

ANNEX 8

ESF-8- HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES

PRIMARY: SC Department of Health and Environmental Control

SUPPORT: SC Department of Administration, Office of Veterans' Affairs; SC National Guard; SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Division of Professional and Occupational Licensing and Division of Fire and Life Safety; SC Law Enforcement Division; SC Criminal Justice Academy; SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs; SC Department of Mental Health; SC Vocational Rehabilitation Department; SC Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services; SC Department of Corrections; SC Department of Transportation; SC Lieutenant Governor's Office of Aging; SC Morticians Association; SC Funeral Directors Association; SC Coroner's Association; SC Hospital Association; SC Medical Association; SC Pharmacy Association; American Red Cross; The Salvation Army, Southern Baptist Disaster Relief; SC Health Care Association; LeadingAge South Carolina

I. INTRODUCTION

Health and medical services consist of resources (including transportation) temporarily realigned from established programs having coordination or direct service capability for the following:

- Medical Care
- Public Health
- Behavioral Health
- Mass Fatality Support

II. PURPOSE

- A. Organize the capability to provide medical care, public health, behavioral health, and mortuary services in disaster situations.
- B. Outline responsibility and policy established for health and medical operations before, during, and after a disaster.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

- A. The SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) is responsible for the coordination of all ESF-8 administrative, management, planning, training, preparedness/mitigation, response, and recovery activities to include developing, coordinating, and maintaining the ESF-8 SOP.
- B. ESF-8 supporting agencies will assist SCDHEC in the planning and execution of the above.

- C. ESF-8 will coordinate with all supporting and other appropriate departments/agencies and organizations to ensure operational readiness in time of emergency.
- D. ESF-8 personnel will be familiar with the National Response Framework for ESF-8 and the corresponding Annex with Federal counterpart concepts, actions and responsibilities. This familiarization will include but not be limited to the organization, structure, functions and responsibilities of the Incident Management Assistance Teams (IMAT) and the Joint Field Office (JFO).
- E. In coordination with and in support of the Counties, ESF-8 will assess the situation (both pre and post-event), and in coordination with local Emergency Management officials, develop strategies to respond to the emergency.
- F. ESF-8 will coordinate the management of assistance in the following areas:
 - 1. Medical Care
 - a. Coordinate medical and dental care for affected populations and field operations.
 - b. Identify and coordinate the deployment of doctors, nurses, technicians, pharmacists and medical assets as needed to affected areas.
 - c. Maintain inventory lists of pharmaceuticals, supplies, equipment, licensed ambulance services, hospitals, and other licensed health care facilities.
 - d. Assist with the coordination of patient relocation and establishment of temporary emergency medical care centers.
 - e. Ensure emergency provision of the State's governmental resources for health and medical care.
 - f. Facilitate and/or coordinate the provision of private resources for health and medical care for disaster victims.
 - g. Coordinate the supplementation and support to disrupted or overburdened local medical service personnel and facilities.
 - 2. Public Health
 - a. Coordinate the services, equipment, and staffing essential to protect the public from communicable diseases.
 - b. Monitor the populations' health status, and environmental health complaints.
 - c. Coordinate surveillance.

- d. Coordinate disease investigations.
 - e. Coordinate epidemic control.
 - f. Coordinate immunizations, including emergency immunizations.
 - g. Coordinate laboratory testing.
 - h. Develop incident-specific public health messaging.
3. Behavioral Health
- a. Manage psychological first aid, crisis counseling and other behavioral health services under the direction of the SCDHEC, and the SC Department of Mental Health (SCDMH), and in coordination with support agencies and Non-Governmental Organizations.
 - b. Coordinate behavioral health services to affected individuals, families, communities and responders.
 - c. Assist with the development of behavioral health risk communications and public messaging.
 - d. Distribute psycho-educational materials as needed.
 - e. Assist with referral to appropriate local, state and federal resources.
 - f. Develop crisis counseling programs to address behavior health needs of both the community and individuals.
4. Mass Fatality Support
- a. Provide assistance at the request of the county government (county coroners have overall responsibility for care, identification, and disposition of human remains within their jurisdiction).
 - b. Contact the county coroner, local government entities, and county health officials to assess the magnitude of need, determine appropriate location for mortuary and temporary facilities and specify equipment or materials deemed necessary.
 - c. Coordinate security issues with ESF-13 (Law Enforcement).
 - d. Ensure the procurement of supplies and equipment (e.g. refrigeration units, body bags, stretchers, embalming supplies, transportation), as required to maintain appropriate condition of the deceased until proper identification, notification and disposition can be determined.

