



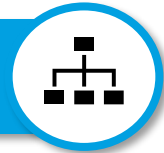
# CDC's Jurisdictional Readiness and Response Support Branch and Health Department Liaisons

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# Agenda

Office of Readiness and Response



HD LNO Roles and Responsibilities



HD LNO Role During Steady State



HD LNO Role During an Emergency Response State



Questions and Answers



**CDC's Office of Readiness and Response**

# CDC's Office of Readiness and Response (ORR)

## Readiness

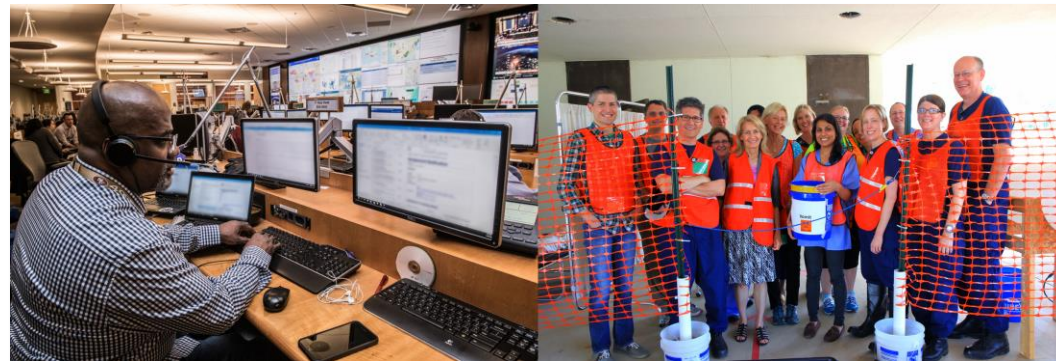
- Provides expertise, funding, technical support, and training to public health departments to help them prepare for health emergencies

## Response

- Responds with guidance and assistance
- Provides communication messages, resources, and staff with the necessary expertise for the job

## Recovery

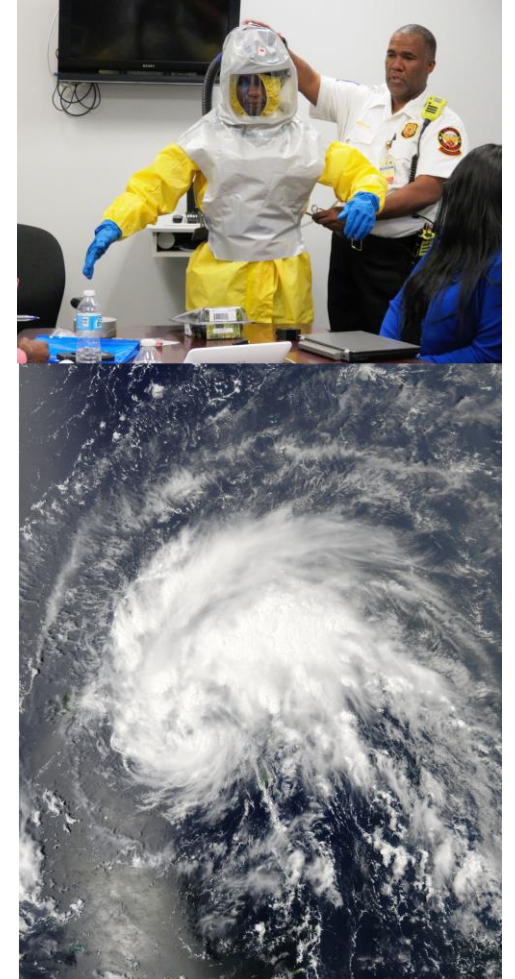
- Helps health departments recover and rebuild their communities
- Helps communities evaluate and adapt to improve for the future



# **HDLNO Role and Responsibilities**

# Health Department Liaison Officers (HDLNOs)

- HDLNOs work directly with states as a permanent point of contact to fulfill ORR's mission
- Mission: To advance state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) readiness, response, and recovery capacity and to promote health equity by:
  - Providing timely and consistent customer service to health departments
  - Ensuring bidirectional communication between public health leaders and CDC
  - Offering and facilitating technical assistance, including consultation, guidance and rapid access to CDC subject matter experts
  - Fostering collaboration and partnership with STLT partners and other federal agencies



# Building Relationships

## Jurisdiction

- Director of Public Health Preparedness / Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Director
- State/City/Territorial and Deputy Epidemiologist
- Immunization Program Manager
- Lab Directors
- State and Deputy Health Official/Commissioner
- Epidemiologists
- Medical Directors
- Public Health Veterinarians
- Subject matter experts (SMEs)
- SNS/MCM Coordinators

## Federal

- Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR)
- HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH)
- HHS agencies (SAMHSA, CMS, IHS, others)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- CDC PHEP Project Officers, Career Epidemiology Field Officers (CEFOs), Preparedness Field Assignees (PFAs), Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Officers, SMEs, etc.

