

# THE PREPAREDNESS POST

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
YEAR 4, ISSUE 3

## Best Practices *by Charla Haley and Christine Warren* Utah's Public Health Preparedness Capabilities Workshop

### **Dream. Believe. Achieve. Succeed.**

The Utah Department of Health (UDOH), Bureau of EMS and Preparedness had a dream. That vision was to bring together partners from state and local public health agencies to chart a course for achieving the capabilities outlined in the recently-released Centers for Disease Control Public Health Emergency Preparedness Cooperative Agreement. UDOH Deputy Preparedness Director, Dean Penovich, came up with the idea of holding a workshop.

“Knowing we would receive a new cooperative agreement, I understood there was a need to make sure we were all on the same page when it came to the CDC’s new approach to public health preparedness,” said Penovich. “What better way to guarantee this than by bringing state and local public health partners together for a thorough review of the new agreement and the new public health preparedness capabilities,” he added. Penovich also believed that an “away from the office” workshop atmosphere would enhance collaboration and generate a learning and cooperative environment. “The priority was to ensure that all participants were educated on the capabilities, but more importantly, that everyone would come away with a better understanding of the future direction of public health preparedness,” he said. With that in mind, the bureau went to work on a



**Workshop organizers** (from left) Dean Penovich, Keith Larsen, Dr. Marc Babitz, Ivy Melton Sales, Mike Stever and Paul Patrick.

first-of-its-kind two-day workshop.

To start the festivities off appropriately, organizers knew they needed an inspiring, motivational speaker to address the group, someone who could emphasize the importance of cooperation and teamwork. And, who better than University of Utah head football coach Kyle Whittingham? He not only exemplifies working together for the good of the group, he has a winning attitude and has been very successful at helping team members reach new heights, both on and off the field. As the group sat spellbound, the coach explained to the audience that it’s critical to love your work. And although everyone will face tough days when things won’t and don’t go their way, how you deal with it depends on your attitude. The most successful attitude involves reflecting not on your own personal achievements, but rather, the overall success of the team. Whittingham quoted Lou Holtz, former football coach, broadcaster, and author, who said, “Your talent determines what you can do. Your motivation determines how much you’re willing to do. But it is

your attitude that determines how well you do it.” Whittingham reminded the audience that it’s important to learn to celebrate and share in the joy of someone else’s accomplishment. He said that’s when the team’s success rate will grow.

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### To find Preparedness Training information:

<https://www.utah.train.org>



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## Best Practices (continued from page 1)

The next morning, state and local partners began working on the specifics of the document, “Public Health Preparedness Capabilities: National Standards for State and Local Planning.” Each capability was presented to the group, along with its functions, tasks, priorities, and resource elements. Following the brief review, the larger group was split into four discussion groups, which were tasked with reviewing all 15 capabilities, assessing their agency’s current preparedness level, identifying gaps, and prioritizing the capabilities to focus on in the coming grant year.

At the end of the day, participants were surveyed to prioritize the capabilities and gain an understanding of what they believed should be the main focus moving forward during the first year of the new cooperative agreement. The top three identified by the group included: emergency operations coordination; information management; and community preparedness.

Penovich concluded, “This workshop was successful due to the cooperative approach and involvement of state and local health departments in planning the event and participating in the presentations.” Many leaders in attendance applauded the joint state and local approach taken to accomplish the goals of the workshop.

## Recognition for Cooperation

*by Ivy Melton Sales, Davis County MRC Director*

In May, the National Medical Reserve Corps office honored the Davis County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) for its continued support of the Davis County MRC. The Davis County program was one of two organizations recognized as an “Outstanding MRC Partner Organization” at the Integrated Training Summit on May 3, 2011 in Grapevine, Texas. Syracuse CERT coordinator Robin Chase and Davis County MRC director Ivy Melton Sales were present to accept the award.

Four years ago, Paul White and Robin Chase had a vision of combining CERT and MRC recruitment and training because many residents showed an interest in volunteering for both programs. Paul and Robin worked closely with Davis County Health Department (DCHD) staff to develop a training model that could be integrated into the current CERT training curriculum and would also meet MRC requirements. As a result, the Davis County MRC has seen a significant increase in MRC volunteers.

As an active pillar program of the Davis County Citizen Corps, the Davis County MRC benefits from networking with other Citizen Corps programs, such as CERT, to improve emergency preparedness plans. Strong partnerships between government agencies, volunteer organizations, private businesses, and individuals increase the effectiveness and potential success of emergency preparedness plans.



