Commissioner’s Update

Brenda Fitzgerald, MD
Commissioner, DPH
Virginia Apgar
Prematurity Campaign Leadership Award

Seema Csukas, MD, PhD
Medical Director, Maternal and Child Programs
Georgia Department of Public Health
Background

- ASTHO – Healthy Babies President’s Challenge
- March of Dimes – Prematurity Campaign
- Prevent preterm births and infant mortality
The Goal

Reduce the rate of premature birth by **8% by 2014** (measured against 2009 data)
Healthy Babies President’s Challenge

50 States Have Taken the Pledge
Pledge to Reduce Prematurity by 8% by 2014

- Taken Pledge
- Virginia Apgar Award (8% Reduction) – 25
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt Award (9.6% Prematurity Rate) - 8
Award Presentation

Cheryl T. Monkhouse
*Director of Communications*
March of Dimes

Julie Zaharatos, MPH
*Director of Program Services & Government Affairs*
March of Dimes - Georgia Chapter
Tobacco-Free Initiative

Tyra Brown, MPH
Public Health Information Specialist
Georgia Hospital Association
Call to Action

- Tobacco use
  - Is leading preventable cause of death in Georgia –
    - more than 11,000 deaths annually.
  - Annual Costs to Georgians
    - $1.8 billion in healthcare costs
    - $3.2 billion in lost productivity

- To reduce the burden of tobacco use and create safer, healthier environments that set a good example for the public more hospitals need to adopt a tobacco-free hospital policy.
Initiative – Tobacco Free Hospital Campus

- Partnership - Georgia Hospital Association with Georgia Department of Public Health
- Encouraged adoption of tobacco free campus policy
- Updated Tobacco-free Hospital Campus list
  - Direct calling and letters to hospital’s CEO
- Provided technical assistance to hospitals that want to become a tobacco free campus
Findings

Georgia Hospitals with tobacco-free campus policies

Before
   – 109

After
   – 130

(Excludes veteran hospitals and hospital closures)
Break down - Who are they

- 130 Tobacco-Free Hospital Campuses
  - 7 specialty hospitals
  - 26 critical access hospitals
  - 94 acute care hospitals
  - 3 psychiatric/behavioral health hospitals

- 16 hospitals smoke free campus designation - allows the use of tobacco in designated areas
  - 1 critical access hospital
  - 9 acute care hospitals
  - 6 specialty hospitals

- 39 hospitals are unclassified with status unknown
  - 5 acute care hospitals
  - 3 critical access hospitals
  - 10 specialty hospitals
  - 21 psychiatric/behavioral health hospitals
Findings

- Behavioral and rehabilitation hospitals – population is “different” are “residents”
- Smoke-free hospitals that have not yet adopted a tobacco free hospital campus policy – community and employee constraints
- Some hospitals felt that additional staff is needed to enforce a tobacco-free policy in their facility
Recommendations and Lessons Learned

- Community support is required
- Culture change
- Leadership has to be supportive of the tobacco free policy to effectively enforce it among staff and the public
- Myth Busters
  - Additional staff is not needed to implement a tobacco free policy
  - Individuals with mental health issues and or residing in rehabilitation facilities are receptive to tobacco cessation
Hancock County Telehealth Project

Jean Sumner, MD
Volunteer Health Program

LaKieva Williams, MPA, MNM, EHMP
Volunteer Program Director
Georgia Department of Public Health
• GeorgiaResponds.org is the volunteer website that allows both medical and non-medical volunteers to register.
• At this portal you can connect to ALL DPH volunteer programs
• Medical providers credentials (licenses) are automatically verified.
What is ESAR VHP?

• ESAR VHP- (Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals)

• A federal program to establish and implement guidelines and standards for the registration, credentialing, and deployment of medical professionals in the event of a large scale emergency.

• The program is administered under the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness & Response (ASPR) within the Office of Preparedness and Emergency Operations.
ESAR-VHP Requirements

• Offer **web-based registration**

• Ensures volunteer information is **collected, assembled, maintained** and utilized in manner **consistent** w/ all Federal, State, and local laws.

• Ensures that each State ESAR-VHP system is backed up on a regular basis.

• The electronic system must be able to register and collect the credentials and qualifications of health professionals.
ESAR-VHP Requirements cont.

• Electronic system must be able to assign volunteers to all four ESAR-VHP levels.

• The system must be able to record **ALL** volunteer health professional/ emergency preparedness affiliations of an individual, including local, State, and Federal entities.

• The electronic system must be able to **identify** volunteers willing to participate in a Federally coordinated response.