# **HDLNO Role During Steady State**



# HDLNO Role: Routine Steady State

- **Connect state health departments with:**
  - CDC experts for readiness and response technical issues
  - Relevant project officers and resources to address PHEP work plan priorities, gaps, and corrective actions identified in after-action reviews, as well as grants and funding issues
  - Relevant data sets and resources for monitoring public health trends
- **Enhance communications between:**
  - CDC and states with bidirectional situational awareness
  - CDC and federal partners through collaborative calls and regional meetings
- **Contribute to the science of emergency response**



# HDLNO Role: Addressing Technical Challenges

## Connecting state health departments with CDC experts to provide:

- Guidance on handling pre-positioned IV TPOXX expiration dates.
- Status updates on guidance that is in development for standing up future, alternative care sites, and addressing construction and outfitting.
- Guidance on appropriate COVID-19 testing volume for states regarding surveillance vs. possible exposure and providing available data points.

## Benefits to health department partners:



Customized support  
that addresses  
specific technical  
needs

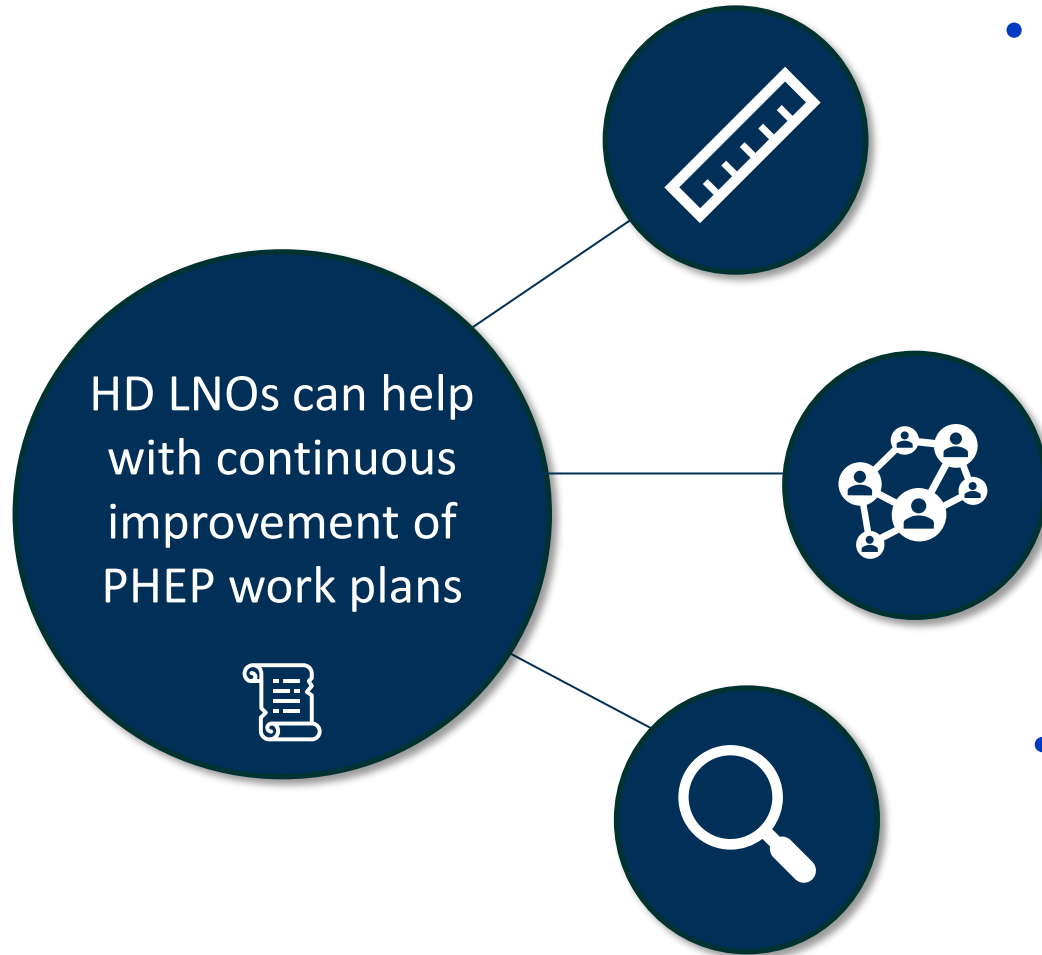


Guidance on the most  
recent practices and  
access to data sets



Stronger partnerships  
and collaboration

# LNO Role: Supporting PHEP Work Plans



- Support implementation of PHEP work plans, including activities such as exercises
- Connecting with a wide network of experts and resources to evaluate plan
- Assistance in identifying SMEs to build upon existing capabilities

# Examples of CDC resources that can assist STLT in enhancing their preparedness efforts

- National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network (<https://ephtracking.cdc.gov/>) consolidates health environmental data together from various national, state, city resources. It provides comprehensive information on environments and hazards, health effects, and population health.
- CDC's Center for Forecasting and Outbreak Analytics (CFA) and NCIRD Modeling and Forecasting of Respiratory Diseases. This helps provide early warning, allowing leaders to prepare for surges and implement infection prevention measures (<https://www.cdc.gov/forecast-outbreak-analytics/index.html>)

# Examples of CDC resources that can assist STLT in enhancing their preparedness efforts

- Rural public health: CDC contributes to the evidence base for preventing disease in rural communities by developing and promoting public health best practices and interventions. This includes resources like the Rural Emergency Preparedness and Response Toolkit (<https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/toolkits/emergency-preparedness>)
