

Currently in the Coalition

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

Measles cases at Florida school continue to rise as 12 other states report cases

The number of measles cases in Florida is continuing to rise, as more states across the rest of the U.S. are reporting cases of the highly contagious virus.

Eight people have been confirmed to have measles in South Florida as of Feb. 25, [NBC Miami reported](#). The cases are linked to Manatee Bay Elementary in Weston, Florida, part of Broward County.

The school [first reported](#) that a third grader with no history of travel was sick with the virus on Feb. 16. That number has since increased to at least eight cases. The ages of the other patients hasn't been made public.

Local authorities haven't confirmed if the infected children are unvaccinated, but [experts told NBC Miami](#) it is likely, as two doses of measles vaccine (the recommendation) are 97% effective.

In order to prevent measles outbreaks, at least 95% of the population must have received two doses of the vaccine. But two-thirds of U.S. states, including Florida, have not hit this mark..

On Jan. 25, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a health alert to warn the public about growing cases of measles.

The agency confirmed 23 cases from Dec. 1, 2023, to Jan. 23, 2024, including seven cases of international travelers and two outbreaks of more than five cases each, mostly in children and adolescents who had not been vaccinated.

Read more [here](#).

States with measles cases confirmed



Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition

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

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Upcoming Coalition Meetings

Pasco County Coalition:
March 11th

Manatee CHAMP:
March 13th

Hillsborough County Health Care Coalition:
March 21st

Citrus County
ESF-8 WG:
March 27th

Polk County Coalition:
March 28th

Save the Date— TBHMPC Mass Casualty Exercise on May 2nd

This year's Coalition-Wide Mass Casualty Exercise will take place on Thursday, May 2nd. Hospitals have already received a survey to indicate their level of participation. All other types of healthcare and EM organizations will receive an email with more info on participation very soon!

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

March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month (D.D.A.M.) is observed throughout **March** in the U.S. It serves as a nationwide event to raise awareness about the inclusion of people with developmental disabilities and address the barriers they face. This class of disabilities encompasses impairments in learning, behavior (such as autism and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder), and physical and/or intellectual functioning (such as cerebral palsy, spina bifida, and Down syndrome). Inclusion is crucial because approximately **15%** of the world's population lives with a disability. During this month, efforts are made to highlight how people with and without disabilities come together to form strong communities, fostering understanding and support. The history of this awareness month dates back to social reformers advocating for the human rights of individuals with disabilities, and it continues to promote a more inclusive and compassionate society. This year's theme: **A World of Opportunities**—we're celebrating people and working together to remove obstacles. Our goal is to build a community that's committed to creating a world where everyone can do well and succeed. Join us in making a world where all kinds of people have the chance to thrive.



Read more [here](#).

American Medical Association (AMA): Recent Cyber Attacks, Ransomware Trends, and Cybersecurity Threats for Doctors

The latest episode of the *AMA Update* podcast discusses what is cybersecurity in the health care industry, how common ransomware attacks are on hospitals, and how artificial intelligence is used in cyber security.

Listen to the full [podcast episode](#) from AMA.

ASTHO: Strategies to Enhance Preparedness and Response



ASTHO has released a [technical package](#) of evidence-based strategies designed to enhance public health emergency preparedness and response. The strategies were published in the March/April issue of the *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*. The national response to COVID-19 highlighted several areas that are crucial to achieving all-hazards readiness, including the importance of specific administrative and operational readiness activities that are vital to community, jurisdictional, and national resilience.

ASTHO has bundled these activities into a “technical package,” a prioritized group of related interventions that, together, allows ASTHO to contribute to substantial improvements in a specific subject matter. ASTHO technical packages are not intended to be comprehensive, rather prioritize what works to address a particular problem and match the scale of team efforts with ASTHO's organizational capacity.

Upcoming Trainings & Events

Continuity of Operations (COOP) Workshops with BOLDPlanning

There are two upcoming Continuity of Operations (COOP) Workshops with BOLDPlanning on [Thursday, March 7th from 9am – 4pm](#) and [Tuesday, April 2nd from 9am – 4pm](#). All healthcare organizations in the state of Florida have access to the BOLDPlanning COOP Platform, courtesy of the Florida Health Care Coalitions. Participants in this workshop will create their new and improved COOP plan during the workshop. (Each virtual Zoom workshop will include an hour lunch break from 12pm – 1pm.)

