

ANNEX 8 (ESF 8) HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES TO GREENWOOD COUNTY'S EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

Tasked Organization: Regional Director, Department of Health and Environmental Control

EOC Augmentation: Greenwood County Emergency Medical Service (EMS)

Suggested Liaison: DHEC, Self Regional, Coroner, Vet Affairs, Medical Reserve Corp Lander

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. County assistance under this function consists of health and medical service resources (including transportation) temporarily realigned from established programs having coordination or direct service capability for medical care, public health and sanitation, behavioral health, and deceased identification and mortuary services.
- B. MEDICAL CARE refers to emergency medical services (including field operations and first responders), resident medical care, doctors, nurses, technicians, pharmaceuticals, supplies, equipment, hospitals, clinics, planning and operation of facilities, and services.
- C. PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION refers to the services, equipment, and staffing essential to protect the public from communicable diseases and contamination of food and water supplies; development and monitoring of health information; inspection and control of sanitation measures; inspection of individual water supplies; disease vector and epidemic control; immunization; laboratory testing.
- D. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, to include crisis counseling and psychological first aid, refers to the professional personnel, services, and facilities to relieve mental health and/or substance abuse problems caused or aggravated by a disaster or its aftermath.
- E. DECEASED IDENTIFICATION AND MORTUARY SERVICES refers to the identification and disposition of human remains.
- F. All sections to this annex will be reviewed and determination made as to the necessary actions required to support individuals classified as "special or functional needs". Actions regarding this category of personnel will be contained in the Standard Operations Procedures.
- G. Review this annex and the EOP and develop Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs) for each task established by this appendix and the EOP. Each ESF will insure that the special needs community is factor into their SOPs. Annually review

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the State EOP & Department of Homeland Security Universal Task List and integrate tasks as appropriate.

II. MISSION

To ensure emergency provision of the County's resources for medical and personal care; to facilitate and/or coordinate the provision of private resources for medical and personal care for disaster victims. To supplement and support disrupted or overburdened local medical service personnel and facilities. To perform deceased identification and mortuary services operations; and relieve personal suffering and trauma.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

- A. Regional Director of SCDHEC is responsible for the coordination of all ESF-8 administrative, management, planning, training, and preparedness/mitigation, response, and recovery activities. This includes developing, coordinating, and maintaining the ESF-8 SOP. All ESF-8 supporting agencies will assist the Regional DHEC in the planning and execution of the above. All ESF-8 personnel will be trained on the principles of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command and integrate those principles into all ESF-8 planning and response operations.
- B. Coordination with all supporting and other appropriate departments/agencies and organizations will be performed to ensure operational readiness in time of emergency.
- C. Regional DHEC shall provide an Emergency Management Coordinator or Alternate, designated by the Regional Director, to represent him at the EOC.
- D. In coordination with, and in support of, the Damage Assessment Team (DAT), ESF-8 will assess the situation (both pre- and post-event), and in coordination with the County EOC, develop strategies to respond to the emergency.
- E. Medical Care: Provide or coordinate emergency and resident medical and dental care, doctors, nurses, technicians, pharmaceuticals, supplies, equipment, licensed ambulance service, hospitals, clinics and first aid units, planning and operation of facilities, and services. Stage medical assets and deploy as needed to affected areas. Assist with coordination of patient relocation and establishment of emergency medical care centers.
- F. Public Health and Sanitation: Coordinates the services, equipment, and staffing essential to protect the public from communicable diseases and contamination of food and water supplies; development and monitoring of health information; inspection and control of sanitation measures; inspection of individual water supplies; surveillance; disease vector and epidemic control; immunization; and laboratory testing.

