

ANNEX 8

ESF-8- HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES

PRIMARY: Department of Health and Environmental Control

SUPPORT: SC Governor's Office, Office of Veterans' Affairs; SC National Guard; SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Division of Professional and Occupational Licensing and Division of Fire and Life Safety; SC Law Enforcement Division; SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs; SC Department of Mental Health, Vocational Rehabilitation Department; SC Department of Education, Office of Transportation; SC Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services; SC Department of Corrections; SC Department of Transportation; SC Lieutenant's Governor's Office on Aging; SC Morticians Association; SC Funeral Directors Association; SC Coroners Association; SC Hospital Association; SC Medical Association; SC Pharmacy Association; American Red Cross; The Salvation Army, Southern Baptist Disaster Relief; SC Health Care Association; Leading Age Of South Carolina

I. INTRODUCTION

Health and medical services consist of resources (including transportation) temporarily realigned from established programs having coordination or direct service capability for the following:

- Medical Care
- Public Health and Sanitation
- Behavioral Health
- Deceased Identification and Mortuary Services

II. PURPOSE

- A. Organize the capability to provide medical care, public health and sanitation, behavioral health and mortuary services in disaster situations.
- B. Outline responsibility and policy established for health and medical operations before, during, and after a disaster.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

- A. The SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) is responsible for the coordination of all ESF-8 administrative, management, planning, training, preparedness/mitigation, response, and recovery activities to include developing, coordinating, and maintaining the ESF-8 SOP.
- B. ESF-8 supporting agencies will assist SCDHEC in the planning and execution of the above.

- C. ESF-8 will coordinate with all supporting and other appropriate departments/agencies and organizations to ensure operational readiness in time of emergency.
- D. ESF-8 personnel will be familiar with the National Response Framework for ESF-8 and the corresponding Annex with Federal counterpart concepts, actions and responsibilities. This familiarization will include but not be limited to the organization, structure, functions and responsibilities of the Incident Management Assistance Teams (IMAT) and the Joint Field Office (JFO).
- E. In coordination with and in support of the Counties, ESF-8 will assess the situation (both pre and post-event), and in coordination with local Emergency Management officials, develop strategies to respond to the emergency.
- F. ESF-8 will manage assistance in the following areas:
 - 1. Medical Care
 - a. Coordinate medical and dental care for affected populations and field operations.
 - b. Identify and coordinate the deployment of doctors, nurses, technicians, pharmacists and medical assets as needed to affected areas.
 - c. Maintain inventory lists of pharmaceuticals, supplies, equipment, licensed ambulance services, hospitals, and other licensed health care facilities.
 - d. Assist with the coordination of patient relocation and establishment of emergency medical care centers.
 - e. Ensure emergency provision of the State's governmental resources for health and medical care.
 - f. Facilitate and/or coordinate the provision of private resources for health and medical care for disaster victims.
 - g. Coordinate the supplementation and support to disrupted or overburdened local medical service personnel and facilities.
 - 2. Public Health and Sanitation
 - a. Coordinate the services, equipment, and staffing essential to protect the public from communicable diseases and contamination of food and water supplies.
 - b. Monitor the populations' health status, and environmental health complaints.

- c. Ensure continued guidance is provided to maintain and distribute safe food and water supplies.
 - d. Coordinate surveillance.
 - e. Coordinate disease investigations.
 - f. Coordinate epidemic control.
 - g. Coordinate immunization.
 - h. Coordinate laboratory testing.
 - i. Develop incident-specific public health messaging.
3. Behavioral Health
- a. Manage psychological first aid, crisis counseling and mental health behavioral health services under the direction of the SCDHEC and the SC Department of Mental Health (SCDMH), and in coordination with support agencies and Non-Governmental Organizations.
 - b. Coordinate behavioral health services to affected individuals, families, communities and responders.
 - c. Assist with the development of behavioral health risk communications and public messaging.
 - d. Distribute psycho-educational materials as needed.
 - e. Assist with referral to appropriate local, state and federal resources.
4. Deceased Identification and Mortuary Services
- a. Provide assistance at the request of the county government (county coroners' have overall responsibility for care, identification, and disposition of human remains within their jurisdiction).
 - b. Contact authoritative organizations, local government entities and county health officials to assess the magnitude of need, determine appropriate location for mortuary and temporary facilities and specify equipment or materials deemed necessary.
 - c. Coordinate security issues with ESF-13 (Law Enforcement).
 - d. Ensure the procurement of supplies and equipment (e.g. refrigeration units, body bags, stretchers, embalming supplies, transportation), as required to maintain appropriate condition of the

deceased until proper identification, notification and disposition can be determined.

