

# Functional Needs Support and Deployment

2011 National UASI and Homeland Security Conference

Medical Track Session Two



### **Moderator:**

Renee Cartier, Stanislaus County Dept of Public Health

### Speakers:

Rebecca Ciszek, American Red Cross Kristin Beck, SEPA Regional Task Force Robyn Slater, SEPA Regional Task Force Chad Thomas, SEPA Regional Task Force

# **OVERVIEW**

This session summarizes selected functional needs support practices. Presenters will demonstrate their collaborative efforts for implementing strategies to accommodate functional needs and share their expertise in extensive large scale medical response system planning and exercising with emphases in special populations, public information and public health.

### SESSION OBJECTIVES

- Provide information about multi-state and regional public health preparedness initiatives.
- Share lessons learned
- Present best practices for MRC units
- Provide information about the successes and challenges reaching vulnerable populations





Renee Cartier Emergency Manager Stanislaus County Public Health

Rebecca Ciszek Regional Manager Stanislaus American Red Cross Capitol Region

# FACILITY USE ASSESSMENTS: A MULTI-AGENCY COOPERATIVE EFFORT

### OBJECTIVES

- Describe historical activities
- Describe establishment of Facility Use Collaborative and defined goals and processes
- Describe training, use, and maintenance of tool
- Discuss strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities

### HISTORY

### 2007

 Assembled over 40 agencies representing functional needs population establishing "Special Pops" Planning Committee

### 2008

- Richard Devylder, Special Advisor to the Director of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and Lead to the Office of Access and Functional Needs Seminar
- Proposal to Operational Area Council (OAC)

### OAC PROPOSAL

- Identify team participants and develop a facility site evaluation survey
- Define roles and responsibilities for each agency
- Develop policies and procedures
- Develop and establish MOUs for agencies and facilities

### OAC PROPOSAL

- Facility Uses:
  - Government-operated alternate care sites
  - Cooling/Heating Centers
  - General population shelters
  - Mass prophylaxis distribution (POD)
  - Special needs (Medical) shelter
  - Safe schools

### OAC PROPOSAL

- Provides a systematic approach to facility evaluations that addresses participating agency needs
- Streamlines and maximizes efficiencies, non-duplication of effort
- Furnishes centralized information and access
- Enhances partnerships and collaboration

Representatives from American Red Cross, Disability Resources Agency for Independent Living (DRAIL), Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources, Community Services Agency, Office of Emergency Services, Animal Services, Office of Education, and Public Health

- Samples of existing assessments collected and compiled (i.e. DOJ, FEMA, CDC, multiple jurisdictions, polling assessment) and a final assessment form developed
- Samples of MOU's collected and agency roles and responsibilities defined.
- Assessment coordinator appointed.

- Each agency volunteered staff to perform site assessments, resulting in over 30 participants
- Two trainings conducted
- Coordinator orchestrated the site evaluations utilizing trained teams
- Community Services Agency collected assessments and input data

### TRAINING

- Training staff to perform assessments is one of the most critical areas to ensure completeness and accuracy.
- These staff are considered team leaders, coordinating members during the assessment process.
- American Red Cross and Coordinator provided hands-on training.

### TRAINING

- The following resources were used during the training process:
  - United States Department of Justice's ADA Checklist for Emergency Shelters.
  - Accessibility FAQ's
  - Stanislaus County ADA Glossary and Symbol Key
  - Stanislaus Collaborative Facility Resource Survey for Field Completion

### TRAINING

- Assemble assessment kits containing the following inventory:
  - (1) 25' measuring tape
  - (1) 100" tape measure
  - (1) 1000' measuring wheel
  - (1) Craftsman digital measure with soft case
  - (1) 19" Denier nylon fabric tool bag
  - (1) Plastic clipboard
  - Pencils, pens, and assessment forms

