

Whitfield County Pandemic Plan



Original Approved: TBD

Current Revision: 3.12.20.D

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Annex P1 - LEOP

Preface

In November 2005, the President released the *National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza*. The strategy has three critical goals. The third of these goals is most relevant for the purposes of the Whitfield County Pandemic Plan.

According to the President:

Our strategy is designed to meet three critical goals: first, we must detect outbreaks that occur anywhere in the world; second, we must protect the American people by stockpiling vaccines and antiviral drugs, and improve our ability to rapidly produce new vaccines against a pandemic strain; and third, we must be ready to respond at the federal, state and local levels in the event that a pandemic reaches our shores (emphasis added).

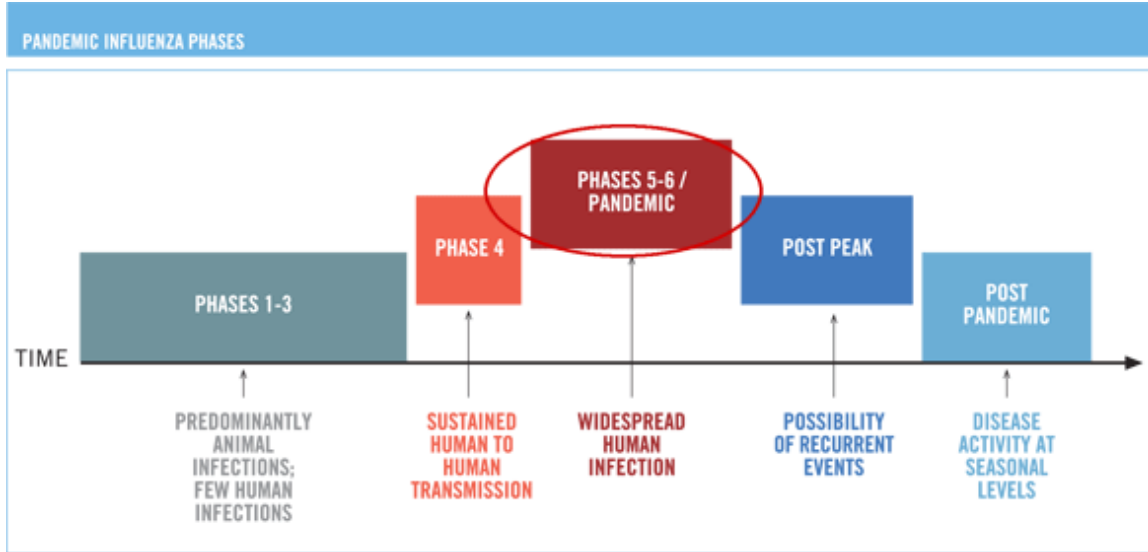
While this plan was directed and based on an Influenza Pandemic, the Whitfield County All-Hazards Plan will be used and written to reflect any type of Pandemic; however, all historical data and scenarios will be based on Influenza.

Impact of an Influenza Pandemic:

The impact of an influenza pandemic has the potential to be unlike any other emergency event, according to University of Minnesota public health expert Michael OsterHolm. Mr. OsterHolm, who helped draft the national strategy, advises that millions of Americans could be sickened and at least two million Americans could be killed in a flu pandemic. He states: “We can predict now twelve to eighteen months of stress, of watching loved ones die, of potentially not going to work, of wondering if you’re going to have food on the table the next day. Those are all things that are going to mean that we’re going to have to plan unlike any other kind of crisis that we’ve had in literally the last 80-some years in this country.”

Additionally, national health experts advise that communities will be required to shut down sporting events and other public gatherings to minimize the spread of infection. The situation will also require local communities to treat thousands of sick patients in improvised hospitals and deal with the grisly task of handling an unprecedented number of bodies due to death.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has developed a six phase categorization to describe the state of a pandemic. Refer to the table below of the WHO pandemic phases.



In nature, influenza viruses circulate continuously among animals, especially birds. Even though such viruses might theoretically develop into pandemic viruses, in **Phase 1** no viruses circulating among animals have been reported to cause infections in humans.

