



To: Danielle Sollecito, Senior Program Manager, Long Term Care Facility Preparedness and Response, Bureau of Healthcare System Readiness, Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response (OEPR), New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)  
From: Lisa Fenger, Project Manager, Long Term Care Emergency Preparedness, Continuing Care Leadership Coalition (CCLC)  
Date: April 9, 2019  
RE: HPP Deliverable 2B.1.c, Summary of Emergency Preparedness Symposium #3

Per the terms of the Continuing Care Leadership Coalition's HPP BP1 Supplemental 2018-2019 Grant Year contract, with this writing CCLC summarizes the final of three New York City Emergency Preparedness Symposia (EPS) meetings, as convened on April 9, 2019. The meeting involved leadership of all funded New York City health care sectors, with the goal of advancing the health care sector's preparedness efforts.

**Presentations:**

- Celia Quinn, Executive Director, Bureau of Healthcare System Readiness, OEPR, DOHMH, and Sharmila Rao Thakkar, Program Director, Staten Island Not for Profit Association (SI COAD) provided welcome and introductory messages – SI COAD served as the meeting's co-host with DOHMH;
- Ms. Rao Thakkar; Trientina Campbell, Director of Environmental Safety/EPC, Richmond University Medical Center (RUMC); Ginny Mantello, Director, Health and Wellness, Office of the Staten Island Borough President; and Fern Aaron Zagor, Executive Director, Staten Island Mental Health Society; discussed mental health and disaster response, including the importance of collaborative efforts within the Staten Island not-for-profit sector to enhance and strengthen its state of readiness in times of crisis and disaster;
- Les Welsh, Emergency Response Coordinator, OEPR, Bureau of Healthcare System Readiness, DOHMH, previewed the SurgeEx 2019 facilitated discussion to be held later during the meeting;
- Mr. Joseph M. Raneri, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Regional Emergency Medical Service Council of New York (REMSCO) and Ms. Mary Ann Sallas, Executive Director, REMSCO, summarized transportation resources and their role in SurgeEx;
- Mr. Welsh; Dr. Quinn; Timothy Styles, Medical Director, Bureau of Healthcare System Readiness, DOHMH; and Darrin Pruitt, Deputy Director, OEPR, Bureau of Healthcare System Readiness, DOHMH; led four break-out groups focused on evaluating SurgeEx 2019 experiences. Among other topics, the groups addressed the ability of participating healthcare providers to conduct initial patient censuses, the processes involved in bed-matching for evacuating patients, and the identification of appropriate transportation assets. In these discussions, the stakeholders highlighted experiences from the just-completed SurgeEx that could inform the design and implementation of future such exercises – among other comments, CCLC encouraged deeper cross-sectoral collaboration over time to enhance the success of future SurgeEx activities;
- Mr. Welsh, Dr. Quinn, Dr. Styles and Dr. Pruitt subsequently summarized the deep-dive sessions; and
- William Lang, Director, Hospital Readiness and Health Care Coalitions, Bureau of Healthcare System Readiness, DOHMH, provided brief closing remarks.

**Next Steps:**

The EPS series has concluded for the HPP BP1 Supplemental 2018-2019 Grant Year. CCLC will continue its involvement in SurgeEx operations and strategic planning to deepen and more richly integrate long term care and other elements of the health care continuum in ongoing exercise preparations and conduct.