

Department of State Health Services
Health Service Region 1
Public Health Emergency Preparedness
(PHEP)

Volunteers...the lifeblood of the community!



Regional Staff:

Lubbock: 806-744-3577

Regional Medical Director:
Peter W. Pendergrass, MD, MPH

Deputy Regional Director:
Deborah A. Evans

PHEP Program Manager:
Kelly Northcott, BS

Program Specialist IV:
Sandra Perez

Administrative Assistant II:
Vacant

Program Specialist III:
Roy Ramos (Bailey, Briscoe, Castro, Cochran, Hockley, Lamb, Parmer, Swisher)

Program Specialist III:
Liz Broadstreet, M.Ed (Hale, Floyd, Motley, Crosby, Dickens, King, Garza)

Canyon: (806)655-7151

Program Specialist IV:
Jordan Coulson, RN, BA
SNS Coordinator (Dallam, Deaf Smith, Hartley, Moore, Oldham, Sherman)

Program Specialist III:
William McDowell, BA
(Hansford, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Roberts, Wheeler)

Program Specialist III:
Rick Tull, BS
Chempack Coordinator & SNS Assistant Coordinator (Armstrong, Carson, Childress, Collingsworth, Donley, Gray, Hall)

**2013 Texas
Emergency Management
Conference**

Each year, the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) hosts this premier event, which brings together thousands of both public and private partners in emergency management from across the state.

This conference provides the opportunity to exchange best practices and build on ideas in which progress can be made. Leaders meet face to face and talk about water conservation, severe drought, wild land fire response and recovery, and other important issues that have changed the way we do business.....

Nim Kidd, CEM

Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Epidemiology staff

from Region 1 had the opportunity to attend the TDEM conference held in San Antonio, March 25-28. Not only did they gain new knowledge, but they were given the opportunity to strengthen friendships and relationships. Pictured below, Roy Ramos and Laura Connell enjoy dinner with Dumas Emergency Management Coordinators.



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On April 2, during one of the Texas State Guard's (TSG) weekend drills, Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) staff conducted a Receiving, Staging and Storage (RSS) Training. TSG Units from both Lubbock and Amarillo participated. Rick Tull conducted the classroom portion of the RSS training.



Mandated 5-year Strategic National Stockpile Dispensing/Distribution Region-wide Exercise

In order to obtain credit for the mandated 5 year Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) exercise, a multi-operational period, multi-venue dispensing exercise designed to test different Point of Dispensing (POD) modalities, from open to closed, volunteer and responder PODs were conducted beginning May 7th.

Both **Lubbock and Canyon Department of State Health Services (DSHS)** offices tested the ability of the PHEP staff to provide prophylaxis to Health Service Region 1 (HSR 1) staff against an anthrax re-release, as well as, to test the efficacy of Just-In-Time Training.



HSR 1 staff waiting in line for the next station



HSR 1 staff entering the POD



HSR 1 Medical Director, Dr. Pendergrass, getting his consent form reviewed



HSR 1 staff completing required forms



HSR 1 staff in the dispensing station

United States Postal Service (USPS) Biohazard Detection System (BDS) Lubbock Exercise

On May 7th, DSHS partnered with USPS Lubbock and Amarillo bioterrorism exercise. A simulated BDS alarm alerted postal workers of a possible anthrax threat. USPS protocols were initiated consisting of evacuation, headcount, and perimeter control. Also participating was Lubbock and Amarillo Fire Departments providing decontamination of USPS personnel. This full-scale exercise was included in our 5-year SNS requirement.



Hall County

As part of our Region's 5 year emergency preparedness plan and the working partnership with Hall County, a full scale POD exercise was conducted on May 18 in Memphis, Texas (Memphis High School). The exercise gave Hall County officials a firsthand look at their readiness in opening and maintaining operations for a POD Site and to make sure it can be done in a safe and efficient way. Participants received basic knowledge of how to setup a POD site, then divided into groups to demonstrate their new knowledge of PODs by drawing out a plan followed by the actual setup at Memphis High School Gym into a POD site.



Social Media 101

Social media is the oldest form of communication (word of mouth), but technology makes it faster and more powerful. With the erosion of print media, came the surge of “new media” such as Craigslist in 1995, and Google News in 2001. These were followed by Facebook in 2004, You Tube and Reddit in 2005, Twitter in 2006, Tumblr in 2007, and Pinterest 2010. These forms of social media are all fast, direct and transparent and are being used in homes, businesses and government.



National Weather Service and Social Media

Web Page weather.gov/ (city name)

Facebook www.facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Lubbock.gov

Twitter NWS Norman @NWSNorman

YouTube www.youtube.com/user/TheWeatherChannel

National Weather Preparedness Week in March promoted the importance of weather radios, vehicle safety rules and urgent life-saving information with the help of Twitter, Facebook and YouTube. Below is an example.

**Wednesday
March 6th
Social Media
Tornado Drill**

When a tornado is threatening your area, we need YOUR help to spread the word. Facebook and Twitter are powerful tools to let your friends and family know about dangerous weather.

When this was an actual tornado, that share or retweet could literally save someone's life!

Let's see how many people we can reach!

We'll post a special tornado drill message on Facebook and Twitter later this afternoon

When you see it, like it, share it and retweet it!

National Weather Service
Norman, Oklahoma
weather.gov/norman

NATIONAL SEVERE WEATHER PREPAREDNESS WEEK
March 3 - 9, 2013

FEMA

Training Modules and Presentations Available upon Request

- Point of Dispensing: POD
- Family Emergency Preparedness
- Nutrition in Preparedness
- PHEP/EPI — Who are we?
- Shelter-In-Place

Welcome to our new staff. . . .



William McDowell

William is our Program Specialist III and joined the Canyon PHEP team on March 1st. Originally from Texas, William served 20 years in the U.S. Navy as a Fleet Marine Force Hospital Corpsman. He graduated from Thomas Edison State University with a Bachelor's degree in Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness. William is married to Christine and has two children, Dalton and Emma. He enjoys just about any outdoor activity.