's Infection Prevention Council Chair A.C. Burke of RB Health Partners, Inc., who will help participants identify infectious disease-causing pathogens to gain an understanding of the impact on long term care residents. Examples of outbreaks will be presented, and prevention strategies will be discussed.
- [Preceptor Refresher Course - Virtual Training](#)- FHCA's Preceptor Refresher Course is a virtual, 2-hour live training on Tuesday, February 27, that will cover the required areas of training, including AIT program requirements, and offer an informative review of nursing center domains of practice.



Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition
Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Volusia, and Alachua Counties

**TBHMPC
AMBUBUS
RALLY**

Thursday,
February 29th, 2024

**FIRST LINE
TECHNOLOGY**

Florida
Health Care
Association

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Hospital Sepsis Program

The CDC has released five-part webinar series recordings on its Hospital Sepsis Program Core Elements, which offer guidance to help clinicians, hospitals, and health systems implement, monitor and optimize their sepsis programs and outcomes. Produced in collaboration with Project Firstline and the AMA, the series includes real-life examples, strategies and best practices and offers continuing education credit, [View the webinar series and other resources from CDC.](#)

Coalition Highlights



With New Community Garden and Food Pharmacy, Tampa General Hospital and the City of Tampa Advance Health and Wellness Among Area Residents

Marking a significant milestone in the TampaWell initiative, Tampa General and the City of Tampa officially welcomed residents to enjoy the benefits of healthy eating with support from a brand-new community garden and food pharmacy. John Couris, president and CEO of Tampa General, and Tampa Mayor Jane Castor were joined by community leaders and area residents to cut the ribbon on the new TampaWell Community Garden and Food Pharmacy, both conveniently located at TGH Family Care Center Healthpark, which serves one of the most food insecure neighborhoods in the region.



“We’re on a mission to transform the health and wellness of our community. Healthy foods and regular physical activity play a pivotal role in both the prevention and the treatment of chronic health conditions, but not everyone has access to these essentials,” said Couris. “With this new community garden and food pharmacy, we’re working to ensure that residents of this community can benefit from nutritious foods, contributing to better health and a greater quality of life.”

The Food Pharmacy and Community Garden is just one of the many programs offered by TampaWell to connect residents in the region with resources for health and wellness.

The TampaWell smartphone app, launched in 2023, is a free resource through which residents can explore wellness events and activities across Tampa Bay, access tips for a healthier life and find motivation to reach goals. In addition, the app tracks physical activity and monitors community-wide progress. Read more [here](#).



TGH Cancer Institute Employs AI in its Newly Established Center for Precision Radiosurgery

The CyberKnife S7 is a robotic, non-invasive radiation therapy device that employs real-time, AI-driven motion tracking and synchronization treatment delivery for stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) and stereotactic body radiation therapy (SBRT) treatments. It is capable of treating cancerous and benign tumors throughout the body, as well as neurologic disorders, in as little as 15 minutes. The tool, through its speed and advanced precision, is expected to expand the capabilities of Tampa General Cancer Institute’s newly established Center for Precision Radiosurgery. Read more [here](#).



Polk County Fire Rescue

FIRST LINE
TECHNOLOGY



Polk County Fire Rescue and First Line Technology worked last week to get an AmbuBus kit installed in a former school bus. With the ability to transport 12 supine patients and 8 walking patients at once, this setup can help avoid deploying 12 ambulances to a single incident. This kit was purchased with the Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition project funds.



HCA Florida Healthcare

We want to thank our colleagues across the state for observing #NationalWearRedDay. Thank you for spreading awareness about heart disease and helping Americans live longer, stronger lives. As the state's largest cardiovascular network, HCA Florida Healthcare makes it easy for patients to access a full spectrum of heart, lung and vascular care treatments and services.