### COORDINATOR DUTIES

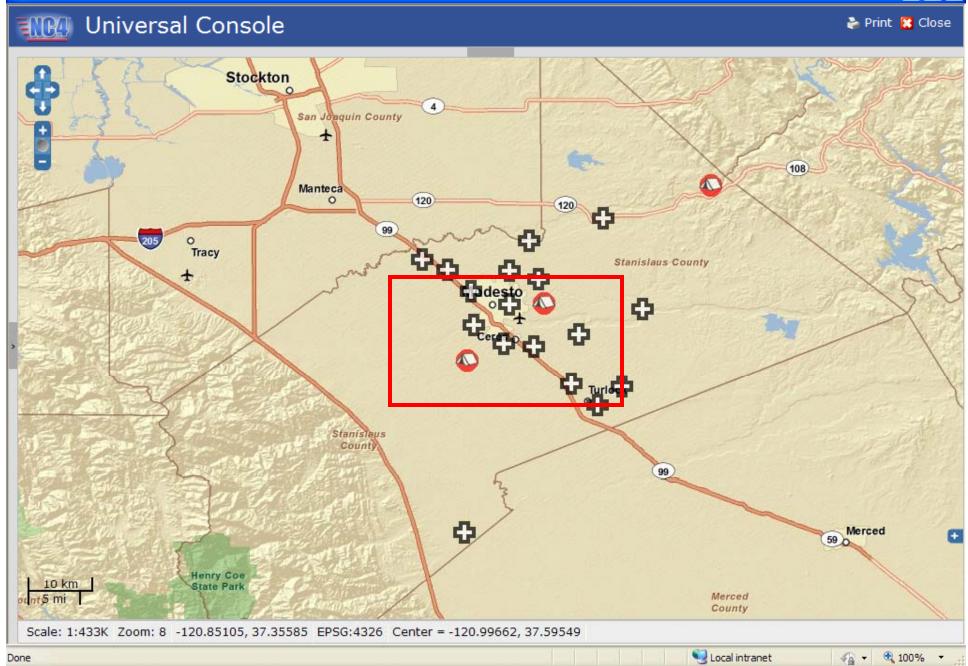
- Collaborated with County Office of Education and local school district superintendents.
- Trained assessment teams.
- Made initial contact with 90+ sites.
- Scheduled assessments and teams.
- Quality assurance.

# FACILITY RESOURCE SURVEY

- Components
  - Facility Pre-Assessment Questionnaire
  - Stanislaus County ADA Glossary and Drafting Symbol Key
  - Site Assessment Worksheet
  - Resource Survey for Field Completion
  - Facility Resource Diagram
  - Facility Evaluation Form
  - See PDF's

