



REGISTER NOW!

The Maine Center for Public Health in Partnership with the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Harvard School of Public Health Center for Public Health Preparedness invite you to attend:

“Reaching Vulnerable Populations in Public Health Emergencies”

A Statewide Conference

April 10, 2007

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Augusta Civic Center, Augusta, Maine

Target Audience: Those involved in state, county and local emergency preparedness planning, advocates for vulnerable populations including, but not limited to people with disabilities, limited language and communication skills, geographic isolation, age vulnerabilities, elders and youth and other public health professionals as appropriate.

Goal: Improve local emergency preparedness plans to address the needs of all community members in Maine, particularly vulnerable populations. Maine residents can be especially vulnerable for many reasons, including age, physical, emotional and cognitive disabilities, language barriers, and geographic and social isolation.

Learning Objectives: By the conclusion of the conference the participant (learner) will:

- ✓ Have a greater understanding of how vulnerable populations have fared in recent emergencies, and the need for advance planning;
- ✓ Gain a heightened appreciation for the emergency needs of at-risk populations in his/her community; and,
- ✓ Be able to identify local resources, agencies, organizations that can participate in emergency preparedness planning for vulnerable populations, a process to be continued by the upcoming MEMA-sponsored regional follow-up conferences; and ultimately,
- ✓ Contribute to the welfare of vulnerable populations in Maine during and following emergencies.

AGENDA

<p>8:30 – 9:00 Registration with continental breakfast</p> <p>9:00 – 9:10 Welcome</p> <p>9:10 – 10:00 Historical Perspective on Emergencies and Vulnerable Populations Hilary Styron, National Organization on Disabilities <i>Facilitator:</i> Don Ward, Maine CDC</p> <p>10:00 – 10:30 Maine Statewide Strategies to Improve Preparedness for Vulnerable Populations Dora Anne Mills, Maine CDC <i>Facilitator:</i> Don Ward, Maine CDC</p> <p>10:45 – 12:00 Improving Preparedness for Vulnerable Populations at the Local Level <i>Facilitator:</i> Pam L'heureux, York County <i>Panelists:</i> Bob Bohlmann, York County Julia Bell, Developmental Disabilities Council</p> <p>12:00 – 1:00 Lunch and Exhibits</p>	<p>1:00 – 2:30 Breakout Groups on Vulnerable Populations <i>Breakout Group Assignment:</i> Identify problems as well as solutions related to important emergency tasks, including identification and assessment, education, notification, evacuation, shelter and recovery. Participants will seek to surface myths regarding the particular populations discussed as well as evidence-based reality.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Economic Disadvantaged 2. Limited Language Competence 3. Disabilities 4. Cultural Isolation 5. Elderly 6. Youth <p>2:45 – 3:45 Breakout Group Reports with Panel Response <i>Facilitator:</i> Paul Campbell, Harvard School of Public Health <i>Panelists:</i> Don Ward, Maine CDC Steve Trockman, Southern Maine RRC Suzanne McCormick, Maine Red Cross Rayna Leibowitz, MEMA</p> <p>3:45 – 4:00 Closing Comments, Kris Perkins, Maine CDC (Including announcement of follow-up events) and Hilary Styron, National Organization on Disabilities</p>
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For more information, contact: **Viki Wills** (207-629-9272, vwills@mcph.org)