

PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.

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NEWS

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MEDIA ALERT AND PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

Hamilton County Public Health Practices Emergency Medicine Dispensing

HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO – Hamilton County Public Health will practice emergency dispensing of medicines Friday, November 16, 8-10 a.m. at LaSalle High School, 3091 North Bend Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45239.

"Points of Dispensing (PODs) are centralized locations used during incidents like man-made or natural disasters," says Dave Nutini, Hamilton County Public Health coordinator of emergency preparedness. "If we need to dispense medication or vaccines to the public on short notice, we have this POD structure in place to provide access to the community from a variety of familiar, convenient locations. This exercise allows us to test and make sure our vital system of dispensing is efficient, effective and ready for any potential need."

Students will receive cards detailing various symptoms they will role play for the exercise. The goal is to practice getting medication to large numbers of people in a short time. The exercise also allows Hamilton County, Green Township and Medical Reserve Corps volunteers to practice POD set-up and coordination.

"We practice these efforts regularly so that if the need arises, we can jump into action and flawlessly perform potentially lifesaving acts," Nutini says. "We're always

NEWS



looking for volunteers, especially for our Medical Reserve Corps, and these regular practice sessions keep everyone sharp and ready."

Members of the working media will be allowed access to the entire exercise area. Student and volunteer photo releases are already in place.

Hamilton County Public Health works to assure the 470,000 citizens living outside the cities of Cincinnati, Norwood, Sharonville and Springdale are safe from disease, injury and contamination.

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