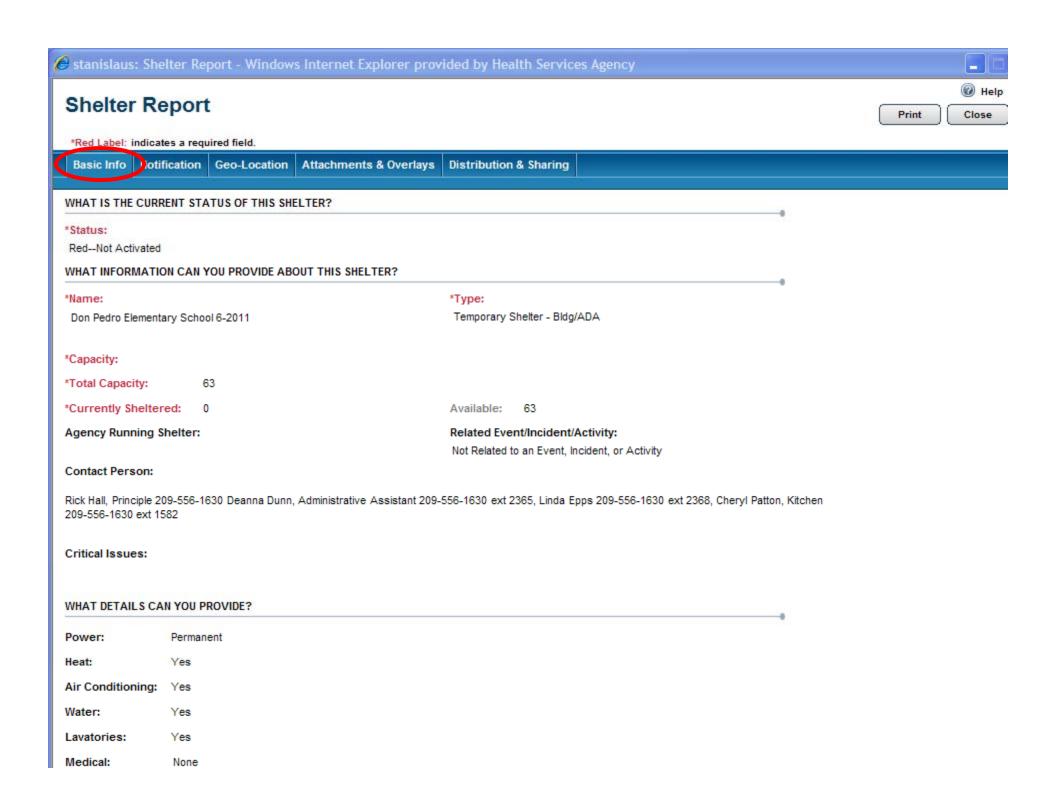
# DATA MAINTENANCE AND ACCESS











#### 🌈 stanislaus: Shelter Report - Windows Internet Explorer provided by Health Services Agency



#### W Help

Close

Print

#### **Shelter Report**

\*Red Label: indicates a required field.

Basic Info

Notification (Geo-Location) Attachments & Overlays

**Distribution & Sharing** 

#### **GEO LOCATION & MAPPING**

Site Name

Site Type

Don Pedro Elementary School

Elementary School

Street Address

Apt or Lot No.:

2300 Don Pedro Road

City

State

Zip

Ceres

CA

95307

Intersection - Street 1

Intersection - Street 2

Don Pedro Road

Central Avenue

County

Geographic Area (Region, District, Campus, etc).