Town Hall on Multi-Drug Resistant Organisms Prevention and Control

The USF College of Public Health is hosting a **Town Hall on Multi-Drug Resistant Organisms Prevention and Control** at the Sam Bell Auditorium on Friday, March 8th, 2024 from 1pm – 2:30pm. The Florida Department of Health HAI Program and Florida Hospital Association (FHA) will be moderating it. There are both in-person and virtual attendance options available. For more info and registration, [click here](#). (You will need to create an FHA account to register.)

2024 Plugged In Speaker Series with Beyond Basic Mental Health: Exploring Crisis-Informed Care

on Tuesday, March 12th at 1:30pm via Zoom. Amie Leigh with Capacity Path will be discussing crisis-informed care, its implementation in high-stress situations in healthcare, and integration into peer support. [Register here.](#)

Pediatric Considerations in a Chemical Emergency & After Event Monitoring

The Southern Regional Disaster Response System (SRDRS) invites you to attend their upcoming webinar, **Pediatric Considerations in a Chemical Emergency & After Event Monitoring** on Tuesday, March 12th at 3pm ET. [Registration and more info is available here.](#) This webinar is part #4 of a multi-part series on Healthcare and Public Health Planning for a Chemical Emergency, and is being done in partnership with the American College of Medical Toxicology (ACMT), Association of Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Professionals (AHEPP), Interstate Disaster Medical Collaborative (IDMC), MedGlobal, Radiation Injury Treatment Network (RITN), and Region 4 Poison Control Center Collaborative (R4PC3). [Recordings of the first three webinars in this series are available 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.

- March 15th at St. Joseph's Hospital North – Contact Patricia.Cravey@baycare.org
- March 22nd at Mease Countryside Hospital – Contact Dirk.Palmer@baycare.org
- April 4th – Virtual with Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital – [Register here.](#)

Florida Health Care Coalitions are happy to bring the following Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) virtual classes to our state! Feel free to share these classes far and wide. They are free and open to anyone in Florida.

- [Prehospital Mass Casualty Incident Operations](#) (HCV15) – March 21st from 2pm – 3:30pm. Promo code: [Target audience – EMS, EM, Public Health]
- [Healthcare Facility Mass Fatality Management](#) (HCV13) – April 9th from 10am – 11:15am [Target audience – Healthcare facilities, EM, EMS, Public Health & more]
- [Active Shooter/Assailant: Behavioral Indicators and How to Respond](#) (OLS-V9) – May 16th from 2pm – 3pm [Target audience – Everyone]

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

G-400 Advanced Incident Command System Command & General Staff

- [Thursday, March 7th - Friday, March 8th](#) - Tampa Convention Center
- [Tuesday, March 26th - Wednesday, March 27th](#) - Citrus County EOC
- [Wednesday, March 27th - Thursday, March 28th](#) - Pinellas County Public Safety Complex

HHS/ASPR Project ECHO Clinical Readiness Rounds

The HHS/ASPR Project ECHO Clinical Readiness Rounds focus on sharing clinical challenges and successes in preparing for and responding to disasters from all threats. This program is designed to create peer-to-peer learning networks where clinicians who have more experience treating patients in emergency situations share their challenges and successes with clinicians across the U.S. and around the world with less experience in these situations. Topics for sessions are based on new and emergent information around emergency preparedness. Sessions occur every other Tuesday from 12:00 - 1:00 PM ET. **The next session is on March 5.** [Register here.](#)

The 2024 *Plugged In*
Speaker Series
presents



Beyond Basic Mental Health: Exploring Crisis-Informed Care

with Amie Leigh from Capacity Path

This webinar will cover:

- Key tenets of Crisis-Informed Care
- How to use Crisis-Informed Care in high-stress scenarios within healthcare
- Practical resources to equip, empower, & enhance peer support teams



[Register here.](#)

Contact Hunter.Zager@TampaBayHMPCC.org



Tuesday,
March 12th at
1:30pm via
Zoom



FLORIDA
HEALTH
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Coalition Highlights

TBHMPC Ambubus Rally

TBHMPC and First Line hosted our first Ambubus Rally, a training on the Regional Ambubus capabilities, at the Hillsborough County Public Safety Complex in Tampa on February 29th. This was an all-day event that included training from FirstLine on the various types of ambubus kits, in addition to hands-on experiences with the ambubuses. We had 7 Ambubuses along with their teams present from around the region, learning from First Line and each other on how to improve ambubus capabilities and utilize these resources to the fullest!





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