

## ANNEX 8

### ESF-8- HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES

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COORDINATING: South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

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

#### I. INTRODUCTION

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

- Medical Care
- Public Health
- Behavioral Health
- Fatality Management
- Medical Transport
- Healthcare Facility Evacuation

#### II. PURPOSE

- A. Organize the capability to provide medical care, public health, behavioral health, fatality management, medical transport and healthcare facility evacuation 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 Annex and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).
- B. ESF-8 supporting agencies will assist SCDHEC in the planning and execution of ESF-8.
- 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 Emergency Management officials, develop strategies to respond to the emergency.
- F. ESF-8 will coordinate with Federal ESF-8 to obtain assistance as necessary.
- G. 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 between agencies, 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 in State exercises and/or conduct an exercise to validate this Annex and supporting SOPs.
    - d. Provide ESF-8 representation on the Recovery Task Force.

2. Medical Care
  - a. Plan for the provision of emergency medical and dental care for affected populations.
  - b. Maintain situational awareness of medical supplies and equipment.
  - c. Determine the status of pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, and equipment as necessary.
  - d. Coordinate the SC Medical Countermeasures Plan (MCM) (published separately), to include Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), Potassium Iodine Distribution, CHEMPACK, and Medical POD plans and coordinating instructions.
  - e. 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).
3. Public Health
  - a. Coordinate procedures to protect the public from communicable diseases and contaminated drug supplies (including veterinary drugs).
  - b. Coordinate surveillance procedures to monitor the state's public health.
  - c. Coordinate technical assistance, inspection procedures and protocols to ensure acceptable conditions related to food and water.
  - d. Coordinate procedures for identification of disease control.
  - e. Coordinate laboratory testing or if appropriate identify laboratory testing facilities.
  - f. Coordinate procedures for mass immunizations.
4. Behavioral Health
  - a. Reference Annex 7 Behavioral Health of Appendix 5 Mass Casualty Plan and Attachment 1 Behavioral Health Plan of Annex 8 Health and Medical Services.
  - b. Coordinate delivery of behavioral health services to affected individuals, families, communities and responders.
5. Fatality Management

- a. Coordinate support for location, identification, registration, certification, removal and disposition of the deceased.
  - b. Coordinate with Disaster Mortuary Operational Readiness Teams (DMORT) of the NDMS.
  - c. Maintain capabilities and procedures for alert, assembly and deployment of state mortuary assistance assets.
6. Medical Transport
- Maintain situational awareness of certification levels of Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) and licensed ambulance services.
7. Healthcare Facility Evacuation
- a. Support licensed health care facility (e.g. hospitals, nursing homes, and residential care facilities) evacuation plans and procedures.
  - b. Maintain situational awareness of licensed health care facilities to include capacity and bed space.
- B. Response
1. General
    - a. Coordinate information releases 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. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/ federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.
  2. Medical Care
    - a. Coordinate the delivery of health and medical services, including the provision of medical personnel, equipment, pharmaceuticals, and supplies.
    - b. Monitor hospital and nursing home surge capacities statewide.
    - c. Implement MCM/ SNS operations as required.

- d. Coordinate establishment of staging areas for medical personnel, equipment, and supplies.
  - e. Coordinate doctors, nurses, technicians and other medical personnel that may assist in disaster areas.
  - f. Maintain situational awareness of the status of licensed providers.
  - g. Coordinate NDMS services, to include patient evacuation assistance, as required.
3. Public Health
- a. Coordinate assistance to responsible entities in efforts to manage public health services.
  - b. Coordinate requirements for health surveillance programs.
  - c. Coordinate incident-specific public health messaging with ESF-15.
  - d. Coordinate medical decontamination for hazardous materials response.
  - e. Implement mass immunization operations as required.
4. Behavioral Health
- a. Coordinate behavioral health services to affected individuals, families, communities, and responders.
  - b. Implement Crisis Counseling Programs to mitigate psychological distress in individuals, families, communities and responders.
  - c. Coordinate assistance to law enforcement or other agencies, which are not typically responsible for delivering behavior health services.
5. Fatality Management
- a. Coordinate notification of teams for deceased identification.
  - b. Coordinate DMORT services.
  - c. Coordinate security issues with ESF-13 (Law Enforcement).
  - d. Coordinate collection and dissemination of information regarding the numbers of fatalities.
  - e. Coordinate supply and equipment procurement (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.

- f. Coordinate State assistance for next-of-kin notification. The SC Department of Administration (Veterans' Affairs) will notify deceased veterans' next-of-kin.

6. Medical Transport

- a. Maintain situational awareness of deployed EMS assets.
- b. Coordinate and direct the activation and deployment of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) agencies.
- c. Coordinate EMS transportation with healthcare facilities as needed.

7. Healthcare Facility Evacuation

- a. Coordinate patient evacuation and relocation.
- b. Coordinate alternate care sites as necessary.
- c. Coordinate healthcare facility reentry procedures as necessary.

C. Recovery

1. General

- a. Anticipate and plan for arrival of, and coordination with, Federal personnel in the JFO.
- b. Support long-term recovery priorities as identified by the Long-Term Recovery Committee and the Recovery Task Force.
- c. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/ federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

2. Medical Care

- a. Coordinate restoration of essential health and medical care systems.
- b. Coordinate restoration of pharmacy services to operational status.
- c. Coordinate emergency pharmacy and laboratory services.

3. Public Health

- a. Coordinate epidemiological surveillance, and notify exposed contacts of laboratory results.

- b. Coordinate Public Health Order needs for clean up on private property for imminent health hazards.

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. Fatality Management

- a. 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.