Stanislaus

Ceres

Country

Additional Location Information

Show on Map? Geo Located By Latitude

Longitude

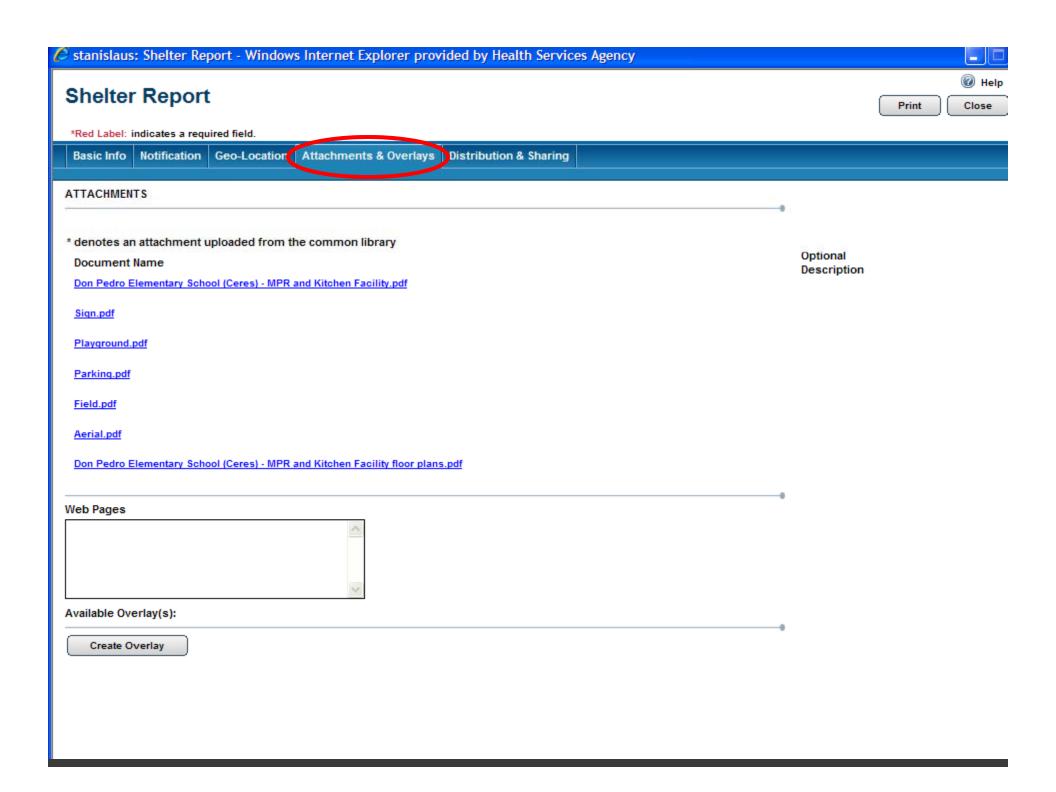
Yes

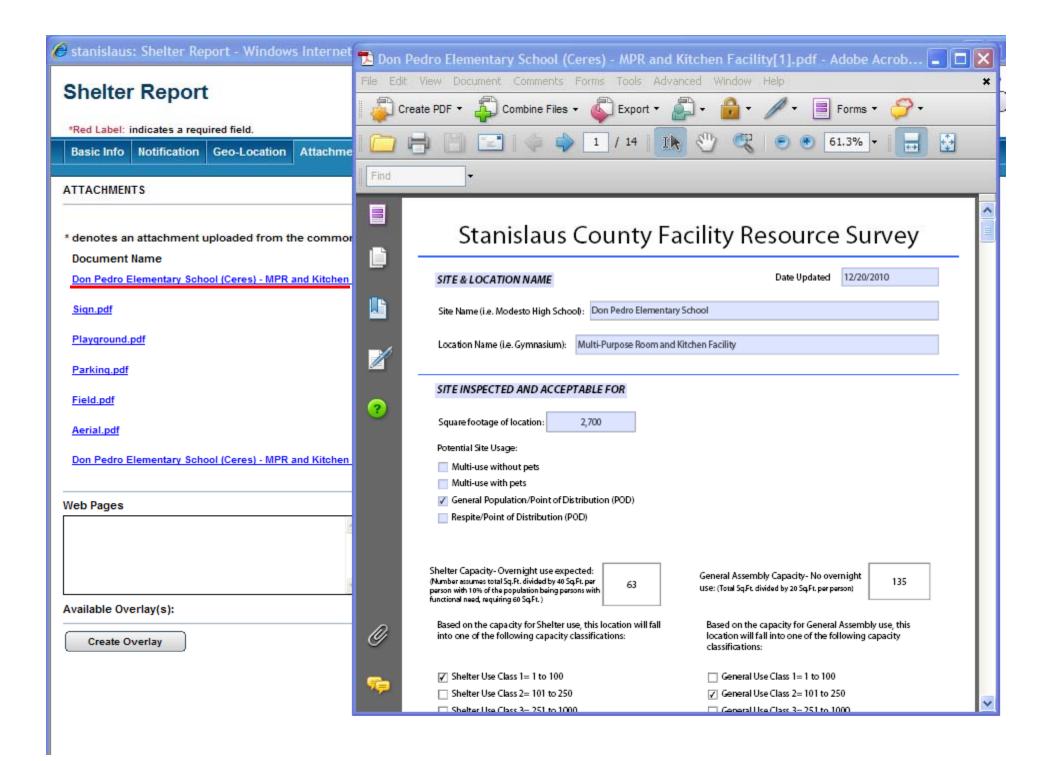
byMap

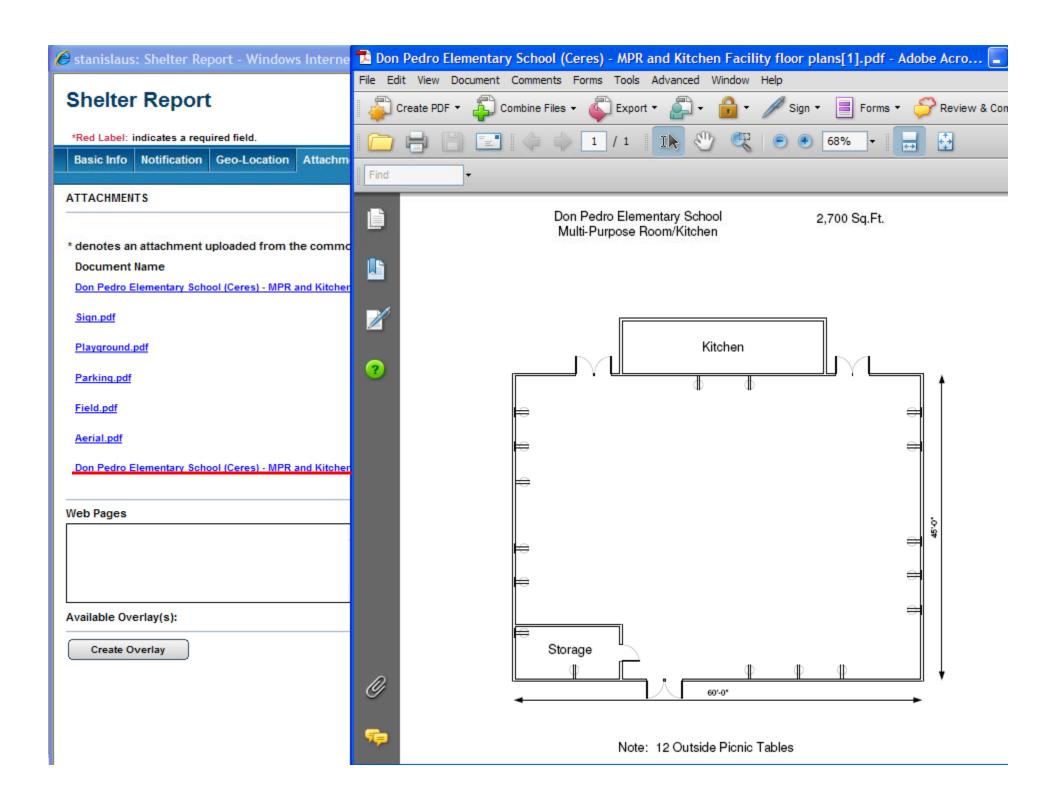
37.582510519676

-120.95538242924

Display on Map







### Considerations

- No funding, no budget, all in-kind support (except for approximately \$250 toward measurement tools from MMRS budget)
- Discovered functional need resources through Registrar (Elections) via DRAIL
- Finalized Assessment Tool within four months

### Considerations

- Trained 30+ staff to perform assessments
- Completed 90+ school site assessments within three months
- Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors approved American Red Cross/County MOU in 2010
- On-going assessments of nongovernmental facilities

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Renee Cartier

**Emergency Manager** 

Stanislaus County Department of Public Health

209-558-7035

rcartier@schsa.org

www.schsa.org/PublicHealth

**Emergency Preparedness** 

Rebecca Ciszek

Regional Manager Stanislaus

American Red Cross Capitol Region

209-523-6451

CiszekR@usa.redcross.org

www.redcrosscrc.org

# Philadelphia UASI: Regional Collaboration in Public Health Preparedness

### Kristin Beck

Medical Reserve Coordinator

Public Health Management Corporation

### Robyn Slater, MPH

Community Outreach Coordinator
Public Health Management Corporation

### Chad Thomas, MPH

Communications Outreach Coordinator
Philadelphia Department of Public Health



# Objectives

- Overview of Philadelphia UASI
- Public Health Planning
- Regional Planning-Functional Needs
   Subcommittee
