

Questions for VCHA / EMAC Awareness Initial Survey of Members Jan 2019

“The Association EMAC is directed towards enhancing disaster management and emergency response support, at the local, regional, and state levels, for health centers.”

“The purpose of the Association’s statewide Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) is to provide for the systematic mobilization, deployment, organization, and management of resources to assist local health centers in a major fire, disaster or other major emergency.”

Please answer the following, for your organization:

Our management staff is familiar with the VCHA EMAC.

19% YES 46% NO 35% Somewhat

Comment section: ***We want to raise that “Yes” response rate today !***

We know our responsibilities regarding the VCHA EMAC.

19% YES 42% NO 39% Somewhat

Comment section: ***We want to raise that “Yes” response rate today !***

We have developed a process or procedure to access the VCHA EMAC, or respond to a request, if and when necessary.

19% YES 54% NO 27% Somewhat

Comment section: ***We want to raise that “Yes” response rate today !***

We are working with local or regional emergency responders (police, fire, EMS, emergency management, and/or haz-mat), regarding emergency/disaster planning.

42% YES 15% NO 43% Somewhat

Comment section: ***That’s good. You don’t have to do all these things, at every facility. What you do is relative to your operations and resources, and the available services and resources in the community you serve.***

We are working with a local or regional VDH District -- Emergency Planner.

35% YES 42% NO 23% Somewhat

Comment section: ***Good, but we want to raise that “Yes” response rate today ! This may also be relative to your local VDH office and its management and resources. Planning and expertise are what you’re looking for here.***

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/roanoke/emergency-preparedness-and-response/>

We are working with one of six regional hospital preparedness groups for emergency planning.

31% YES 54% NO 15% Somewhat

Comment section: ***What can be achieved may be limited by the local group's resources and by hospitals in their service area. Training, resources, and communications are what you're looking for here. They have mobile resources all over the state.***

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-preparedness/hospital-healthcare-preparedness/>

We are part of an emergency plan and participate in the emergency exercises of a local jurisdiction, VDH District, or hospital.

38% YES 35% NO 27% Somewhat

Comment section: ***That's good, but we want to raise that "Yes" response rate today ! Inclusion will afford you expertise, resources, training, and unintended benefits, such as good will and a lower cost of fulfilling emergency preparedness requirements.***

We have developed procedures for communications during emergencies.

73% YES 0% NO 27% Somewhat

Comment section: ***That's good, but we want to raise that "Yes" response rate today ! Communications are important in day-to-day operations, and they are critical, focused, and efficient during emergencies. ICS can help. Technology is only a close second to planning.***

<https://smallbusiness.chron.com/emergency-communication-procedures-75649.html>

We have 2 or more means of communications during disasters and emergencies.

69% YES 19% NO 12% Somewhat

Comment section: ***How many conveyances do we have for communications these days ? Focus first on the most primitive (fail-safe), then layer on technology.***

<http://www.nationalterroralert.com/communications/>

We participate in the Virginia Hospital Alerting and Status System (VHASS).

27% YES 65% NO 8% Somewhat

Comment section: ***A statewide, regional, and local resource that you can have for free. Event notices, status of facilities, bed counts, and resources at your fingertips.***

<http://info.vhha-mci.org/>

We participate in the Virginia WebEOC and/or Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC) emergency communications systems.

12% YES 77% NO 12% Somewhat

Comment section: ***A statewide, regional, and local resource that you can have for free. Events, status of facilities, responses, resources, and requests, in real time. Two-way communications online. Used by the Virginia Fusion Center.***

We have conducted a “hazard vulnerability assessment”, with an all-hazards approach, for our facility.

65% YES 8% NO 27% Somewhat

Comment section: ***That’s good, but you don’t want to do a “partial” HVA. Neither do you have to consider every possibility. Work with local jurisdiction to determine what hazards are likely. <https://www.calhospitalprepare.org/hazard-vulnerability-analysis>***

We have developed a Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), utilizing an all-hazards approach, for our facility.

77% YES 8% NO 15% Somewhat

Comment section: ***This is very good ! (should be 100 % though ...)***

Our staff has been trained to utilize the Incident Command System (ICS) or the Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) for emergency response.

27% YES 42% NO 31% Somewhat

Comment section: ***What does “somewhat” mean to you ? Just the upper echelons of ICS can be utilized, but it’s usually “implemented” or “not implemented”. “Implemented” can be either not used in “normal” business or “used” only during emergencies. Better if used every day, in many ways. Having part of your staff learn “ICS” is like having them learn Latin ! Focused, efficient, more precise communication and management methodology.***

We have developed emergency response plans for pandemic flu, internal hostage emergency, abduction, and natural disasters, such as flooding, high wind, and power outage.

58% YES 8% NO 34% Somewhat

Comment section: ***This means one-third of you are in-process. If you have any exposure to any of these emergencies, then “Git’er done !”. Possibility vs. Probability vs. Timing, and usually the best you can do is manage mitigation and response !***

We keep and maintain a surplus of medical supplies and equipment, especially for emergencies and disasters.

23% YES 35% NO 42% Somewhat

Comment section: ***This can be difficult, scenarios in your HVA may call for different supplies ! The planning and process of figuring this out can provide many benefits.***

We have the capability of transporting medical supplies, staff, and medical equipment to anywhere in Virginia.

27% YES 58% NO 15% Somewhat

Comment section: ***This may not be common, but can arrangements be made locally and ahead of time ?***

We have emergency power generation and a patent water supply, during a power outage.

46% YES 12% NO 42% Somewhat

Comment section: ***Without power, water, sanitation, or HVAC, your decision will be simplified—you will have to close. We tend to take these essential environmental controls for granted, until we don't have them !***