- e. Coordinate the use of existing morgues and forensic personnel with State personnel and with dental/medical school personnel, as necessary.
- f. In the event a deceased victim has no surviving family or next-of-kin, coordinate through the appropriate County Coroner for a dignified burial provided by the local government with jurisdictional responsibility.
 - (1) The SC Office of Veterans Affairs will provide burial assistance to families of deceased veterans.
 - (2) SC Funeral Directors Association and SC Morticians Association will assist with family counseling.
- G. ESF-8 will coordinate with Federal ESF-8 to obtain federal assistance as required. Veterinary medical support is managed by State ESF-17 (Animal and Agricultural Emergency Response).

IV. ESF ACTIONS

A. Preparedness

1. General

- a. Develop mutual support relationships with professional associations and other private services and volunteer organizations that may assist during an emergency or disaster including special medical needs population and vulnerable populations' service agencies and advocacy groups.
- b. Participate in State exercises and conduct, at least annually, an ESF-8 exercise to validate this Annex and supporting SOPs.
- c. Ensure procedures are in place to document costs for any potential reimbursement.
- d. Provide an ESF-8 representative to the Recovery Task Force.

2. Medical Care

- a. Coordinate the provision of emergency medical and dental care for the affected populations.
- b. Identify and coordinate the deployment of doctors, nurses, technicians and other medical personnel to disaster areas.

- c. Maintain situational awareness of the availability of medical supplies, equipment, certification and levels of Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT), licensed ambulance services, hospitals, and other licensed health care facilities.
 - d. Plan for establishment of staging areas for medical personnel, equipment, and supplies.
 - e. Develop and maintain plans to implement the Medical Countermeasures Program to the SC Emergency Operations Plan (SCEOP).
 - f. When traditional health care facilities are not available, plan for establishment of alternate care sites.
 - g. Develop protocols and maintain liaison with elements of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS), to include Federal Coordinating Centers (FCC) in South Carolina, Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT), the National Pharmacy Response Teams (NPRT), the National Nurse Response Teams (NNRT), and the National Veterinary Response Teams (NVRT).
 - h. Develop protocols and maintain liaison with the Regional Medical Assistance Teams (RMAT).
 - i. Assist in the organization of a SC disaster medical capability, which can be deployed to a disaster area on short notice and provide emergency medical care in either a fixed facility or field environment.
 - j. Plan for requesting federal medical assistance teams and coordinate for their support while operating in South Carolina.
 - k. Ensure licensed health care facilities (e.g. - hospitals, nursing homes, and residential care facilities) develop evacuation plans and procedures.
 - l. Identify agencies, organizations, and individuals capable of providing support services or assistance such as the South Carolina Hospital Association, and the South Carolina Medical Association.
3. Public Health and Sanitation
- a. Develop procedures to protect the public from communicable diseases and contamination of food, water, and drug supplies (including veterinary drugs).
 - b. Develop procedures to monitor the public's health status.

- c. Provide technical assistance to the responsible party to support and maintain emergency sanitation inspection procedures and protocols to ensure acceptable conditions related to food and wastewater.
 - d. Develop procedures for identification of disease and epidemic control.
 - e. Develop emergency immunization procedures.
 - f. Identify laboratory testing facilities.
4. Behavioral Health
- a. Develop procedures for providing behavior health services to affected individuals, families, communities and responders.
 - b. Develop support relationships with government agencies, professional associations, the private sector and volunteer organizations to provide behavioral health during and after disasters.
5. Deceased Identification and Mortuary Services
- a. Develop plans for location, identification, registration, certification, removal and disposition of the deceased.
 - b. Establish a system for collecting and disseminating information regarding victims and have the operational capability to deliver the information in a field environment in coordination with ESF-15 (Public Information).
 - c. Develop protocols and maintain liaison with Disaster Mortuary Operational Readiness Teams (DMORT) of the NDMS.
 - d. Identify agencies, organizations, and individuals capable of providing support services for deceased identification including South Carolina Funeral Directors Disaster Committee, SC Morticians Association, and South Carolina Coroners Association.
 - e. Maintain a description of capabilities and procedures for alert, assembly and deployment of state mortuary assistance assets.
- B. Response
1. General
- a. Coordinate information releases to the public with the public information officer in ESF-15 (Public Information).
 - b. Coordinate with federal agencies as required.