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- G. Behavioral Health: Manages psychological first aid, crisis counseling and mental health assistance under the direction of the Regional Department of Health and Environmental Control, and the Department of Mental Health, and in coordination with the Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Disabilities and Special Needs, American Red Cross, local clergy, and other private resources.
- H. Deceased Identification and Mortuary Services.
1. The county coroner has overall responsibility for care, identification, and disposition of human remains within his jurisdiction. Specific responsibilities and actions under this section are contained in the implementing instructions on this subject to include team capability, deceased identification procedures, notification procedures, release procedures, resource lists, mass death procedures and records maintenance. The state will provide assistance at the request of the County EOC.
 2. ESF-8 shall contact authoritative organizations, local entities and health officials to assess the magnitude of need, determine appropriate location for mortuary and temporary facilities and specify equipment or materials deemed necessary. ESF-8 will coordinate security issues with ESF-13 (Law Enforcement).
 3. ESF-8 will assure the procurement of supplies and equipment (i.e. refrigeration units, body bags, stretchers, embalming supplies, transportation, etc.), as required to maintain appropriate condition of the deceased until proper identification, notification and disposition can be determined. Use of existing morgues and forensic personnel will be coordinated with necessary parties deemed appropriate.
 4. In the event a deceased victim has no surviving family or next-of-kin, county coroner shall assure that a dignified burial is provided. Burial assistance to families of deceased veterans will be provided through the County Office of Veterans Affairs.

IV. ESF ACTIONS

Actions necessary to insure readiness to respond are divided into the four cycles of emergency management. These are: preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. Each cycle requires actions to be planned for to insure total readiness. Considerations to be planned for are but are not limited to:

The emergency operations necessary for the performance of this function include but are not limited to:

A. Preparedness

1. General.

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- a. Develop mutual support relationships with professional associations and other private services and volunteer organizations that may assist during an emergency or disaster.
 - b. Participate in county and state exercises and conduct, at least annually, an ESF-8 exercise to validate this annex and supporting SOPs.
 - c. Ensure all ESF-8 personnel integrate NIMS principles in all planning. All ESF personnel will complete all required NIMS training.
 - d. Determine staffing requirements for performing EOC duties at the three levels of EOC activation and coordinate needs with Emergency Management Director.
2. Medical Care.
- a. Coordinate the provision of medical and dental care.
 - b. Identify and coordinate the deployment of doctors, nurses, technicians and other medical personnel to disaster areas.
 - c. Maintain inventory lists of medical supplies, equipment, licensed ambulance services, functional hospitals, clinics and first aid units.
 - d. Plan for establishment of staging areas for medical personnel, equipment, and supplies.
 - e. Develop and maintain plans to implement Strategic National Stockpile operations in Greenwood County.
 - f. When traditional health care facilities are not available, plan for establishment of emergency medical care sites.
 - g. Maintain liaison with State ESF-8 Counterparts.
 - h. Assist in the organization of a County disaster medical capability, which can be deployed on short notice and provide emergency medical care in either a fixed facility or field environment.
 - i. Plan for and determine procedures for requesting State and Federal medical assistance teams and coordinate for their support while operating in the County.
 - j. Assure that health care facilities (i.e. Self Hospital, nursing homes, youth and adult medical care facilities) develop patient reduction, evacuation, and relocation procedures.

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- k. Identify agencies, organizations, and individuals capable of providing support
 - l. services or assistance in medical emergencies in support of county disaster response.
3. Public Health and Sanitation.
- a. Develop procedures to protect the public from communicable diseases and contamination of food, water, and drug supplies (including veterinary drugs).
 - b. Develop procedures to monitor public health information.
 - c. Develop sanitation inspection procedures and protocols to control unsanitary conditions.
 - d. Develop procedures for inspection of individual water supplies.
 - e. Develop procedures for identification of disease, vector, and epidemic control.
 - f. Develop emergency immunization procedures.
 - g. Identify laboratory testing facilities.
4. Behavioral Health.
- a. Develop procedures for rapidly providing assistance to individuals and families, to include deployable crisis counseling and other behavioral health teams.
 - b. Develop support relationships with government agencies, professional associations, private services, and volunteer organizations to provide behavioral health and substance abuse assistance during disasters.
5. Deceased Identification and Mortuary Services.
- a. Develop plans for location, identification, removal and disposition of the deceased.
 - b. Establish a system for collecting and disseminating information regarding victims and have the operational capability to deliver the information in a field environment in coordination with ESF-15 (Public Information).
 - c. Develop protocols and maintain liaison with State Disaster Mortuary Operational Readiness Teams (DMORT).

