



## Disaster Medical Coalition

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**"We all have a piece of the puzzle!"**

# DISASTER CONNECTION

June 2016

*The Coalition wishes to express its heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of those who lost their lives at Pulse in Orlando on June 13. We salute all those who responded to the attack, the deadliest mass shooting event in U.S. history. The Coalition stands ready and continues to provide resources to the City of Orlando and Orange County as we transition from response to recovery.*

## 2016 Provides Learning Opportunities

The first six months of 2016 have been challenging but have provided many learning opportunities to the Coalition and its members. These include:

January through May - ICAR Project (Infection Control & Response). The Coalition provided two frontline hospital training programs, completed eight assessment hospital site visits and 25 frontline hospital site visits, completed an inventory of EMS capabilities, drafted a resource coordination plan, partnered with DOH-Orange to host a highly infectious disease tabletop, and met with coalition stakeholders to identify priorities to closing gaps in responding to highly infectious diseases.

ICAR Stakeholder Meeting



March - Annual Regional Hospital Exercise: The School Daze exercise participants included the Coalition, fifteen

hospitals and the VA, and more than 600 students as victim volunteers to test medical surge capabilities. Burger King and the Salvation Army partnered with the Coalition to provide feed the victim volunteers.



## Learning Opportunities - Continued:

**May Invictus Games in Orlando.** The State Medical Response Team 5 regularly partners with local entities to provide support at mass gatherings to augment local capabilities, such as the Disney marathons, Daytona 500, airshows, etc. The Reedy Creek Fire Rescue invited SMRT 5 to be on standby to provide medical surge (including triage and transport) in the event of a mass casualty during the Invictus Games. During this five day event, more than 500 Paralympic athletes from 15 nations competed at the Walt Disney ESPN Wide World of Sports complex. Dignitaries included Prince Harry, President George Bush, Vice President Joe Biden and First Lady Michelle Obama. Pictured: SMRT team members with Orlando Mayor Theresa Jacobs; Prince Harry and friend



May 15 to 18 - 17 Coalition Members provided exercise evaluation at the Region 1 exercise.

Region 1 Exercise  
Evaluation Team



## June Coalition Meeting

Please join us at the June 23 Coalition meeting, schedule from 9 to noon at the DOH Bill Posey Conference Center, 2555 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera, Florida. The agenda includes a briefing on the Orlando mass shooting, a look back at accomplishments over the past year, and a look ahead at the coming year, including an exercise to identify member priorities. For an agenda, contact [info@centralfladisaster.org](mailto:info@centralfladisaster.org).

## Member Updates

The Coalition currently has 263 members from 128 organizations. The Coalition continuously recruits new members through its existing members, the website, and through conferences. Coalition members represented all Florida healthcare coalitions at the June Family Café conference in Orlando which provided more than 10,000 individuals with disabilities and their families an opportunity for collaboration, advocacy, friendship and empowerment.

New Member organizations include:

- \*Premise Health
- \*St. Lucie Fire District
- \*Crisis Response Team of Volusia/Flagler
- \*Cathedral Rehabilitation Counseling Graduate Program
- \*Orange County Communications Auxiliary Foundation, Inc.
- \*Florida Hospital Medical Group
- \*Health Central
- \*Health South Rehab Hospital at Martin Health
- \*First 2 Aid



Opal Calhoun & Lynda W.G. Mason

For a listing of all Member organizations, visit the website at [www.centralfladisaster.org](http://www.centralfladisaster.org)