• Each state must be able to update volunteer information and re-verify credentials every 6 months.
Emergency Credential Levels (ECL)

State ESAR-VHP Program verifies Volunteer’s data and assigns the ECL

ECL 1

Working In a Hospital

ECL 2

Currently Working In a Clinical Setting- qualified

ECL 3

Current Licensure “Basic qualifications”

ECL 4

Healthcare Education or experience (students, retired professional)

We Protect Lives.
What is SERVGA

- **State Emergency Registry of Volunteers in Georgia (SERVGA)**

- SERVGA integrates government-sponsored, local, regional and statewide volunteer programs to assist emergency response and public safety organizations during a disaster.

- SERVGA is a statewide secure database of pre-credentialed **healthcare professionals** and **other volunteers** who want to help in case of a public health emergency.
Why is SERVGA Vital?

• Experience has proven that effective emergency response requires volunteers to be **organized** and **pre-credentialed before** a disaster or event occurs.

• By registering with SERVGA in advance, you become part of an alert system that enables **you** to respond when your services are needed!
…It’s vital because we’re not exempt from disaster/public health emergencies

- July 2015 - Water Shut Down (DeKalb County): 700,000 DeKalb residents and healthcare facilities were under a boil water advisory.
- June 2015 - Albany Nursing Home Fire: 130 Residents evacuated
- June 2015 - 5 tornadoes strike Metro Atlanta and North Georgia
- January 2015 - Alma tornados
- December 2014 - Valdosta Tornado
- October 2014 - Alpharetta EF 1 Tornado
- 2014- and beyond- Ebola Virus Disease
- June 2014 - Jefferson County Hospital Evacuation: Toxic Chemical Exposure
- June 2014 - Troup County Tornado
- May 2014 - Eastman Tornado: Heart of Georgia Nursing Home
- February 2014 - Snow/Ice Event
- January 2014 - Snow/Ice Event
- May 2013 - Shooting at Tift Regional
- February 2013 - 27 Dublin Car Accident on
- January 2013 - Adairsville Torndo: 2 Fatalities; 17 injuries
SERVGA is currently integrated with:
- Georgia Composite Medical Board
- Boards of Dentistry and Pharmacy
- Secretary of State (SOS)
- Georgia Association of Emergency Medical Services (GA EMS)

National and Federal databases:
- Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)
- Office of Inspector General (OIG)
SERVGA can be used daily...

• Remember people who are familiar with a system are more comfortable with using it during an emergency.
  – Use SERVGA to communicate and better manage your volunteers – robust notification system
  – Use SERVGA to verify your volunteers licenses every 30 days
  – Use SERVGA for their reporting features
  – SERVGA can be accessed from anywhere
  – SERVGA is SECURE and tracks all of your training and can be customized
We have more volunteer opportunities!!! Located in....

GEORGIA RESPONDS

We Protect Lives.
Medical Reserve Corps
Who are the MRCs?

The Medical Reserve Corps volunteers work with local partners to build strong, safe, resilient communities through preparedness, planning, and ongoing health activities.
Facts About Georgia MRCs

- Georgia currently has **18 MRC units**
- **110** counties currently have MRC units
- MRCs consist of both medical and non-medical volunteers
- MRCs participate in disaster mental health services, routine medical screenings, radiation training, immunizations, community preparedness activities, and more!
- Work toward bettering their local area’s public health infrastructure and strengthening response capabilities in event of emergency.
Georgia Volunteer Health Care Program
GVHCP
Georgia Volunteer Health Care Program (GVHCP): Origin and Mission

- The mission is to increase and promote access to quality health care by providing **Sovereign Immunity (SI)** protection to health care professionals, clinics, and corporations who treat uninsured individuals **at or below 200 percent** of the federal poverty level.

- House Bill 166 enacted in 2005 and amended in 2006 with House Bill 1224, created the “Health Share Volunteers in Medicine Act”, to increase access to quality health care and encourage volunteerism.
GVHCP: The Need

Population of Georgia: 9,620,000

Number of uninsured Georgians: 1,283,600
(age 0-64 up to 200% FPL)

Percentage of uninsured Georgians qualifying for GVHCP covered services: 13%

(Data from www.statehealthfacts.org accessed 4.5.14)
GVHCP is more than just a “band aid”. GVHCP partnering clinics take care of the people in local communities with basic primary care, and managing chronic illnesses and diseases that take lives. The clinics help defray cost of enormous E.D. bills that many patients could never pay for. The program saves hospitals money, and saves tax payers money.
GVHCP: Expanding our influence

- Develop access points
  - Clinic development and expansion
    - Free Standing, Mobile, Creative Models
  - Private providers
    - In office, phone consults, Telehealth/Telemedicine
GVHCP: Outside the Box

- Volunteers in Medicine” and “Volunteers in Dentistry” licenses are available for retired or out-of-state Physicians and Dentists through their licensing boards.