- e. Coordinate the use of existing morgues and forensic personnel with State personnel and with dental/medical school personnel, as necessary.
- f. In the event a deceased victim has no surviving family or next-of-kin, coordinate through the appropriate County Coroner for a dignified burial provided by the local government with jurisdictional responsibility.
 - (1) The SC Department of Administration, Office of Veterans Affairs will provide burial assistance to families of deceased veterans.
 - (2) SC Funeral Directors Association and SC Morticians Association will assist with family counseling.
- G. ESF-8 will coordinate with Federal ESF-8 to obtain federal assistance as required. Veterinary medical support is managed by State ESF-17 (Animal and Agricultural Emergency Response).

IV. ESF ACTIONS

A. Preparedness

1. General

- a. Develop mutual support relationships with professional associations and other private services and volunteer organizations that may assist during an emergency or disaster including special medical needs population and vulnerable populations' service agencies and advocacy groups.
- b. Ensure procedures are in place to document costs for any potential reimbursement.
- c. Participate at least annually in State exercises and/or conduct an exercise to validate this Annex and supporting SOPs.

2. Medical Care

- a. Plan for the provision of emergency medical and dental care for the affected populations.
- b. Identify doctors, nurses, technicians and other medical personnel that may assist in disaster areas.
- c. Maintain situational awareness of the availability of medical supplies, equipment, certification and levels of Emergency Medical

Technicians (EMT), licensed ambulance services, hospitals, and other licensed health care facilities.

- d. Plan for establishment of staging areas for medical personnel, equipment, and supplies.
- e. Develop and maintain plans to implement the Medical Countermeasures Program to the SC Emergency Operations Plan (SCEOP).
- f. When traditional health care facilities are not available, plan for establishment of alternate care sites.
- g. Develop protocols and maintain liaison with elements of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS), to include Federal Coordinating Centers (FCC) in South Carolina and Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT).
- h. Ensure licensed health care facilities (e.g. hospitals, nursing homes, and residential care facilities) develop evacuation plans and procedures.
- i. Identify agencies, organizations, and individuals capable of providing medical support services or assistance such as the South Carolina Hospital Association, and the South Carolina Medical Association.

3. Public Health

- a. Develop procedures to protect the public from communicable diseases and contaminated drug supplies (including veterinary drugs).
- b. Develop procedures to monitor the public's health status.
- c. Provide technical assistance to support and maintain emergency sanitation inspection procedures and protocols to ensure acceptable conditions related to food and wastewater.
- d. Develop procedures for identification of disease and epidemic control.
- e. Develop emergency immunization procedures.
- f. Provide laboratory testing or if appropriate identify laboratory testing facilities.

4. Behavioral Health
 - a. Develop procedures for providing behavior health services to affected individuals, families, communities and responders.
 - b. Develop support relationships with government agencies, professional associations, the private sector, and volunteer organizations to provide behavioral health during and after disasters.
5. Mass Fatality Support
 - a. Provide support for location, identification, registration, certification, removal and disposition of the deceased.
 - b. Establish a system for collecting and disseminating information regarding the numbers of fatalities.
 - c. Develop protocols and maintain liaison with Disaster Mortuary Operational Readiness Teams (DMORT) of the NDMS.
 - d. Identify agencies, organizations, and individuals capable of providing support services for deceased identification including South Carolina Funeral Directors Disaster Committee, South Carolina Morticians Association, and South Carolina Coroner's Association.
 - e. Maintain a description of capabilities and procedures for alert, assembly and deployment of state mortuary assistance assets.