6. Medical Transport

Coordinate support for emergency medical services and medical care infrastructure until local system is self-supporting.

7. Healthcare Facility Evacuation

Coordinate restoration of permanent medical facilities to operational status.

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. South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

1. Agency-wide
  - a. 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.
  - b. Implement isolation and quarantine procedures, as appropriate.
  - c. Implement Medical Countermeasures operations as required.
2. Bureau of Public Health Preparedness
  - a. Provide ESF-8 lead representative and alternate.
  - b. Coordinate and direct the activation and deployment of SCDHEC and volunteer health/ medical personnel, SCDHEC supplies, and equipment.
  - c. Develop and conduct drills and exercises which test the medical and behavioral health response to disaster situations.
  - d. Develop protocols, maintain liaison with, and arrange for services of the NDMS, to include:
    - FCCs in South Carolina
    - DMAT
    - DMORT
  - e. Plan for the deployment of Federal Medical Stations in SC, as needed.
  - f. Establish agency Incident Command System (ICS) as required.
  - g. Develop, implement and manage emergency management training agency wide.
  - h. Develop and maintain the Agency Coordination Center (ACC). Ensure communication with the SEOC/ SERT.
3. Division of Immunization. Implement mass immunization procedures as required.
4. Communicable Disease Prevention and Control
  - a. Coordinate disease control.
  - b. Coordinate laboratory analysis of samples/specimens.



5. Office of Nursing.  
Coordinate nursing personnel, as available, to assist in shelters and public health clinics.
6. Health Regulations
  - a. Ensure licensed health care facilities (e.g. hospitals, nursing homes, residential care facilities, etc.) develop evacuation plans and procedures.
  - b. In conjunction with SC Hospital Association, determine operational status of hospitals.
  - c. Coordinate and direct the activation and deployment of EMS agencies.
  - d. Coordinate waivers of rules and regulations regarding licensed health care facilities.
  - e. Maintain and provide a listing of licensed health care facilities including names of Administrators and 24-hour phone numbers, as appropriate.
  - f. Identify and provide bed capacity and availability status of all inpatient care facilities throughout the state.
  - g. Maintain and provide a listing of licensed ambulance services and certification levels of EMT.
7. Environmental Affairs
  - a. Monitor environmental conditions to minimize public health threats.
  - 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.
8. General Counsel
  - a. Advise the Director of the Agency and the Director of the Bureau 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 agency program staff regarding recommendations to Governor for Executive Orders concerning evacuation, mandatory medical evacuation, and other matters.
- d. Advise and assist appropriate staff regarding implementation of isolation and quarantine procedures, as appropriate.

9. Public Health Reserve Corps.

Under the guidance of SCDHEC staff, provide support to public health response activities, including mass vaccinations, special medical needs sheltering, medical countermeasures and other response efforts as needed.

C. South Carolina Department of Administration (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. Identify potential temporary non-refrigerated morgue facilities.
- 3. Assist with security, equipment, facilities, and personnel to implement Medical Countermeasures operations.

E. South Carolina 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 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 to families of affected Law Enforcement Agencies within the State.
4. Assist with security to implement Medical Countermeasure Program operations.

G. South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

Provide berthing and staging arrangements for incoming EMS assets, as available.

H. South Carolina 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. South Carolina Department of Mental Health

1. Manage behavioral health services support within ESF-8.
2. Provide crisis and behavioral health counselors to facilitate response and recovery.
3. Provide nurses and other medical professionals as available.
4. Identify resources to secure medication, as needed.
5. Develop Federal Crisis Counseling Programs for affected individuals, families, communities, and responders.

J. South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

1. Provide crisis counseling for disaster victims with histories of domestic and/or sexual violence victimization to facilitate recovery.
2. Collect and report information regarding the numbers of citizens that receive disaster behavioral assistance and the type of locations or response provided.

3. Assess training needs that become evident during response.

K. South Carolina Department of Vocational Rehabilitation

Provide the following resources, if available:

- Behavioral health disaster response staff to facilitate recovery.
- Accessible transportation assets.
- Warehouse space for temporary storage and medical supplies.
- Temporary alcohol and drug treatment bed space.

L. South Carolina Department of Education, Office of Transportation

Provide ambulatory and non-ambulatory transportation for health and medical services as outlined in Annex 1-Transportation.

M. South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services

Provide behavioral health counseling personnel and other substance abuse services.

N. South Carolina Department of Corrections

Provide refrigerated trucks in support of ESF-8 operations.

O. South Carolina Department of Transportation

Provide access to critical healthcare facility infrastructure.

P. South Carolina Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging

Assist with the identification of medically vulnerable senior adult populations.

Q. South Carolina Morticians Association

Provide mortuary services including personnel, supplies, equipment, transportation, and obtaining information from the families of deceased.

R. South Carolina Funeral Directors Association

Provide mortuary services including personnel, supplies, equipment, transportation, and obtaining information from the families of deceased.

S. South Carolina Coroner's Association

Provide mortuary services including personnel, supplies, equipment, transportation, and obtaining information from the families of deceased.

- T. South Carolina 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.
- U. South Carolina Medical Association
  - Assist with acquisition of physicians for emergency operations.
- V. South Carolina 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.
- W. The 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.
- X. The Salvation Army
  - Provide personnel trained in emotional and spiritual care as available.
- Y. Southern Baptist Disaster Relief
  - Provide personnel trained in emotional and spiritual care as available.
- Z. South Carolina Health Care Association
  - Prepare for and conduct operations in support of ESF-8.
- AA. LeadingAge South Carolina
  - Prepare for and conduct operations in support of ESF-8.

## **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.