

Currently in the Coalition

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

Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month

Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month is observed in June as an opportunity to spread the word about and discuss Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. Throughout the month, the Alzheimer's Association encourages people around the globe to support the movement by wearing purple and training their brains to fight the disease. For additional information, [click here](#).

About Alzheimer's disease

- [10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's](#) — Learn the 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's disease, hear from people who have the disease, and find out how to recognize the signs in yourself and others.
- [Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia](#) — Learn about the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia, stages, risk factors and more.

Programs for caregivers

- [Dementia Conversations: Driving, Doctor Visits, Legal & Financial Planning](#) — Learn to have honest and caring conversations about common concerns when someone begins to show signs of dementia.
- [Effective Communication Strategies](#) — Learn to decode the verbal and behavioral messages delivered by someone with dementia, and identify strategies to help you connect and communicate at each stage of the disease.
- [Understanding and Responding to Dementia-Related Behavior](#) — Learn about some of the common triggers for behaviors associated with dementia, how to assess the person's needs, and how to intervene effectively in this educational training program for non-professional caregivers.

Trainings Developed Specifically for Fire and EMS

The goal of this training is to educate Fire and EMS personnel on the impact that Alzheimer's Disease and other dementias may have on individuals and communities. This program has been developed specifically for Fire and EMS. Strategies acquired from this training will provide an understanding of Alzheimer's Disease and other dementias, and will help personnel optimize the effectiveness of responding during interventions with persons living with dementia, and their families.

- Tuesday, June 4th at 7:00AM—[Register here](#).
- Wednesday, June 26th at 6:00PM—[Register here](#).



Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition

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

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Follow us on:



Upcoming Coalition Meetings

Pinellas CHAMP:
June 7th

Hardee County Health
Care Coalition:
June 12th

Hernando County
ESF-8 WG
June 13th

Sumter County
ESF-8 WG:
June 20th

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

Important Updates

June is PTSD Awareness Month

PTSD is a mental health problem that some people develop after experiencing or witnessing a life-threatening or traumatic event. If symptoms last more than a few months, it may be PTSD.

Resources for Survivors and the Public Following Disaster and Mass Violence



- [What to Expect in the Wake of Disaster](#)

Disasters can cause a range of reactions in direct victims, emergency personnel, as well as in the public at large. There are strategies you can use to cope in the short- and long-term, and effective treatments that can help.

- [What to Expect in the Wake of Mass Violence](#)

Mass violence events can cause a range of reactions in direct victims, emergency personnel, as well as in the public at large. There are strategies you can use to cope in the short and long-term, and effective treatments that can help.

National Safety Month

Join the [National Safety Council](#) in June for National Safety Month – the annual observance to help keep each other safe from the workplace to anyplace. Since 1996, NSM has provided a month’s worth of free safety resources to highlight leading causes of preventable injury and death.

June 1-8



Safety Engagement

June 9-15



Roadway Safety

June 16-22



Risk Reduction

June 23-30



Slips, Trips and Falls

TBHMPC Tropical Weather Planning Resources

For additional information and resources, please visit the [Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition Tropical Weather page](#).

2024 Hurricane Preparedness Guides: These guides include important information regarding preparing for this year’s hurricane season, and can be found on the following websites (for each county): [Citrus County](#), [Hardee County](#), [Hernando County](#), [Hillsborough County](#), [Manatee County](#), [Pasco County](#), [Pinellas County](#), [Polk County](#), [Sumter County](#)

2024 Florida Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday

Florida’s first 2024 Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday begins on Saturday, June 1, 2024, and ends on Friday, June 14, 2024. A second Disaster Preparedness Holiday begins on Saturday, August 24, 2024, and ends on Friday, September 6, 2024. During these sales tax holiday periods, tax is not due on the retail sale of eligible items related to disaster preparedness.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS SALES TAX HOLIDAY