In **Phase 2** an animal influenza virus circulating among domesticated or wild animals is known to have caused infection in humans, and is therefore considered a potential pandemic threat.

In **Phase 3**, an animal or human-animal influenza re-assortment virus has caused sporadic cases or small clusters of disease in people, but has not resulted in human-to-human transmission sufficient to sustain community-level outbreaks. Limited human-to-human transmission may occur under some circumstances, for example, when there is close contact between an infected person and an unprotected caregiver. However, limited transmission under such restricted circumstances does not indicate that the virus has gained the level of transmissibility among humans necessary to cause a pandemic.

In **Phase 4** is characterized by verified human-to-human transmission of an animal or human-animal influenza re-assortment virus able to cause “community-level outbreaks.” The ability to cause sustained disease outbreaks in a community marks a significant upwards shift in the risk for a pandemic. Any country that suspects or has verified such an event should urgently consult with WHO so that the situation can be jointly assessed and a decision made by the affected country if implementation of a rapid pandemic containment operation is warranted. Phase 4 indicates a significant increase in risk of a pandemic but does not necessarily mean that a pandemic is a forgone conclusion.

In **Phase 5** is characterized by human-to-human spread of the virus into at least two countries in one WHO region. While most countries will not be affected at this stage, the declaration of Phase 5 is a strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of the planned mitigation measures is short.

In **Phase 6**, the pandemic is characterized by community level outbreaks in at least one other country in a different WHO region in addition to the criteria defined in **Phase 5**. Designation of this phase will indicate that a global pandemic is under way.

During the **post-peak period**, pandemic disease levels in most countries with adequate surveillance will have dropped below peak observed levels. The post-peak period signifies that pandemic activity appears to be decreasing; however, it is uncertain if additional waves will occur and countries will need to be prepared for a second wave.

Previous pandemics have been characterized by waves of activity spread over months. When the level of disease activity drops, a critical task will be, to balance this information with the possibility of another wave of sickness. Pandemic waves can be separated by months and an immediate “at-ease” signal may be premature.

In the **post-pandemic period**, influenza disease activity will have returned to levels normally seen for seasonal influenza. It is expected that the pandemic virus will behave as a seasonal influenza A virus. At this stage, it is important to maintain surveillance and update pandemic preparedness and response plans accordingly. An intensive phase of recovery and evaluation may be required.

State of Georgia -- Department of Public Health

The response to these potentially horrific events in Georgia will be guided by the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH). Planning considerations developed by DPH with limited resources rely on the coordination with partner agencies during an influenza pandemic.

There is no scientific way to know the extent, impact, and duration of a possible influenza pandemic. Numbers from official sources can vary widely. However, based on information provided by the DPH, the following are the current planning considerations for an influenza pandemic:

- The virus will spread rapidly before a vaccine can be produced;
- The pandemic will last between 18 months and 3 years;
- The pandemic will occur in two or three waves;
- Each episode will last from 6 – 8 weeks;
- The virus is infectious without the person showing any symptoms;
- Once symptoms occur, an infected person may die within 48 hours;
- Possibly 40 % of the population will either die or contract the disease;
- There is no way to produce adequate supplies of vaccine until the virus has mutated;
- It takes time for the vaccines to be produced, and the first wave of influenza will be ending;
- Limited supplies of anti-viral vaccine are available and will be rationed according to a must-need, basis;

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- No mutual aid will be available from other states or the federal government; the emergency must be handled at the local level;
- Emergency measures will include isolation, quarantine, and cessation of all public gatherings;
- Total deaths in Georgia could be between 2,670 and 6,210

Estimated morbidity and mortality during a pandemic in Georgia from the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Standard Operating Plan DPH:

GEORGIA	
Infected	Up to 6 million
Clinically Ill	0.6 – 1.14 million
Outpatient Care	540,000 – 1.26 million
Hospitalization	9,420 – 21,990
Deaths	2,670 – 6,210

