

## Community Public Health Responses to H1N1 (“Swine”) Influenza

The following is a partial list of how community public health providers not associated with infectious disease control or clinical care can help with the emerging threat of H1N1.

- **Keep informed** about H1N1 by checking the Maine CDC web site: <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/swine-flu-2009.shtml>. Information and guidance is rapidly evolving, and our website is updated daily to reflect these changes.
- **Disseminate accurate information** oriented to the general public to your partners, clients, stakeholders, constituents, neighbors, etc. To ensure accuracy, use materials from our web site or the US CDC H1N1 site. Information should always be provided in a calm, reasonable tone. Of particular importance:
  - respiratory hygiene;
  - preparedness for business and organizations;
  - personal preparedness;
  - general “rumor control.”
- **Monitor/Assess community needs.** If you perceive needs for information or services related to H1N1 that are not being adequately addressed, please contact the Maine CDC Office of Local Public Health at 287-6372.
- **Help us access hard-to-reach populations** by using your community partners. These populations include racial and ethnic minorities, those affected by poverty, the elderly, etc. Help disseminate information to them, as feasible. We have resources translated into several languages on our web site.
- **Link to our website** on your organization’s internet home page.