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- d. Identify agencies, organizations, and individuals capable of providing support services for deceased identification including local chapter of the South Carolina Funeral Directors Disaster Committee and Coroners Association.

B. Response

1. General.

- a. Coordinate information releases to the public with the public information officer in ESF 15 (Public Information).
- b. Coordinate with state and federal agencies as required.
- c. Maintain records of expenditures and resources used for possible later reimbursement.

2. Medical Care.

- a. Coordinate the delivery of health and medical services as outlined in paragraph IVA2 above.
- b. Arrange for the provision of medical personnel, equipment, pharmaceuticals, and supplies.
- c. Assist the coordination of patient evacuation and relocation.
- d. Review procedures for implementing the Strategic National Stockpile operations and determine how and when this stockpile is delivered.
- e. Coordinate with State EOC on how and when National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) services become available to the County. This includes patient evacuation assistance, and deployment of: Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT), National Pharmacy Response Teams (NPRT), National Nurse Response Teams (NNRT), and Veterinary Medical Assistance Teams (VMAT).
- f. Identify hospital and nursing home vacancies countywide.
- g. Assist with hazardous materials response.

3. Public Health and Sanitation.

- a. Manage the public health and sanitation services as outlined in paragraph IVA3 above.
- b. Determine need for health surveillance programs throughout the county.

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- c. Issue Public Health notices for clean up on private property.
4. Behavioral Health: Coordinate for the provision of psychological first aid and recovery services to individuals, families, and cities.
5. Deceased Identification and Mortuary Services.
 - a. Coordinate with state ESF 8 regarding actions county will need to take in regard to state deceased identification teams.
 - b. Retain victim identification records.
 - c. Coordinate Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT) services.
 - d. Coordinate for next-of-kin notification.

C. Recovery

1. General.
 - a. Anticipate and plan for arrival of, and coordination with, State ESF-8 personnel in the EOC and the Joint Field Office (JFO).
 - b. Ensure ESF-8 members or their agencies maintain appropriate records of activities and costs incurred during the event.
2. Medical Care.
 - a. Assist with restoration of essential health and medical care systems.
 - b. Assist with restoration of permanent medical facilities to operational status.
 - c. Assist with restoration of pharmacy services to operational status.
 - d. Support emergency services infrastructure until local system is self-supporting.
 - e. Assist with emergency pharmacy and laboratory services.
3. Public Health and Sanitation.
 - a. Monitor environmental and epidemiological surveillance.
 - b. Continue long-term emergency environmental activities.

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4. Behavioral Health: Coordinate the management of continuous mental health, crisis counseling and recovery services, and substance abuse assistance to individuals and families.
5. Deceased Identification and Mortuary Services.
 - a. Continue the operations necessary for the identification and disposition of the deceased and their personal effects.
 - b. Receive the required death reports.
 - c. Request reimbursement for expenditures, if authorized.
 - d. Provide a final fatality report.

D. Mitigation

1. Support and plan for mitigation measures.
2. Support requests and directives resulting from the County and/or State concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
3. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or County/State briefings, situation reports and action plans.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Regional Director, SC Department of Health and Environmental Control

1. Identify, train, and assign personnel to staff ESF-8 in the EOC.
2. Notify all ESF-8 supporting agencies upon activation.
3. Develop mutual support relationships with professional associations and other private services and volunteer organizations that may assist during emergencies or disasters.
4. Coordinate and direct the activation and deployment of county departments or agencies, volunteer health/medical personnel, supplies, equipment.
5. Develop and conduct drills and exercises which test the medical and behavioral health response to disaster situations.
6. Assure that licensed health care facilities develop patient reduction, evacuation, and relocation procedures.
7. Manage the medical care for standard and special medical needs shelters to include providing interim nursing support to all shelters. The American Red