B. Response

1. General
 - a. Coordinate information releases to the public with the public information officer in ESF-15 (Public Information).
 - b. Anticipate and plan for arrival of, and coordination with, Federal ESF-8 personnel in the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and Federal Medical Stations (FMS).
 - c. Through all phases of emergency management, maintain records of expenditures and resources used for possible later reimbursement.
 - d. Provide ESF-8 representation on the Recovery Task Force.
2. Medical Care
 - a. Coordinate the delivery of health and medical services, including the provision of medical personnel, equipment, pharmaceuticals, and supplies.

- b. Coordinate patient evacuation and relocation.
 - c. Coordinate and direct the activation and deployment of Emergency Medical Services agencies.
 - d. Implement Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)/medical countermeasures operations, as needed.
 - e. Arrange for NDMS services, to include patient evacuation assistance, as needed.
 - f. Identify hospital and nursing home surge capacities statewide.
 - g. Maintain a situational awareness of the status of licensed inpatient facilities.
3. Coordinate technical assistance with medical decontamination hazardous materials response.
 4. Public Health
 - a. Coordinate technical assistance to the responsible entities in their efforts to manage the public health services.
 - b. Assess the need for health surveillance programs throughout the state.
 - c. Determine the need to issue Public Health Orders for clean up on private property if an imminent health hazard is declared.
 5. Behavioral Health
 - a. Coordinate behavioral health services to affected individuals, families, communities, and responders.
 - b. Implement Federal Crisis Counseling Programs to mitigate psychological distress in individuals, families, communities and responders.
 - c. Provide assistance to law enforcement or other agencies, which are not typically responsible for delivering behavior health services.
 6. Mass Fatality Support
 - a. Initiate the notification of teams for deceased identification.
 - b. Coordinate DMORT services.

- c. Coordinate State assistance for next-of-kin notification. The SC Department of Administration will notify deceased veterans' next-of-kin.

C. Recovery

1. General

- a. Anticipate and plan for arrival of, and coordination with, Federal personnel represented in the JFO.
- b. Support long-term recovery priorities as identified by the Long-Term Recovery Committee and the Recovery Task Force.

2. Medical Care

- a. Coordinate the restoration of essential health and medical care systems.
- b. Coordinate the restoration of permanent medical facilities to operational status.
- c. Coordinate the restoration of pharmacy services to operational status.
- d. Coordinate support for emergency medical services and medical care infrastructure until local system is self-supporting.
- e. Coordinate emergency pharmacy and laboratory services.

3. Public Health

Coordinate epidemiological surveillance.

4. Behavioral Health

Coordinate the continued provision of behavioral health services to affected individuals, families, communities and responders by implementing and maintaining an on-going crisis psycho-educational program throughout the affected area (s).

5. Mass Fatality Support

- a. Continue to support the operations necessary for the identification, registration, certification, and disposition of the deceased and their personal effects.
- b. Receive the required death reports throughout the incident.
- c. Provide a final fatality report.

D. Mitigation

1. Support and plan for mitigation measures including monitoring and updating mitigation actions in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan.
2. Review, evaluate and comment on proposed State Hazard Mitigation Plan amendments upon initiation and within the review period.
3. Support requests and directives from the Governor and/or federal agencies concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
4. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. General. ESF-8 lead and support agencies will identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF-8 during periods of activation.
- B. SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
 1. Agency-wide
 - a. Identify, train, and assign SCDHEC personnel to staff ESF-8.
 - b. Develop mutual support relationships with professional associations and other private services and volunteer organizations that may assist during emergencies or disasters including special medical needs and vulnerable populations' service agencies and advocacy groups.
 2. Office of Public Health Preparedness
 - a. Provide an Emergency Management Coordinator or Alternate in the SEOC, designated by the Director, who, on the behalf of, or in the Director's absence from the SEOC, shall act to meet the public's health needs.
 - b. Coordinate and direct the activation and deployment of SCDHEC and volunteer health/medical personnel, and SCDHEC supplies, and equipment.
 - b. Develop and conduct drills and exercises which test the medical and behavioral health response to disaster situations.
 - c. Identify and provide bed capacity and availability status of all hospitals throughout the state.