- Vulnerable Populations Activities
- Medical Reserve Corps
- Overall challenges and successes

# Philadelphia UASI

- 4 states/ 12 counties (5.8 million people)
  - Pennsylvania (3.8 million people)
    - Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia
  - New Jersey
    - Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem
  - Delaware
    - New Castle
  - Maryland
    - Cecil

# Regional Public Health Planning

- Regional mass medication distribution
  - Strategic National Stockpile
  - Non-SNS outbreaks
- Epidemiological Information sharing
- Public Information
- Development of Guidelines
- Coordination with non-public health agencies
  - EMAs, Hospitals, First Responders

# Targeted Audience

- Vulnerable Populations
  - Individuals who cannot receive, understand or act upon emergency orders
- Functional Needs
  - Communication
  - Medical Care
  - Maintaining Independence
  - Supervision
  - Transportation

# Planning for Vulnerable Populations

- SEPA Regional Task Force
  - Functional Needs Subcommittee
- Networking with CRI-MSA partners in other states
- Outreach Activities using the Trusted Source Model
  - Communications
  - Training and exercises
  - Providing resources

Agencies that serve
People with
Cognitive/
Developmental
Disabilities

Outreach Model

**Neighborhood** Agencies

Agencies that serve
People Who are
Deaf or Hard of
Hearing

Agencies that Serve Low-Income Populations

Religious
Institutions
and Faith-Based
Organizations

Agencies that serve
People Who are
Blind or Visually
Impaired

Vulnerable Populations

Emergency Planners

Agencies that serve Homebound Elderly People

HIV/AIDS
Service Agencies

Agencies that serve
People who have
Low English
Proficiency (LEP)

