

Preparedness Starts With You

A Message from
Hamilton County Public Health

Preparedness

Starts With You



**HAMILTON COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH**

Be Prepared. Be Aware. Volunteer.

www.hamiltoncountyhealth.org

513.946.7889

Be prepared

1

Build your individual and family emergency plans.

A number of Hamilton County government agencies are working to prepare for emergencies such as floods, tornadoes, chemical spills, bioterrorism threats, a flu pandemic and communicable disease outbreaks. However, government and service agencies cannot meet this challenge alone. Every organization, employer and individual needs to be involved in preparedness activities, including businesses, schools, daycare centers and

families. An informed and prepared public can cope with emergencies better and take appropriate actions to decrease risk during an emergency. This is a good time for everyone to start working on (or revisit) their own emergency plans whether they are a large corporation or a small family.



For more information, visit www.hamiltoncountyhealth.org.

Be Aware

During recent months, Hamilton County Public Health has worked with your city, village or township to develop a plan



that would utilize familiar local places as Points of Dispensing (PODs) should the need for mass medication distribution arise during a public health emergency. By utilizing many sites such as schools, churches and community buildings, the population will be spread out to a large number of locations close to home, alleviating possible traffic congestion and reducing the need to travel far. Communities may choose to keep these locations confidential until an actual event for security purposes. It will be imperative that residents pay attention to local media reports and community alerts for instructions.

2

During an actual emergency, you will need to: listen to the media, visit www.hamiltoncountyhealth.org or follow community direction to know where to go.

3

Volunteer!

Are you willing to serve your community and neighbors in the event of an emergency?

Hamilton County Public Health is looking for people to assist with Points of Dispensing (POD) in the event of a public health emergency. The federal government requires public health agencies to ensure that civilian populations have timely access to antibiotics or vaccines in the event of future outbreaks, such as a bioterrorism attack or pandemic flu outbreak. A POD is a location where medications or vaccines will be distributed. It will be opened if many people within our community have been exposed to an infection that may make them sick and disease from that infection can be prevented by antibiotics or a vaccine. In order to reduce travel, wait time and provide a familiar location Hamilton County will have many community-level PODs. All volunteers will be among the first to receive antibiotics/vaccines for themselves and their immediate family without waiting in line at a POD. Each person at the POD will have a specific and limited job such as handling paperwork, directing lines, answering questions or administering vaccines for an 8 - 12 hour time slot. Time commitment will be minimal for orientation and training exercises. Both medical and non-medical volunteers are needed. All volunteers will be trained thoroughly by our staff.

Volunteers Make the Difference!

Visit www.hamiltoncountyhealth.org to sign up or call 513.946.7889.



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