JUNE 1 - JUNE 14

Purchase qualifying disaster preparedness supplies tax-free

\$10 or less <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cans or pouches of wet pet food	\$25 or less <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cat litter	\$60 or less <ul style="list-style-type: none">Nonelectric food storage coolersPortable power banks	\$3,000 or less <ul style="list-style-type: none">Portable generators used to provide light or communications or to preserve food in a power outage (Never use a generator indoors.)
\$15 or less <ul style="list-style-type: none">Manual can openersCollapsible or travel-size food and water bowls for petsCat litter pansPet waste disposal bagsHamster or rabbit substrate	\$40 or less <ul style="list-style-type: none">Portable self-powered light sourcesPet flaps	\$70 or less <ul style="list-style-type: none">Smoke detectors or smoke alarmsFire extinguishersCarbon monoxide detectors	
\$20 or less <ul style="list-style-type: none">Reusable iceLeashes, collars and muzzles for petsPet pads	\$50 or less <ul style="list-style-type: none">Portable self-powered radios, two-way radios or weather-band radiosGas or diesel fuel tanksBatteries, including rechargeable batteries:<ul style="list-style-type: none">AA-cellAAA-cellC-cellD-cell8-volt9-volt	\$100 or less <ul style="list-style-type: none">Tarpaulins or other flexible waterproof sheetingGround anchor systemsPortable pet kennelsOver the counter pet medicationsBags of dry dog or cat food	

Find a full list of tax-free items at FloridaRevenue.com/DisasterPrep and a complete disaster supply kit checklist at FloridaDisaster.org/Kit

Upcoming Trainings & Events

Plugged In: The 2024 Hurricane Season & Lessons Learned from Past Storms

We are excited to announce that we are finishing off the 2024 Plugged In Speaker Series with Jennifer Hubbard from National Weather Service Tampa Bay, speaking on **The 2024 Hurricane Season & Lessons from Past Storms**, on Tuesday, June 11th at 1:30pm via Zoom. She will discuss lessons learned from storms of the past, ranging from Idalia to Charley (which hit 20 years ago this year!), to help us prepare for this upcoming hurricane season. [Register Here for this Webinar.](#)



N-95 Fit Testing Train-the-Trainer for Healthcare Course

This class will take place on Tuesday, June 18th from 1pm - 5pm at HCA Florida Brandon Hospital, 119 Oakfield Dr in Brandon. Our goal is to give our healthcare organizations the capability to fit test their own staff. Students will learn basics of N-95 respirators, the requirements for their use, and the processes for conducting qualitative (the hood method) and quantitative (with a Portacount machine) fit testing. There will be also be hands-on instruction on how to conduct fit testing. Limited space is available so [register here!](#)

2024 Hazards & Healthcare Conference is just around the corner!

The Hazards & Healthcare Conference is Tuesday and Wednesday, June 25th & 26th, 2024 at the St. Petersburg Marriott Clearwater! This two-day conference is the region's annual health care preparedness conference, attended by hundreds of healthcare professionals and first responders. The theme this year is **Healthcare Tomorrow: Prepare, Respond, and Innovate**. Our mission is to build collaboration, preparedness, and resilience in the health and medical communities, and we hope that you will be a part of it. You can also access all relevant Hazards & Healthcare info via our [Conference Website](#). CEUs will be offered.



CEMP Plan Development Workshop with BOLDPlanning & Florida Healthcare Coalitions

The Florida Healthcare Coalitions have partnered with BOLDPlanning to provide access to all healthcare organizations in Florida to CEMP and COOP Planning software. See the last page of this newsletter for more info! Our next CEMP Plan Development Workshop for this platform is Thursday, July 11th from 9am-1pm. [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.

- June 6th at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital – [Register here.](#)
- June 12th at St. Joseph's Hospital – Contact Ryan.Becker-Sikes@baycare.org
- July 11th at Bartow Regional Medical Center - Contact Timothy.Allen@baycare.org

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.

- [Special Needs Population Considerations During Emergency Response](#) (HCV3) – June 18th from 10am – 11am [Target audience – Healthcare organizations, EM, EMS, Public Health & more]
- [Psychological Preparedness for Responders](#) (OLS-V7) – July 16th, 2024 from 2pm – 3pm [Target audience – Everyone]



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

- G-300 – Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents: [June 11th—13th](#) at Hernando County EOC OR [June 26th—28th](#) at City of Tampa Center
- L-950—NIMS ICS All Hazards Incident Commander: [June 17th—21st](#) at Manatee EOC
- G-2300—Intermediate EOC Functions: [June 24th—26th](#) at Sumter County EOC

Coalition Highlights

Disability Achievement Center

DAC received a \$31,500 CDBG Grant from Pasco County to install 3 ramps, 15 Knox Boxes, and grab bars for low/moderate income individuals with disabilities in Pasco County.