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- Cross will provide nursing support to standard shelters according to the current MOU.
8. Manage the medical care of the special medical needs shelters to include reimbursing the facility for replacement of medical supplies (when necessary); ensure sufficient medical staff are available to open shelters and approve admissions; maintain and ensure confidentiality of medical records; assist shelters in making arrangements for essential medical equipment, as the situation allows (patients should bring medicine and equipment with them if possible); evaluate and arrange for special medical diets.
 9. Coordinate waivers of rules and regulations regarding licensed professional personnel.
 10. Coordinate waivers of rules and regulations regarding licensed health care facilities.
 11. Maintain and provide a listing of licensed health care facilities including names of Administrators and 24 hour phone numbers.
 12. Identify and provide bed capacity and availability status within the County. This includes Self Regional and any temporary facilities established.
 13. Provide food inspectors to assist in the inspection of restaurants and provide technical advice to mass feeding sites.
 14. Provide nursing personnel to assist in shelters, tent cities, public health clinics, etc.
 15. Provide and/or coordinate staff and services for monitoring public health conditions.
 16. Restrict consumption of water supplies in the event of contamination and assist in inspection of water supplies.
 17. Implement quarantine procedures, as appropriate.
 18. Coordinate deployment of doctors, nurses, behavioral health professionals, technicians and other medical personnel to disaster areas.
 19. Maintain current inventory lists of medical supplies, pharmaceuticals, equipment, licensed ambulance services, hospitals, and clinics.
 20. Coordinate with State EOC for deployment of behavioral health teams.
 21. Be prepared to implement Strategic National Stockpile operations when State EOC activates system. Current location designed to receive shipments is the Farmer's Market facility.

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B. County Office of Veterans Affairs

1. Identify, train, and assign Office of Veterans Affairs personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF-8 during periods of activation with focus of our county veterans.
2. Assist with deceased identification of veterans through medical and dental records and provide liaison to State Veterans Affairs, as required.

C. County Emergency Medical Services

1. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF-8 during periods of activation. Director of EMS will be the coordinating agent between DHEC and the County and insure situational awareness of the ongoing activities of DHEC. Self Regional Liaison will provide necessary information as needed to Director EMS on those areas of expertise in hospital management and ongoing status.
2. Identify and provide a list of medical resources to the DHEC emergency preparedness coordinator.
3. Assist with patient evacuation (ground and air).
4. Provide temporary non-refrigerated morgue facilities.
5. Coordinate for the implementation Strategic National Stockpile operations.
6. Assist with temporary licensing of health care workers, including crisis counselors.
7. Provide lists of medical personnel including doctors, nurses, and pharmacists.

D. County Coroner's Office.

1. Provide assistance, equipment, laboratory, and body location documentation services for deceased identification and mortuary services.
2. Survey county facilities that will be suitable as temporary morgue facilities.

E. American Red Cross

1. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF-8 during periods of activation.
2. Provide disaster mental health personnel.
3. Manage the mental health response during an aviation disaster.

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4. Provide chaplains for death notification services and counseling.

VI. STATE/FEDERAL INTERFACE

- A. This annex is supported by the State EOP and the National Response Plan ESF-8, Public Health and Medical Services. The State EOC and US Department of Health and Human Services are responsible for directing ESF-8 operations.
- B. State and Federal health and medical assistance provided by ESF-8 includes:
 1. Assessment of Public Health and Medical Needs
 2. Health Surveillance
 3. Medical Care Personnel
 4. Health/Medical Equipment and Supplies
 5. Patient Evacuation
 6. Patient Care
 7. Safety and Security of Human Drugs, Biologics, Medical Devices, and Veterinary Drugs
 8. Blood and Blood Products
 9. Food Safety and Security
 10. Agriculture Safety and Security
 11. Worker Health and Safety
 12. All Hazard Public Health and Medical Consultation, Technical Assistance, and Support
 13. Behavioral Health Care
 14. Public Health and Medical Information
 15. Vector Control
 16. Potable Water/Wastewater and Solid Waste Disposal
 17. Victim Identification and Mortuary Services
 18. Protection of Animal Health

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- C. State ESF-8 will coordinate with Federal ESF-8 to obtain federal assistance as required. However, under current SC ESF responsibilities, selected Federal ESF-8 responsibilities listed above are not the responsibility of State ESF-8. State ESF-17, Animal Emergency Response, will coordinate with Federal ESF-8 concerning agriculture safety and security, and the protection of animal health.