- d. In conjunction with SC Hospital Association, determine operational status of hospitals.
 - e. Coordinate the deployment of volunteer doctors, nurses, behavioral health professionals, technicians and other medical personnel to disaster areas.
 - f. Maintain current inventories of medical supplies; pharmaceuticals; equipment; certification and levels of Emergency Medical Technicians; licensed ambulance services; and hospitals and other licensed health care facilities.
 - g. Develop protocols, maintain liaison with, and arrange for services of the NDMS, to include:
 - FCCs in South Carolina
 - DMAT
 - DMORT
 - h. Develop rapidly deployable behavioral health teams.
 - i. Implement Medical Countermeasures Program operations, as needed.
 - j. Plan for the deployment of Federal Medical Stations in SC, as needed.
 - k. Implement CHEMPACK operations as needed.
3. Disease Control
- a. Coordinate nursing personnel, as available, to assist in shelters and public health clinics.
 - b. Implement isolation and quarantine procedures, as appropriate.
4. Division of Immunization/Division of Nursing/Medical Reserve Corps
- Develop plans for, and coordinate the provision of immunizations, including emergency immunizations.
5. Health Regulations
- a. Ensure licensed health care facilities (e.g. hospitals, nursing homes, residential care facilities, etc.) develop evacuation plans and procedures.
 - b. Coordinate and direct the activation and deployment of Emergency Medical Services agencies.

- c. Coordinate waivers of rules and regulations regarding licensed health care facilities.
 - d. Maintain and provide a listing of licensed health care facilities including names of Administrators and 24-hour phone numbers, as appropriate.
 - e. Identify and provide bed capacity and availability status of all hospitals throughout the state.
 - f. Maintain current inventories of medical supplies; pharmaceuticals; equipment; certification and levels of Emergency Medical Technicians; licensed ambulance services; and hospitals and other licensed health care facilities.
6. Environmental Quality Control (EQC)
- a. Monitor public health conditions.
 - b. Coordinate with ESF-3 (Public Works and Engineering) to provide technical assistance to responsible entities in their efforts to manage the public health services.
7. General Counsel
- a. Advise the Director of the Agency and the Director of the Office of Public Health Preparedness regarding legal issues which arise during the emergency, including effects of recommending declaration of a Public Health Emergency pursuant to the Emergency Health Powers Act.
 - b. Advise agency program staff regarding issuance of and draft Public Health Orders to enable response or recovery efforts.
 - c. Advise and assist appropriate staff regarding implementation of isolation and quarantine procedures, as appropriate.
- C. SC Department of Administration, Office of Veterans' Affairs
- 1. Assist with deceased identification of veterans through medical and dental records and provide liaison to US Veterans Affairs, as required.
 - 2. Assist with burial arrangements for families of deceased veterans.
- D. South Carolina National Guard
- 1. Coordinate military assets that may be available.
 - 2. Assist with patient evacuation (ground and air).

3. Identify potential temporary non-refrigerated morgue facilities.
 4. Assist with security, equipment, facilities, and personnel to implement Medical Countermeasures operations.
- E. SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation
1. Division of Professional and Occupational Licensing
 - a. Assist with temporary licensing of health care workers.
 - b. Assist with the coordination of medical professionals (i.e. doctors, nurses, and pharmacists).
 - c. Coordinate waivers of rules and regulations regarding licensed health care workers.
 2. Division of Fire and Life Safety
 - a. Assist with the mobilization of Emergency Medical Service (EMS) personnel and equipment that is currently registered within the fire service.
 - b. Provide large staging area for EMS equipment, as available.
- F. South Carolina Law Enforcement Division
1. Provide assistance for the collection or rapid transportation of samples for analysis.
 2. Provide technical assistance, equipment, laboratory, and body location documentation services for deceased identification and mortuary services.
 3. Provide chaplains to assist County Coroners, as requested, for death notification services and crisis intervention services for Law Enforcement Agencies within the State.
 4. Assist with security to implement Medical Countermeasure Program operations.
- G. SC Criminal Justice Academy
- Provide berthing and staging arrangements for incoming EMS assets, as available.