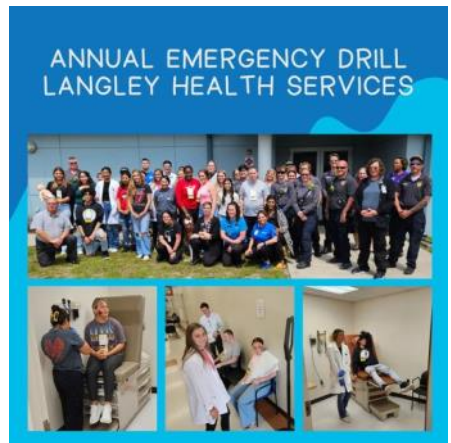
DAC was awarded a 2-year grant in the amount of \$30000 to support our CEMA Program! Thank You Pinellas Community Foundation!



Center for Independent Living and Langley Health Services

The CIL was invited to participate in the Annual Emergency Drill that Langley Health Services puts together in Sumterville. Having the CIL and CIL staff involved in these types of drills is so important for local health care facilities and businesses that work with people with disabilities. The community gets to learn more about what an emergency would look like in real time, and CIL staff can give a real take on what it would be like for people with disabilities to react to a disaster when it arises. See more

on [Facebook](#).



Center for Independent Living of North Central Florida

The CIL of North Central Florida has been busy helping its communities prepared for hurricane season through community outreach efforts ranging from County Expos to the Governor's Hurricane Conference (pictured with their CIL counterparts across the state)! Keep up the great work!



Governor's Hurricane Conference

Executive Director Franklin Riddle and John Wilgis with FHA led a new group of students through the Healthcare Emergency Management Class! TBHMPC also presented the launch of the FLHCC BOLDPlanning CEMP Project to the EM Community.



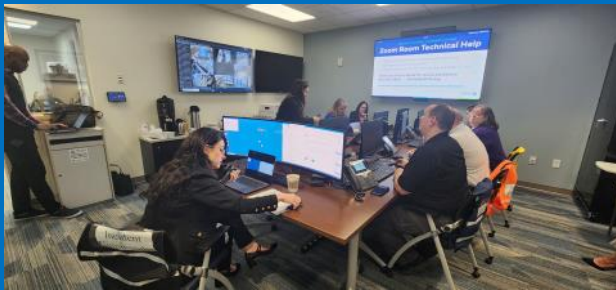
Hardee County Emergency Management

Executive Director Kevin Guthrie kicked off a month-long statewide tour to meet with every FL county and discuss preparedness measures and unmet needs ahead of the 2024 hurricane season.

Thank you to Hardee County Emergency Management for hosting this important meeting with our local EM partners.



To All Who Participated in Protest Pandemonium: 2024 TBHMPC Full-Scale Mass Casualty Exercise...



**THANK
YOU!**



And if you have pictures from the exercise, please send them to us!

NEW Peer Support Response Team—COME MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR REGION!

Joining the Region 4 Mental Health PEER Support Response Team is a unique opportunity for members of the Tampa Bay HMPC to enhance skills and knowledge in providing mental health support in times of crisis. By bringing together peers from all sectors of healthcare, EMS, Fire Rescue, and Law Enforcement we can create a stronger and resilient community within the coalition and our organizations. Together, we can make a positive impact on the mental health and well-being of those in crisis. If you are interested in making a difference within your sector please reach out to Bill Howe at William.Howe@TampaBayHMPC.org or (727) 310-1509.

Have you started your CEMP or COOP with BOLDPlanning yet?

The Florida Health Care Coalitions have partnered with BOLDPlanning to provide access to their Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and Continuity of Operations Plan platforms for all health care organizations in Florida at NO COST to you! The CEMPs generated meet relevant state and federal requirements. To request access to the platform, just reach out to Turea Sheppard at the Tampa Bay Health and Medical Preparedness Coalition at tbhmpc2@gmail.com. (For other Coalitions, you can find contact info [here](#).) And make sure you've joined as a member by [completing this form](#), to ensure you get all the benefits of this and other programs provided by TBHMPC!



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CARE
COALITIONS

Continuity of Operations and Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan

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5 Ways Our Tool Can Help You:

1. Quickly create a COOP and CEMP that meet state and federal requirements
2. Invite team members to work together in real-time
3. Mobile-friendly, with a companion app that allows you to access your emergency plans on the go
4. Planning tutorials and best practices embedded in the software
5. Make data-driven decisions with the reporting features

Act fast and get started today!



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.