*Deputy Surgeon General RADM Boris D. Lushniak, Robin Chase, Ivy Melton Sales, and CAPT Rob Tosatto. MRC Awards Luncheon in Grapevine, TX, May 3, 2011*

## Preparing for Emergencies *by Charla Haley*

### *Medication Distribution*

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) keeps large amounts of medicine and medical supplies in reserve to protect the American public in the event of an overwhelming public health emergency severe enough to cause local supplies to run out. On May 24, 2011, the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) along with local health departments and other SNS partners, tested the ability to receive and distribute medication from the CDC's Strategic National Stockpile (SNS).

During the exercise, UDOH received an "eagle package," which is a training package of assets put together by CDC. The material was broken down and distributed to the appropriate local health department. Don Wood, UDOH SNS Coordinator, says the exercise was designed specifically to test state and local SNS preparedness plans that were written to serve as guidelines for distribution and dispensing. He adds, "It's important to determine the effectiveness of the plans before an actual



emergency." That way, he said, any critical adjustments can be made well in advance.

The CDC officials who were in Utah for the exercise complimented UDOH SNS officials on the efficiency of the operation. They were especially impressed by the number of security personnel involved and the great cooperation demonstrated between law enforcement and members of the Utah National Guard.



Exercise participants include (left to right), Tom Hudachko, PIO, Lt. Alex Lepley, lead security for RSS, Shawn Peppers, Utah Department of Public Safety, Don Wood, UDOH, SNS Coordinator, Rob Wilkinson, UHP.

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## Health Department Employees and EMS Strike Team Members Play Vital Role in Ironman Competition *by Charla Haley*

The 1,900 athletes who competed in the St. George Ironman Triathlon May 7, 2011 were in good hands in case of trouble. Nearly 30 staff members from Utah's Pediatric and Adult EMS Strike Teams and the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Preparedness, deployed to southern Utah to help with the event. They were assigned to the deployment, set up, and breakdown of the BLU-MED System, a 25-bed portable medical facility.

For the beginning of Saturday's event, strike team members served as lead medical staff for the swim portion of the triathlon.



During the 2.4 mile swim in chilly 62° water the teams treated and assisted approximately 20 swimmers, most of whom were suffering from hypothermia.

The swim portion was followed by 112 miles on bicycles and then a 26.2-mile run. Once athletes reached the finish line, there were eight strike team members helping with medical needs. Approximately 170 patients were treated in the portable medical facility.

In his blog, participant Roger Canham said at the end of the race, "I was completely spent and really had no idea of my time or position. I just wanted to be out of the ferocious heat and to sit down." Canham added, "I was in the medical tent for nearly an hour in what resembled a M.A.S.H. unit, the medics stating they had treated more people in the first hour than they had in the whole of the previous year's race." Canham actually won his age group, becoming an Ironman Champion.

Dan Camp, Emergency Health Systems Consultant for the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Preparedness, said that following the event, many committee members, athletes and bystanders praised the professionalism of the UDOH staff and the BLU-MED system.

The Ironman committee was very grateful for the support UDOH provided during the St. George event. The next Ironman competition is scheduled for October in Hawaii.

### UDOH Web sites:

[health.utah.gov](http://health.utah.gov) (main)

[health.utah.gov/preparedness](http://health.utah.gov/preparedness)

[health.utah.gov/ems](http://health.utah.gov/ems)

Be  
Ready  
Utah

**Promote business, community and workplace**

**preparedness: [www.BeReadyUtah.com](http://www.BeReadyUtah.com)**

## Disaster Preparedness Training in a Hospital Setting *by Ann Allen*

It's official! Part of the northwest wing on the third floor of Intermountain Healthcare's LDS Hospital has been dedicated to what is now called the **Intermountain Center for Disaster Preparedness (ICDP)**. The purpose of the training center is to host local, national, and international training courses, eventually rivaling FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness, (CDP) located in Anniston, Alabama, which is the United States Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) only federally-chartered Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) training center. ICDP has already hosted a number of meetings and trainings such as a Salt Lake Fire Department's EMT course, Information and Records Management System (IRMS) Training, Pediatric Disaster Life Support (PDLs), EMT recertification, various tabletop exercises and meetings of all kinds. In fact, ICDP will soon become the



UT1-DMAT (Disaster Medical Assistance Team) meeting site.



