



Northeast Central Ohio Region 5
REGIONAL WORKGROUP MEETINGS
January 16, 2008

PIO

Present: Kristi Kato, SCHD; Ray Herbst, Ashland CCHD; Kevin Grimm, Streetsboro FD; Tim Adams, SCHD; Jim Hubert, Tuscarawas Co. HD; Sarah Metzger, NECO Hospitals; Kathy Coleman, SCHD; Selby Dorgan, MORCHD; David Randall, MORCHD; Lynette Blasiman, Ravenna Health; Sarah Hallsky, Portage Co. Health Dept; Amanda Raines, PCHD Intern, Mary Ann McGuckin, AHD; Chris Partis, Akron HD; Susan Varnes, Wayne Co. HD

- Kristi reported that the PIO training with Bret Atkins was held in December and was well-received. Copies of the “Managing Your Message” video from the training are available by contacting Kristi.
- The group decided to hold a tabletop exercise prior to the JIC-in-the-Box. The tabletop will be held on February 27 at ARHA. Start time will be 9:30 and it is expected to last 2-3 hours.
- The group discussed objectives; Kristi will formalize them (i.e., make them SMART) and Tim will email them to the group, along with material that participants will need to bring.
- Facilitators, evaluators and observers are needed for the tabletop as well as the functional drill. A suggestion was made to use backup PIOs to participate in the drill to gain experience, while the more experienced PIOs can act as knowledgeable evaluators, facilitators, etc.
- Kristi will ask the Exercise Design Team for a volunteer agency to act as a SIM cell for the functional exercise.
- Team Speak vs. Skype was discussed. Team Speak is used by ODH; Tim and Kristi will discuss NECO PIOs ability to utilize the system with Bret Atkins on a conference call on January 31. In the meantime, group members are still encouraged to set up their Skype systems.
- Kristi reported that Bret Atkins suggested IS-250 training for PIOs. Tim will send a link to the training to those who are interested.
- Efforts continue toward involving faith-based organizations in pandemic preparedness activities. Suggestions on how to involve these groups are welcome. A suggestion was made to access these groups through local food banks.

The next meeting will be February 27 at 9:30 at ARHA (TABLETOP EXERCISE)