



Uniformed Services University
of the Health Sciences
4301 Jones Bridge Road
Bethesda, MD 20814-4799

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Contact: Ken Frager

Voice: 301-295-3981 Cell: 240-281-2738

Email: kenneth.frager@usuhs.mil

News Release

NCDMPH Co-Sponsored Workshop Results in Candid Conversations Among Stakeholders

The National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health (NCDMPH) workshop with the Yale New Haven Health Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response and the Federal Education and Training Interagency Group from May 5-6, 2010 brought together federal and non-federal stakeholders for meaningful and candid discussions on four key areas of the disaster medicine and public health field.

“Building Consensus, Understanding and Capabilities,” the first of six planned Education and Training Needs for Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness Workshops, was intended to give the federal and non-federal groups the opportunity to engage each other on their latest operations. This goal was realized midway through the first day when the participants joined one of four breakout sessions: Workforce Learning Requirements and Needs, Disconnects and Barriers, Information and Communication, and Capabilities and Competencies.

Kenneth Schor, DO, MPH, acting director of the NCDMPH and facilitator for the Capabilities and Competencies session, said the breakout sessions, survey questions, discussions and presentations that occurred at the workshop were an effective means of sparking discussion.

“By bringing everyone together for an open and honest discussion of where we are and how far we need to go in improving the disaster medicine and public health field, it allows us to plan accordingly for how to proceed,” said Dr. Schor.

With an estimated 150 participants from federal programs, local and state departments, universities and professional organizations, the workshop also included key presentations from organizations on their latest findings and updates.

Additional updates and the recently released initial report and proceedings from the NCDMPH’s September workshop, are available at: <http://ncdmpm.usuhs.edu/NewsEvents/Pages/Home.aspx>

Located on the grounds of Bethesda’s National Naval Medical Center and across from the National Institutes of Health, USU is the nation’s federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing. The University educates health care professionals dedicated to career service in the Department of Defense and the U.S. Public Health Service. Medical students are active-duty uniformed officers in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Public Health Service who are being educated to deal with wartime casualties, natural disasters, emerging infectious diseases, and other public health emergencies. Of the University’s nearly 4,400 physician alumni and more than 400 advanced practice nurses, the vast majority serve on active duty and are supporting operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere, offering their leadership and expertise. The University also has graduate programs open to civilian and military applicants in biomedical sciences and public health committed to excellence in the didactic and research training which have awarded more than 300 Ph.D. and 100 M.S. degrees to date.

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