



PORTAGE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE

Portage County Public Health Response Plan

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this plan is to provide for coordination of the public health services and response during a disaster or public health emergency. This plan provides for processes and methods that will be utilized to direct the efforts of the Portage County local health departments before, during and after disaster situations or in response to a public health emergency.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

1. Uncontrolled hazards, emergencies and disaster situations may require a response from the Portage County local health departments in an effort to mitigate the potential impact of such situations in Portage County.
2. Emergencies could incapacitate key public health personnel and services and damage public health facilities.
3. Emergencies of significant magnitude will exceed the capabilities of public health personnel making outside assistance necessary.
4. Portage County Combined Health District (PCCHD) is identified as the Health and Medical Coordinator of ESF #8 and is responsible for coordinating health and medical needs and resources during a disaster or public health emergency.

B. Assumptions

1. Effective coordination of public health responses, in cooperation with the other two health departments in Portage County, township, village, city and county officials can prevent/reduce the impact and the severity of the event.
2. In event of emergencies, disasters, or threat to public health, Portage County local health departments will activate operations in conjunction with Portage County Emergency Operations Center (PCEOC).
3. Complications affecting the health of Portage County including diseases, sanitation problems, and contamination of food and water that may occur.
4. In the event that critical resources are insufficient to meet the needs for response in Portage County, Portage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (PC OHS/EMA) in coordination and conjunction with critical response agencies within the county will make recommendation for allocation of resources.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

- A. Public health in Portage County consists of three-health departments: PCCHD, City of Ravenna and City of Kent. A Public Health Response Team made up of public health staff from the three health departments will enable joint emergency response. PCCHD

will take the lead in emergency response and recovery activities. If the event begins and is contained in either the City of Ravenna or the City of Kent the PCCHD will support the jurisdiction in emergency response. The Incident Command System will be used and all activities will be NIMS compliant.

B. The Portage County local health departments will respond with the Health Departments Incident Management Teams. (Tab A- Incident Management Team SOG)

C. Phases of Emergency Management

1. Mitigation and Preparedness Measures

- a. Identify potential or actual concerns with communicable disease.
- b. Immunize/inoculate citizens.
- c. Research and address the prevention and detection of communicable diseases.
- d. Provide public health awareness programs to include environmental.
- e. Develop and regularly update this plan.
- f. Develop and regularly update Standard Operating Guides (SOGs).

2. Response and Recovery Measures

- a. Provide public information programs.
- b. Initiate disease control operations.
- c. Test food and water for contamination.
- d. Compilation of health reports as required by local, state and federal officials.
- e. Recommend cleanup guides.
- f. Distribute public health recovery information.

IV. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Organization

1. The PCCHD Health Commissioner or other jurisdictional Health Commissioner has the authority to activate emergency operations when there is potential threat to health and life safety of the citizens of Portage County.
2. Health departments will respond as needed in event of illness as a result of identified emergency, disaster or threat to public health.
3. PCCHD will support the City of Kent and/or the City of Ravenna in emergency response when incident is limited to said jurisdictions.
4. When an emergency, disaster or threat to public health exceeds local health department response and recovery capabilities, assistance will be requested from PC OHS/EMA.

B. Assignment of Responsibilities

1. Health Commissioner/Health and Medical Coordinator
 - a. Direct and control emergency health activities.
 - b. Liaison with health response groups and volunteers.
 - c. Develop resource plans for health services.
 - d. Advise the public of protective measures through the PIO.
 - e. Support response forces.
 - f. Respond to EOC when activated.

2. Health Department
 - a. Evaluate potential health risks and recommend correctional measures.
 - b. Inspect food, water, and drugs for purity, usability, or quality.
 - c. Coordinate with water, public works, and sanitation agencies.
 - d. Establish preventive health services.
 - e. Monitor food handling, feeding and sanitation in mass feeding shelters and in commercial feeding facilities.
 - f. Provide sanitary facilities in shelter.
 - g. Prevent the spread of disease through animals.
 - h. Coordinate activities with neighboring areas and the State Health Department when assistance is needed.
 - i. Coordinate activities among public and private response groups.
 - j. Coordinate mass immunization or quarantine procedures.
 - k. Utilize public health response team to support response in all three jurisdictions.
 - l. Activate Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) when needed.

3. Hospitals
 - a. Maintain liaison with health officials.

4. Red Cross
 - a. Handle inquires and informs families of the status of injured/missing individuals.
 - b. Manage emergency shelters.

V. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

The Board of Health and City Council have the authority to administer all operations of the health departments depending on the jurisdiction; each having designated a Health Commissioner to oversee and direct operations of their health department.

VI. LINE OF SUCCESSION

Line of succession for each health is delineated in the Public Health Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP).

VII. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

A. Relationship to other plans

Emergency Operations Plan- the County all hazard emergency operations plan (EOP) creates an umbrella for protecting the health, safety and property of the public from all hazards. This is the basis for Emergency Support Function (ESF) 8-Health and Medical.

B. Logistics

Resource Management: When the incident exceeds the capability of the local government, requests for resources to accomplish the mission will be coordinated and directed through Portage County OHS/EMA. Assets will be requested from County, State or Federal assistance. Resource requests will be directed through the Incident Commander through the county EOC.

VIII. PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

- A. This plan will be reviewed and/or revised annually or as required by mandate, law, policy, directive, or order. This plan may be revised based on instances including but not limited to best practices, changes in government structure, changes in equipment, changes in infrastructure, or as the result of After Action Report (AAR), Improvement Plans (IP), Drills, Tabletops, Functional Exercises (FE), and Full Scale Exercises (FSE).

IX. TABS AND APPENDIX

Tab A-	Incident Management Team SOG
TAB B-	NECO Region 5 Incident Management Document
Appendix 1-	<u>Mass Dispensing/Mass Prophylaxis Plan</u> - Outlines concept of operations relating to Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), pill and vaccine dispensing. It includes information referring to priority prophylaxis, dispensing guide, and dispensing site management.

- Appendix 2- Pandemic Plan- Outlines concept of operation relating to response to an emergency/disaster involving infectious disease or a pandemic situation.
- Appendix 3- Communication Plan- Details emergency and non-emergency communications including public information, risk and tactical communications.
- Appendix 4- Community Disease Containment- Outlines community disease containment issues, including decision-making information in the event of a pandemic influenza and/or other naturally occurring or intentional perceived health threat in our community. It includes guides for social distancing, isolation, and quarantine processes.
Tab A- Isolation and Quarantine
- Appendix 5- Epidemiology Plan- Outlines the procedures to manage communicable disease and outbreaks including surveillance, agent identification, mitigation and follow-up.
- Appendix 6- Continuity of Operations Plan COOP- Outlines the continuity of operations for Portage County local health departments in the event of a minor to major building loss or a significant loss of staff.
- Appendix 7- Biological Guidance Document- Defines a Biological Incident and identifies response roles and responsibilities.
- Appendix 8- Medical Surge Plan- Outlines pre-hospital and hospital systems to triage and provide care to individuals during any event that exceeds daily capabilities.