- H. SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs
1. Provide dental, nursing, and other disabilities and special needs personnel, as available.
 2. Provide accessible transportation assets, as available.
- I. SC Department of Mental Health
1. Identify, train, and assign SCDMH personnel to staff ESF-8.
 2. In coordination with SCDHEC, manage behavioral health services support within ESF-8.
 3. Provide crisis and behavioral health counselors to facilitate response and recovery.
 4. Provide nurses and other medical professionals as available.
 5. Provide medical facilities, as available.
 6. Identify resources to secure medication, as needed.
 7. Develop Federal Crisis Counseling Programs for affected individuals, families, communities, and responders.
- J. SC Vocational Rehabilitation Department
1. Provide crisis counseling personnel to facilitate recovery.
 2. Provide accessible transportation assets.
 3. Provide warehouse space for temporary storage of medical supplies.
 4. Provide temporary alcohol and drug treatment bed space.
 5. Provide the following resources, if available:
 - Crisis counselors to staff emergency shelters
 - Crisis counselors for behavioral health teams
 - Accessible vans and van drivers
 - Alcohol and Drug treatment facilities
- K. SC Department of Education, Office of Transportation
- Provide ambulatory and non-ambulatory transportation for health and medical services as outlined in Annex 1-Transportation.

- L. SC Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services
 - Provide behavioral health counseling personnel and other substance abuse services.
- M. SC Department of Corrections
 - Provide refrigerated trucks in support of ESF-8 operations.
- N. SC Department of Transportation
 - Provide access to critical healthcare facility infrastructure.
- O. SC Morticians Association
 - Provide mortuary services including personnel, supplies, equipment, transportation, and obtaining information from the families of deceased.
- P. SC Funeral Directors Association
 - Provide mortuary services including personnel, supplies, equipment, transportation, and obtaining information from the families of deceased.
- Q. SC Coroners Association
 - Provide mortuary services including personnel, supplies, equipment, transportation, and obtaining information from the families of deceased.
- R. SC Hospital Association
 - 1. Assist with identification of hospital bed information.
 - 2. Assist with determining operational status of hospitals.
 - 3. Assist in facilitating communications with hospitals.
- S. SC Medical Association
 - Assist with acquisition of physicians for emergency operations.
- T. SC Pharmacy Association
 - 1. Assist with acquisition of pharmacists for emergency operations.
 - 2. Assist with acquisition and distribution of pharmaceuticals for emergency operations.
 - 3. Coordinate appropriate storage of pharmaceuticals.
 - 4. Assist with alerts to community pharmacies.

- U. American Red Cross
 - 1. Provide disaster health services personnel, as available.
 - 2. Provide disaster mental health personnel, as available.
 - 3. Manage the mental health response during an aviation disaster.
- V. Southern Baptist Disaster Relief
 - Provide behavioral health services to affected individuals, families, communities, and responders.
- W. The Salvation Army
 - Provide personnel trained in emotional and spiritual care as available.
- X. SC Health Care Association
 - Prepare for and conduct operations in support of ESF-8.
- Y. LeadingAge South Carolina
 - Prepare for and conduct operations in support of ESF-8
- X. SC Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging
 - Assist with the identification of medically vulnerable senior populations.

VI. FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

- A. This Annex is supported by the National Response Framework for ESF-8 (Public Health and Medical Services).
- B. The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is responsible for directing Federal ESF-8 operations.
- C. Federal ESF-8 representatives will deploy with the IMAT to the SEOC or other designated location.