Intermountain Healthcare has agreed to help financially support the ICDP for five years in order to ensure its success and sustainability. In addition to the funding from Intermountain, the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) and the Salt Lake City Metropolitan Medical Response System have given grant dollars to purchase start-up training equipment. Thanks to this generosity, the training center will soon be equipped with a simulation lab, an innovation and training center with 18 patient rooms, and two separate classroom areas.

The ICDP is also intended to become a surge capacity location for real emergencies or disasters if needed. ICDP plans to organize a community coordination committee in order to meet the training and meeting needs for all.

For more information and details on this community-training center, please contact Ann Allen with Intermountain Healthcare at [ann.allen@imail.org](mailto:ann.allen@imail.org).

## A Fond Farewell to Sherrie Gordon



Sherrie spent most of her career with the coal mining subsidiary of PacifiCorp/Utah Power & Light Company. In 2001, Sherrie joined UDOH, Family & Community Health Services, as an Administrative Assistant. In 2002, she had the opportunity to move on to the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services & Preparedness to assist and manage the new, federally-funded ASPR Healthcare Preparedness Program Cooperative Agreement. This agreement is responsible for funding and supporting preparedness planning, training, equipment, and collaborative efforts of entities across the health care spectrum. As the grant's Financial Manager, Sherrie enjoyed her time working with grant partners and the folks at UDOH. Sherrie is retiring August 1 and returning to the coal mining industry. She is excited to see what adventures lie in her future.

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Upcoming Trainings and Events — August – October 2011

U-TRAIN [www.utah.train.org](http://www.utah.train.org)

DATE	Conferences / Events	Organization Sponsorship	Location	Registration Information	Contact
August 12-13 <i>Multi-Day</i>  12: 8am – 5pm 13: 8am-1pm	Current EMS Instructor Seminar	Utah Department of Health Bureau of EMS & Preparedness	Yarrow Hotel 1800 Park Avenue Park City ,Utah	<b>NO Cost</b> <a href="http://www.utah.train.org">www.utah.train.org</a> <b>UTRAIN Course # 1025960</b> Approval required <b>Registration Deadline:</b> 7/29/2011 5 PM	Riki Rice <a href="mailto:rikirice@utah.gov">rikirice@utah.gov</a> 801-273-6631
August 13  10:30-11:30 am	Current EMS Course Coordinator Seminar	Utah Department of Health Bureau of EMS & Preparedness	Yarrow Hotel 1800 Park Avenue Park City ,Utah	<b>NO Cost</b> <a href="http://www.utah.train.org">www.utah.train.org</a> <b>UTRAIN Course # 1025961</b> Approval required <b>Registration Deadline:</b> 7/29/2011 5 PM	Riki Rice <a href="mailto:rikirice@utah.gov">rikirice@utah.gov</a> 801-273-6631
August 13  9-10 am	Current EMS Training Officer Seminar	Utah Department of Health Bureau of EMS & Preparedness	Yarrow Hotel 1800 Park Avenue Park City ,Utah	<b>NO Cost</b> <a href="http://www.utah.train.org">www.utah.train.org</a> <b>UTRAIN Course # 1025962</b> Approval required <b>Registration Deadline:</b> 7/29/2011 5 PM	Riki Rice <a href="mailto:rikirice@utah.gov">rikirice@utah.gov</a> 801-273-6631
August 24  3 – 5 pm	<b>Interactive WEBINAR Classroom &amp; Internet</b>  “Crime Scene Preservation: Concepts for Dispatchers” <b>Presenter:</b> Lt. Larry Payne Davis Co. Sheriff’s Office	Utah Department of Health Bureau of EMS & Preparedness  and Peace Officer Standards & Training (POST)	<b>Interactive WEBINAR</b>  <b>Requirements:</b>  Must have internet access	<b>NO Cost</b> <b>Register for course at POST’s website:</b>  <a href="http://publicsafety.utah.gov/post/index.html">http://publicsafety.utah.gov/post/index.html</a>	Riki Rice: <a href="mailto:rikirice@utah.gov">rikirice@utah.gov</a> 801-801-273-6631  Christine Warren <a href="mailto:christinewarren@utah.gov">christinewarren@utah.gov</a>

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Upcoming Trainings and Events — August – October 2011

U-TRAIN [www.utah.train.org](http://www.utah.train.org)