- CME/CEU offered by some licensing boards (1 hour for every 4 of service up to 10 every 2 years).

- Private corporations affiliated with the provider may also be protected.
GVHCP Statewide Impact

- 171,136 patient visits conducted FY 2013
- 99,930 hours contributed by licensed health care providers
- $24,880,452 in donated health care services
- $1,023,803 in services performed by non-licensed volunteers
- Increased access to affordable, quality health care in communities across the state
- Reduction in use of emergency rooms by patients needing primary care, thus reducing cost to tax payers
- Improved health outcomes as a result of timely access to care and prevention of disease progression
Who can Volunteer?

Volunteers of **ALL** skill levels and backgrounds are needed during an emergency response.

From a licensed and certified healthcare provider to a retired professional or someone who just wants to help— we need you!
Show Me the System!
What you will see when you visit Georgia Responds...

Welcome to Georgia Responds, Home of the Department of Public Health's Volunteers.

Effective medical response relies on volunteers. Volunteers need to be organized, pre-credentialed and ready to mobilize during both times of disaster and times of simple, clear community need. Whether you are a healthcare provider, administrative specialist, a retired professional - anyone ready to help in your community - Georgia needs you. Georgia Responds is the organization that serves as a gateway into Georgia's medical and volunteer health care programs. By signing up today, it's just a Click, Connect and Care away.

The State Emergency Registry of Volunteers in Georgia integrates government-sponsored local, regional and statewide volunteer programs to assist emergency response and public safety organizations during a disaster. It is part of a national initiative to coordinate and mobilize volunteers to respond to all types of emergencies.

Experience has proven that effective emergency response requires volunteers to be organized and pre-credentialed before a disaster or event occurs. This alleviates the issues associated with unqualified and unprepared volunteers.
Select your programs of interest

Registration

1. For the best experience, do not use the refresh, stop, back or forward buttons on the browser and only single-click buttons within a page.

2. An asterisk (*) indicates a required field. You will be alerted if the required information has not been entered.

3. For your security, all communications are encrypted and you will be logged out automatically if you are inactive for more than 20 minutes.

   We recommend Microsoft Internet Explorer for Windows (8.0 or newer), Mozilla Firefox for Mac or PC (3.5 or newer), Apple Safari for Mac or PC (5.0 or newer) or Google Chrome for Mac or PC (16.0 or newer) with JavaScript enabled and pop-up blocker turned off to use this site. Please see your browser’s help file for more information.

Volunteer Opportunities

* Are you interested in volunteering for the Georgia Volunteer Healthcare Program (GVHCP)? As a volunteer you will help increase access to healthcare for uninsured and underserved Georgians. Sovereign immunity (SI) is provided to licensed health and dental providers. During an emergency or disaster, your services may be requested, however you are not required to volunteer.

* Are you interested in volunteering to assist emergency response and public safety organizations (MRC, CERT, GNAS, etc) during a disaster? State Emergency Registry of Volunteers (SERVGA) allows you to affiliate with a variety of organizations that are dedicated to emergency preparedness. Volunteers are utilized during both non-emergencies and emergencies.

Account Information
Select A County...

Organizations

* Select your county unless you are already a member of an MRC:

Bibb

Select Organization

Account Information

Creating an account is the first step in the SERVGA registration process. You will use your account username and password each time you log into SERVGA.

* Username:

The username must be at least six (6) characters long and cannot contain spaces. Acceptable characters include alphanumeric (A-Z, 0-9) and the symbols @, _, and -. Usernames are not case sensitive.

* Password:

- Password must be 6 characters or longer
- Password must contain a number
- Password must contain a letter
- Confirmation password must match

* Confirm Password:

* Secret Question:

Select

* Secret Answer:

Volunteer Agreement

* Volunteer Agreement:

By checking this box, I indicate that I agree to the GVHCP Volunteer Agreement and/or the SERVGA Volunteer Agreement and have read and understand the Privacy Policy.
Select a Volunteer Opportunity Under Organizations - this can be a MRC, CERT, University, and More!!!