Agencies that serve
Physically Disabled
Persons

Agencies that serve **Homeless People** 



### Recent Collaborations

- Workshops for Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)
  - April and May 2010: Emergency Preparedness Conferences for CBOs and Service Providers
  - January 2010: Emergency Communications and Staffing Preparedness: A Tabletop Exercise for Non-Governmental CBOs
- Workshops for Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs)
  - September 2010: Empowering your Congregation: Emergency and Disaster Planning for Chronic Illnesses
  - March 2011: Emergency Preparedness Conference: Planning for the Faith Community
  - May 2011: Transitions: Promoting Resilience in Your Congregation
  - Fall 2011: Choices: Health and Preparedness for Seniors and Shut-Ins

### Recent Collaborations

- Vulnerable Populations Communications and Events
  - PDPH Health Bulletin and 4-county Emergency Preparedness Bulletin
  - February 2011: Test of Emergency Communications to Vulnerable Populations: A Component of SE PA Public Health Emergency Response Challenges Tabletop Exercise
  - September 2011: Functional Needs Symposium

### Successes

- CFBOs involved in regional planning
  - Functional Needs Subcommittee
- Mass Distribution of Medical Countermeasures
  - Success of PUSH Sites
- Numbers
  - Trained
  - Participating in Exercises
  - Contact Databases
- Special Needs Registry
- Ready Notify PA

# Challenges

- Grant-based funding
- Continuity of project/staff
- Limited county Health Dept./EMA staff
- Limited availability of agencies (time/staff)
- Making Emergency Preparedness an agency priority

# Moving Forward

- Standardized train-the-trainer emergency preparedness presentation
- Continued outreach to organizations by Functional Needs Subcommittee
- Evaluating communications to vulnerable populations through the SEPA Regional Public Health Emergency Response Exercise and CRI-MSA (Cities Readiness Initiative-Metropolitan Statistical Area)

## Medical Reserve Corps

#### What is the Medical Reserve Corps?

- Federal program founded after the events of September 11, 2001 when all Americans were asked to volunteer in support of their country.
- Partner program of Citizen Corps which promotes volunteerism and service throughout the nation.

# Medical Reserve Corps

- Units are community-based and may be used for both health promotion activities and to prepare for and respond to emergencies.
- MRC volunteers supplement existing local emergency and public health resources. MRC volunteers are not first responders.
- Volunteers include medical and public health professionals such as physicians, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, and veterinarians. Other community members, such as interpreters, chaplains, and office staff, can fill vital support positions.

# Background/Purpose of Building the Regional MRC

- SE PA Regional Task Force focuses on all hazards preparedness and planning in the region. Building the MRC addresses issue of staffing and volunteer coordination.
- Research shows that approximately 2500 volunteers will be needed per county in the event of a public health disaster. There are currently 1600 (appx) in the five county region.

### SE PA/UASI MRC Goals

- Develop strong planning and active partnerships
- Align Emergency Management and Public Health groups
- Facilitate meaningful training and exercise opportunities
- Begin conversations across county and state lines
- Familiarize volunteers with response systems and common practice
- Strengthen the regional asset through Mutual Aid Agreement

# Strategies for Building Partnerships

- Participation in quarterly UASI meetings
- Participation in Regional and MSA Exercises
- Developing Regional Training opportunities
- Working on Task Force initiatives that include Emergency Management and Public Health entities
- Informing State and Federal entities about challenges and progress

### **Contact Information**

#### Kristin Beck

Regional Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator <a href="mailto:kristinb@phmc.org">kristinb@phmc.org</a> (267) 322-1145

#### Robyn Slater, MPH

Community Outreach Coordinator
Public Health Management Corporation
robyn@phmc.org
rslater@chesco.org
(267) 746-0685

#### **Chad Thomas, MPH**

Communications Outreach Coordinator Philadelphia Department of Public Health <a href="mailto:chad.thomas@phila.gov">chad.thomas@phila.gov</a> (215) 685-6459