

RC/PIO News & Notes 4-21-2023



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News and Notes

Annual and quarterly statewide events are highlighted this week. There are some that overlapped and will unfortunately miss being spotlighted. There is also a Fulton County Board of Health Spring Conference being held today that should be among the updates for next week.

RRT Annual Meeting



The 2023 Rapid Response Team meeting was held Monday and Tuesday in Atlanta. The team was initially established in 2006 in response to an E. Coli outbreak which stemmed from contaminated spinach. Three years later the team responded to the largest recall in U.S. history involving peanut butter. This week the team gathered to review Incident Command System structure, and hear from speakers from Customs and Board Patrol, FDA, GDA and more.



SEHD Meeting

The Statewide Environmental Health Directors meeting was held in Atlanta this week featuring representatives from virtually every state and a number of U.S. territories. Not only did I learn many more details about their roles, but I also had the opportunity to co-present risk communication principles along with Vivi Siegel from CDC.



Statewide RC Meeting

Thanks to everyone who attended and contributed to a great exchange of information Wednesday at the annual Statewide DPH Risk Communicators meeting. We had 23 who attended representing 15 districts and the state. Archive requirements, training opportunities, and App usage were among the many topics addressed. Such meetings will likely be held quarterly going forward with an annual in-person meeting to be held about a year from now.



UASI Exercise Planning

The Atlanta Urban Area Security Initiative held a Mid Term Planning Meeting Thursday to prepare for a full scale exercise to be held in October. More than 400 participants from six jurisdictions are expected to take part. The specific scenario is still being developed, but is expected to involve law enforcement, fire, mass care and public information among other areas to be tested.



Next Week Preview

There are many events and activities in store for next week. One of note will be the annual NACCHO PREP Summit in Atlanta, Monday through Thursday.

About "News & Notes"

"News & Notes" is a weekly communication aimed at risk and public information officers within Georgia's 18 public health districts. The goal of the communication is to increase preparedness through the exchange of information about significant events, training and other planned activities. Some information herein may be considered FYUO or For Your Use Only. Please be judicious when forwarding. For questions, comments or to submit information for inclusion, contact Eric Jens at Eric.Jens@dph.ga.gov