- c. Through all phases of emergency management, maintain records of expenditures and resources used for possible later reimbursement.
2. Medical Care
- a. Coordinate the delivery of health and medical services including the provision of medical personnel, equipment, pharmaceuticals, and supplies.
 - b. Coordinate patient evacuation and relocation.
 - c. Coordinate and direct the activation and deployment of Emergency Medical Services agencies.
 - d. Implement Medical Countermeasures Program operations, as needed.
 - e. Arrange for NDMS services, to include patient evacuation assistance, DMAT, NPRT, NNRT and the NVRT, as needed.
 - f. Identify hospital and nursing home vacancies statewide.
3. Coordinate technical assistance with medical decontamination hazardous materials response.
4. Public Health and Sanitation
- a. Coordinate technical assistance to the responsible entities in their efforts to manage the public health and sanitation services.
 - b. Determine need for health surveillance programs throughout the state.
 - c. Determine the need to issue Public Health notices for clean up on private property if an imminent health hazard is declared.
5. Behavioral Health
- a. Coordinate behavioral health services to affected individuals, families, communities, and responders.
 - b. Implement Federal Crisis Counseling Programs to mitigate psychological distress in individuals, families, communities and responders.
6. Deceased Identification and Mortuary Services.
- a. Initiate the notification of teams for deceased identification.
 - b. Retain victim identification records.

- c. Coordinate DMORT services.
 - d. Coordinate State assistance for next-of-kin notification.
- C. Recovery
- 1. General
 - a. Anticipate and plan for arrival of, and coordination with, Federal ESF-8 personnel in the SEOC and the JFO and Federal Medical Stations (FMS).
 - b. Support long-term recovery priorities as identified by the Recovery Task Force.
 - 2. Medical Care
 - a. Coordinate the restoration of essential health and medical care systems.
 - b. Coordinate the restoration of permanent medical facilities to operational status.
 - c. Coordinate the restoration of pharmacy services to operational status.
 - d. Coordinate support for emergency medical services and medical care infrastructure until local system is self-supporting.
 - e. Coordinate emergency pharmacy and laboratory services.
 - 3. Public Health and Sanitation
 - a. Coordinate environmental and epidemiological surveillance.
 - b. Monitor long-term emergency environmental activities.
 - 4. Behavioral Health
 - Coordinate the continued provision of behavioral health services to affected individuals, families, communities and responders.
 - 5. Deceased Identification and Mortuary Services
 - a. Continue the operations necessary for the identification, registration, certification, and disposition of the deceased and their personal effects.
 - b. Receive the required death reports throughout the incident.

c. Provide a final fatality report.

D. Mitigation

1. Support and plan for mitigation measures including monitoring and updating mitigation actions in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan.
2. Review, evaluate and comment on proposed State Hazard Mitigation Plan amendments upon initiation and within the review period.
3. Support requests and directives from the Governor and/or federal agencies concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
4. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. General. ESF-8 lead and support agencies will identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF-8 during periods of activation.

B. SC Department of Health and Environmental Control

1. Identify, train, and assign SCDHEC personnel to staff ESF-8.
2. Provide an Emergency Management Coordinator or Alternate in the SEOC, designated by the Director, who, on the behalf of, or in the Director's absence from the SEOC, shall act to meet the public's health needs.
3. Develop mutual support relationships with professional associations and other private services and volunteer organizations that may assist during emergencies or disasters including special medical needs and vulnerable populations' service agencies and advocacy groups.
4. Coordinate and direct the activation and deployment of SCDHEC and volunteer health/medical personnel, and SCDHEC supplies, and equipment.
5. Develop and conduct drills and exercises which test the medical and behavioral health response to disaster situations.
6. Coordinate and direct the activation and deployment of Emergency Medical Services agencies.
7. Ensure licensed health care facilities (e.g. hospitals, nursing homes, residential care facilities, etc.) develop evacuation plans and procedures.

8. Coordinate waivers of rules and regulations regarding licensed health care facilities.
9. Maintain and provide a listing of licensed health care facilities including names of Administrators and 24-hour phone numbers, as appropriate.
10. Identify and provide bed capacity and availability status of all hospitals throughout the state.
11. In conjunction with SC Hospital Association, determine operational status of hospitals.
12. Coordinate nursing personnel, as available, to assist in shelters, tent cities, and public health clinics.
13. Monitor public health conditions.
14. Develop recommendations for the public to restrict consumption of water supplies in the event of contamination.
15. Implement isolation and quarantine procedures, as appropriate.
16. Coordinate deployment of volunteer doctors, nurses, behavioral health professionals, technicians and other medical personnel to disaster areas.
17. Maintain current inventories of medical supplies; pharmaceuticals; equipment; certification and levels of Emergency Medical Technicians; licensed ambulance services; and hospitals and other licensed health care facilities.
18. Develop protocols, maintain liaison with, and arrange for services of the NDMS, to include:
 - FCCs in South Carolina
 - DMAT
 - DMORT
 - NPRT
 - NNRT
 - NVRT
19. Develop rapidly deployable behavioral health teams.
20. Implement Medical Countermeasures Program operations as needed.
21. Plan for the deployment of Federal Medical Stations in SC, as needed.
22. Implement CHEMPACK operations as needed.