DATE	Conferences / Events	Organization Sponsorship	Location	Registration Information	Contact
August 25  <i>Tentative Date</i>	Moulage Workshop How To . . .	Utah Department of Health Bureau of EMS & Preparedness CSEPP Program	TBD	<b>NO Cost</b> <a href="http://www.utah.train.org">www.utah.train.org</a>  UTRAIN Course # TBD	Bob Fowler <a href="mailto:bobfowler@utah.gov">bobfowler@utah.gov</a>  Michelle Muirbrook <a href="mailto:mmuirbro@utah.gov">mmuirbro@utah.gov</a>
August 30-31	2011 Native American Summit	Office of the Governor and Lt. Governor Utah Department of Community and Culture Utah Division of Indian Affairs	Salt Lake City Marriott University Park 480 Wakara Way	Register online at: <a href="http://indian.utah.gov/events/na_summit.html">http://indian.utah.gov/events/na_summit.html</a>	Melissa Zito <a href="mailto:mzito@utah.gov">mzito@utah.gov</a>  Amanda Rock <a href="mailto:amanda-rock@utah.gov">amanda-rock@utah.gov</a>
Sept. 28-29	Rocky Mtn Regional Conference on Access & Functional Needs	Utah Department of Health Bureau of EMS and Preparedness	Radisson Hotel 215 W. South Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84101	<b>\$75</b> <a href="http://www.enableus.org/upcoming-events/RMPP/RMPPRegistration.html">http://www.enableus.org/upcoming-events/RMPP/RMPPRegistration.html</a>	Rich Foster <a href="mailto:richfoster@utah.gov">richfoster@utah.gov</a>  Jo Anna Larsen <a href="mailto:jomlarsen@utah.gov">jomlarsen@utah.gov</a>

**Additional Trainings from Homeland Security – Division of Emergency Management**

To register for State of Utah Homeland Security - Division of Emergency Management Training go to: UTRAIN at: [www.utah.train.org](http://www.utah.train.org) – Log-In - Course ID #

-  All-Hazards-IMT Division/Group Supervisor (DIVS) Course (L-960) - Course ID:1025235
-  All-Hazards-IMT Finance/Administration Section Chief (FSC) Course (L-973) - Course ID: 1024678
-  All-Hazards-IMT Incident Commander (IC) (L-950) - Course ID: 1027163



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**Additional Trainings from Homeland Security – Division of Emergency  
Management (continued from page 7)**

- ✓ All-Hazards-IMT Finance/Administration Section Chief (FSC) Course (L-973) - Course ID: 1024678
- ✓ All-Hazards-IMT Incident Commander (IC) (L-950) - Course ID: 1027163
- ✓ All-Hazards-IMT Liaison Officer (LOFR) Course (L-956) - Course ID: 1020165
- ✓ All-Hazards-IMT Logistics Section Chief (LSC) Course (L967) - Course ID: 1021315
- ✓ All-Hazards-IMT Operation Sections Chief (OSC) (L958) - Course ID: 1027302
- ✓ All-Hazard-IMT Planning Section Chief (PSC) Course (L-962) - Course ID: 1022309
- ✓ All-Hazards-IMT Public Information Officer (PIO) (L952) Course ID: 1027301
- ✓ All-Hazards-IMT Safety Officer (SOFR) (L-954) Course ID: 1027303
- ✓ ARES/RACES Conference - Course ID: 1011069
- ✓ Basic Public Information Officer Course (G290) - Course ID: 1011053
- ✓ Community Mass Care Management (G108) - Course ID: 1013917
- ✓ Continuity of Operations Planners Course (COOP) - L550 - Course ID: 1011753
- ✓ Courses of Action Workgroups - Critical Communication - Course ID: 1028230
- ✓ Courses of Action Workgroups - Critical Transportation - Course ID: 1028104
- ✓ Courses of Action Workgroups - Essential Infrastructure - Course ID: 1028105
- ✓ Courses of Action Workgroups - Mass Care - Course ID: 1028103
- ✓ Courses of Action Workgroups - Public Messaging - Course ID: 1028229
- ✓ Homeland Security Planning for Local Governments (G408) - Course ID: 1015677
- ✓ ICS-300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents - Course ID: 1011051
- ✓ ICS-400 Advanced-ICS Command & General Staff Complex Incidents - Course ID: 1011057
- ✓ Integrated Emergency Management Course (IEMC) Earthquake (L-910) - Course ID: 1027733
- ✓ Joint Information Systems/Joint Information Center for PIOs (G291) - Course ID: 1020466
- ✓ Local Volunteer and Donations Management (G288) - Course ID: 1026948
- ✓ Mitigation Planning Workshop for Local Governments (G318) - Course ID: 1013133
- ✓ Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Planning Course (L340) - Course ID: 1023313