- Tribal health: CDC's Office of Tribal Affairs and Strategic Alliances is dedicated to providing public health services and connecting AI/AN communities to CDC programs and funding for their safety and well-being (<https://www.cdc.gov/tribal>)

# **HDLNO Role During Emergency Responses**

# LNO Role During Emergency Response

## Connect State Health Departments to

- CDC SMEs for collaboration on outbreak investigations
- Up-to-date CDC guidance
- CDC technical assistance
- Resources regarding CDC's emergency responses, such as new guidance or surveillance tools

## Support CDC Staff Deployments or Epi-Aids

- Work with states to submit requests
- Facilitate deployment to assist states (e.g. for outbreak investigations)

## Enhance Communications

- Provide bidirectional information between health departments and CDC  
Participate in federal and regional collaboration calls and taskforces



# LNO Role: Connecting SMEs for Collaborations

## Examples of LNOs Triaging Technical Assistance Inquiries:

- Epidemiology: SME discussed COVID-19 vaccine breakthrough investigations in conjunction with screening tests
- Clinical Inquiry/Mpox: SME discussed prolonged clinical courses due to increased isolation timelines
- Highly pathogenic avian influenza: Rapidly linked state partners with CDC response SMEs, following the detection of HPAI A(H5N1) in dairy herds

## Benefits

### Capacity Strengthening

Working closely with SMEs builds capacity by exposing jurisdictions to advanced knowledge and practices.



### Rapid Technical Assistance

SMEs quickly identify and address TAs, minimizing their impact on the response effort.

### Cutting Edge Expert Advice

Offering the most current advice on preparedness strategies.



# LNO Role: Providing Up-to-Date Guidance



Critical Goal: Providing up-to-date guidance to STLT partners

- **Examples of Recent Guidance**
  - Epidemiology: Updated contact tracing requirements for breakthrough COVID-19 cases
  - Environmental Health: Animal radiation exposure decontamination guidance
  - COVID-19: School guidance based on community exposure levels of COVID-19
- **Benefits to Health Partners**
  - Ensures jurisdictions are informed on the latest scientific evidence
  - Establishes trust in public health
  - Make evidence-based decisions by staying informed of recent developments and updates

# LNO Role: Enhancing Communications

LNOs are conduits of communication:



- **Benefits to HD partners**

- Ensures timely and efficient communication
- Eliminates redundant communication efforts
- Allows HD LNOs to remain present and engaged in jurisdictional needs and challenges
- Supports open communication and jurisdictions' access to CDC
- Allows for a proactive approach to public health emergency management

# Questions?

For more information, contact CDC  
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

