

PUBLIC HEALTH, HEALTHCARE, AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PARTNER TO PROVIDE THE RIGHT CARE AT THE RIGHT TIME IN THE RIGHT PLACE

CDC's Healthcare Preparedness Activity (HPA) supports ASPR's HPP mission by fostering community partnerships between public health, healthcare, and emergency management organizations. Such partnerships, forged by HPA community-level workshops, enable local healthcare providers to better care for patients during emergencies. Through HPA-led workshops, community partners develop real-world tools to prepare for medical surge, but more importantly, these partners build relationships to ensure their organizations work together in times of crisis. For example, HPA conducted a partnership workshop in Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, in 2008 to improve pandemic influenza preparedness. When the H1N1 influenza pandemic struck the nation less than a year later, partners within Champaign-Urbana Public Health District (CUPHD) worked together to improve influenza vaccination rates through connections and relationships developed during the HPA-led workshop. CUPHD staff, volunteers, and partner organizations mobilized more than 53,000 residents to provide "community immunity" by being vaccinated against H1N1.

The success of HPA's workshops is demonstrated by demand far exceeding supply – 30 communities applied for the one rural workshop HPA is able to provide in 2013. To help meet planning needs, HPA is developing a Community Healthcare Planning Framework tool that communities can use to conduct healthcare surge planning. Since its creation in 2006, HPA has supported public health, healthcare, and emergency management working together to safely deliver the right care at the right time and in the right place.