Organizations

* Select your county unless you are already a member of an MRC:

- Central Georgia Medical Reserve Corps
- College Preparedness Student Volunteers
- Disaster Mental Health Response Team
- GA Nurse Alert System
- GA Pharmacist Alert System
- Georgia Critical Incident Stress Foundation, Inc.
- Georgia Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps
- Macon-Bibb EMA Volunteer Group
- Refugees and Immigrants Ready to Serve GA

Select Organization

* Volunteer Agreement:

By checking this box, I indicate that I agree to the GVHCP Volunteer Agreement and/or the SERVGA Volunteer Agreement and have read and understand the Privacy Policy.
Congratulations you’re registered!

Congratulations, you are now registered for SERVGA.

Congratulations you are now a registered volunteer in Georgia Responds. Your initial registration for Georgia Responds is now complete. However, additional information is needed in order to make you eligible for potential deployments and/or volunteer opportunities. Please take the time to fill out all of the sections listed in your Profile Summary.

This message will appear each time you return to the Home page until your profile is complete.
Easy to Find Volunteers.. Put them in a Pending, Researching, or Accepted Status Manually…
Know their Affiliations Beforehand…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GA Nurse Alert System</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GVHCP</td>
<td>Pending</td>
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</table>
Over 150 ways to find volunteers...

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<tr>
<th>Identity Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>Driver's License Number:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Badge Number:</td>
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<th>Qualifications</th>
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<td>Dietetic Technician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>group100</td>
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<tr>
<td>group113</td>
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Groups are predefined populations generated by Administrators.

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<th>Unit Type:</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Status:</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Researching</td>
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I want to match • Any • All of the following:

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<tr>
<th>Units:</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GA Nurse Alert System</th>
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Units are predefined populations generated by SERVGA (e.g.,).

I want to match • Any • All of the following unit:

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<th>Account Information</th>
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<th>Deployment Preferences and Eligibility</th>
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<tr>
<th>Background Check</th>
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Privacy Policy | Help Center | Contact Us
Georgia Responds is the Street that the SERVGA APARTMENT is on.

- Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)
- Georgia Nurse Alert System (GNAS)
- Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)
- Georgia Volunteer Health Care Program (GVHCP)
- Health Districts
  - And your organization...
You take a good... you take a bad...you take em' both and there you have... the FACTS of Life!

YouTube - The Facts Of Life Intro
La Kieva Williams
Volunteer Director
Department of Public Health
Division of Health Protection
Section of Emergency Preparedness & Response
40 Pryor St, 1st FL
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-232-7821 (office)
404-736-8163 (cell)
LaKieva.Williams@dph.ga.gov
AFY 2016 & FY 2017 Budget Update

Kate Pfirman, CPA
Chief Financial Officer
Georgia Department of Public Health
FY2016
Total Budget: $632,796,369

- Federal Funds: $395,911,567 (63%)
- State General Funds: $209,159,883 (33%)
- Tobacco Funds: $13,717,860 (2%)
- Other Funds: $14,007,059 (2%)

Attached agencies not included
FY2017 Request

**PH Formula Grants to Counties** $1,388,991

Sixth-year phase-in for the general grant-in-aid formula to hold harmless all counties

**General Obligation Bonds** $5,456,000

- Clinical Billing Information Technology System $4,800,000
- Decatur Lab $656,000
## FY2017 State Funds

<table>
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<th>Public Health Programs</th>
<th>FY16 Budget</th>
<th>DPH Request</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>Administration</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Vital Records</td>
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<td>$3,786,253</td>
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</table>

| Public Health Programs | $209,159,883 | $1,388,991 | $210,548,874 |

| Attached Agency:                                               |             |             |         |
| Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission                        | $16,372,494 |             | $16,372,494 |

| Total State General Funds | $225,532,377 | $1,388,991 | $226,921,368 |

| Tobacco Settlement Funds                                       |             |             |         |
| Administration                                                | $131,795    |             | $131,795 |
| Adolescent & Adult Health Promotion                           | $6,857,179  |             | $6,857,179 |
| Adult Essential Health Treatment Services                     | $6,613,249  |             | $6,613,249 |
| Epidemiology                                                 | $115,637    |             | $115,637 |

| Total Tobacco Settlement Funds                               | $13,717,860 |             | $13,717,860 |
QUESTIONS?
Closing Comments

Phillip Williams, PhD
Chair
The next Board of Public Health meeting
is currently scheduled on
Tuesday, November 10, 2015 @ 1:00 PM.

To get added to the notification list for upcoming meetings, send
an e-mail to huriyyah.lewis@dph.ga.gov