23. Provide food inspectors to assist in the inspection of restaurants and provide technical advice to mass feeding sites.

C. Governor's Office, Office of Veterans Affairs

1. Assist with deceased identification of veterans through medical and dental records and provide liaison to US Veterans Affairs, as required.
2. Assist with burial arrangements for families of deceased veterans.

D. South Carolina National Guard

1. Coordinate military assets that may be available.
2. Assist with patient evacuation (ground and air).
3. Identify potential temporary non-refrigerated morgue facilities.
4. Assist with security, equipment, facilities, and personnel to implement Medical Countermeasures Program operations.

E. SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

1. Division of Professional and Occupational Licensing

- a. Assist with temporary licensing of health care workers, including but not limited to behavioral health professionals.
- b. Provide lists of medical personnel including but not limited to doctors, nurses, and pharmacists.
- c. Coordinate waivers of rules and regulations regarding licensed health care workers.

2. Division of Fire and Life Safety

Identify potential temporary morgue facilities at the SC Fire Academy.

F. South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

1. Provide assistance for the collection or rapid transportation of samples for analysis.
2. Provide technical assistance, equipment, laboratory, and body location documentation services for deceased identification and mortuary services.
3. Provide chaplains to assist County Coroners, as requested, for death notification services and crisis intervention services for Law Enforcement Agencies within the State.

4. Assist with security to implement Medical Countermeasures Program operations.

G. SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs

1. Provide dental, nursing, and other disabilities and special needs personnel as available.
2. Provide accessible transportation assets, as available.

H. SC Department of Mental Health

1. Identify, train, and assign SCDMH personnel to staff ESF-8.
2. In coordination with SCDHEC, manage behavioral health services support within ESF-8.
3. Provide crisis and behavioral health counselors to facilitate response and recovery.
4. Provide nurses and other medical professionals as available.
5. Provide medical facilities, as available.
6. Identify resources to secure medication, as needed.
7. Develop Federal Crisis Counseling Programs for affected individuals, families, communities, and responders.

I. SC Vocational Rehabilitation Department

1. Provide crisis counseling personnel to facilitate recovery.
2. Provide accessible transportation assets.
3. Provide warehouse space for temporary storage of medical supplies.
4. Provide temporary alcohol and drug treatment bed space.

Provide resources the following resources, if available:

- Crisis counselors to staff emergency shelters
- Accessible vans and van drivers
- Alcohol and Drug treatment facilities

J. SC Department of Education, Office of Transportation

Provide ambulatory and non-ambulatory transportation for health and medical services as outlined in Annex 1-Transportation.

- K. SC Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services
Provide behavioral health counseling personnel and other substance abuse services.
- L. SC Department of Corrections
Provide refrigerated trucks in support of ESF-8 operations.
- M. SC Morticians Association
Provide mortuary services including personnel, supplies, equipment, transportation, and obtaining information from the families of deceased
- N. SC Funeral Directors Association
Provide mortuary services including personnel, supplies, equipment, transportation, and obtaining information from the families of deceased
- O. SC Coroners Association
Provide mortuary services including personnel, supplies, equipment, transportation, and obtaining information from the families of deceased.
- P. SC Hospital Association
1. Assist with identification of hospital bed information.
 2. Assist with determining operational status of hospitals.
 3. Assist in facilitating communications with hospitals.
- Q. SC Medical Association
Assist with acquisition of physicians for emergency operations.
- R. SC Pharmacy Association
1. Assist with acquisition of pharmacists for emergency operations.
 2. Assist with acquisition and distribution of pharmaceuticals for emergency operations.
 3. Coordinate appropriate storage of pharmaceuticals.
 4. Assist with alerts to community pharmacies.
- S. American Red Cross
1. Provide disaster health services personnel, as available.

2. Provide disaster mental health personnel, as available.
3. Manage the mental health response during an aviation disaster.

T. Southern Baptist Disaster Relief

Provide behavioral health services to affected individuals, families, communities, and responders.

U. The Salvation Army

Provide personnel trained in emotional and spiritual care as available.

V. SC Health Care Association

Prepare for and conduct operations in support of ESF-8.

W. Leading Age Of South Carolina

Prepare for and conduct operations in support of ESF-8

X. SC Lieutenant's Governor's Office on Aging

Prepare for and conduct operations in support of ESF-8.

VI. FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

- A. This Annex is supported by the National Response Framework for ESF-8 (Public Health and Medical Services).
- B. The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is responsible for directing Federal ESF-8 operations.
- C. Federal ESF-8 representatives will deploy with the IMAT to the SEOC or other designated location.