- As high as 14 percent of Georgia’s population could become clinically ill
- Approximately 10 percent of those who become clinically ill will need hospitalization.
- In addition to the 35 percent who become ill, an additional 30 to 50 percent will be infected but will be asymptomatic.
- The incubation period is estimated to be between 1 and 8 days.
- Georgia will have available only a limited number of doses of anti-viral medications. The current DPH policy in conjunction with CDC will establish priority for those most affected.
- While vaccination is the primary method of preventing influenza, six to eight months may be needed to develop a vaccine once the virus has been identified.
- The primary means available to the DPH to slow the incidence of disease during an influenza pandemic includes:
 - Isolation of those infected;
 - Quarantine of those exposed to influenza;
 - Restrictions in travel for persons ill or exposed to influenza; and
 - School and work closures, and cancellation of public gatherings.

Overview

A pandemic is a global disease outbreak. An influenza pandemic occurs when a new influenza virus emerges for which people have little or no immunity, causes serious illness and spreads easily person-to-person. A pandemic can spread across the country and around the world in a very short period of time causing millions of deaths.

Four pandemics occurred in the past century --

1918-1919	Flu
1957-1958	Flu
1968-1969	Flu
2009-2010	Flu

It is very difficult to predict when the next pandemic will occur or how severe it will be. Regardless, preparedness efforts are underway in Georgia to respond to the unique and complex challenges a pandemic will pose. The Department of Public Health is working with many public and private providers to ensure all relevant areas of preparedness are addressed adequately. Please use the resources available to gain a better understanding of the ongoing work and to educate yourself, your family, and the community about the benefits of planning. Preparing for a pandemic will have long-lasting and profound effects on emergency preparedness efforts for other disasters as well.

Flu Terms Defined:

Seasonal (or common) flu is a respiratory illness that can be transmitted from person to person. Most people have some immunity, and a vaccine is available.

Avian (or bird) flu is caused by influenza viruses that occur naturally among wild birds. The HPAI is deadly to domestic fowl and can be transmitted from birds to humans. There is no human immunity and no vaccine is available.

Pandemic flu is virulent human flu that causes a global outbreak, or pandemic, of serious illness. Because there is little natural immunity, the disease can spread easily from person to person.

POLICY

- 1) The Georgia Department of Public Health is designated as the lead agency for the Pandemic Emergency.
- 2) Presently, there are no reports of Pandemics in Whitfield County, but this Operations Plan is designed to mitigate, prepare and respond should it occur.

- 3) Whitfield County has established a County Pandemic Planning Committee with the following roles:
 - a. Identify all potentially effected organizations in the community;
 - b. Determine the best way to communicate with the organizations;
 - c. Help each organization identify planning needs and how it will prepare for any potential disasters with a focus on pandemic preparedness; and
 - d. Coordination of all the plans.

- 4) The various Planning Sections for Whitfield County are:
 - a. Government, Schools & Transportation
 - b. Public Health & Healthcare
 - c. Media
 - d. Business
 - e. Community & Faith Based Organizations
 - f. Individuals/Family

MISSION

The planning committee will provide guidance and direction for the coordination and preparedness of essential public and private services for the citizens of Whitfield County before, during and immediately after a pandemic outbreak.

EXECUTION

The goals of Whitfield County Pandemic Plan are to insure:

1. Every resident knows how to protect themselves;
2. Every resident knows who to call if a family member gets ill;
3. Systems are in place to care for large numbers of patients;
4. Essential services continue; and
5. Economic disruption is limited.

Concept of Operations:

1. Should a pandemic occur in Whitfield County, in home patient case management will be critical and includes the following seven elements:
 - a. Community Education
 - b. Early Self-Identification
 - c. Telephone Registration/Triage
 - d. Voluntary Isolation & Quarantine – In Home
 - e. Home Care Kits
 - f. Care-Giver Education

- g. Community Support System
- 2. Coordinating Instructions: All Sections listed in this operations plan will follow their internal Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG) and respective Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) in order to accomplish the mission.

SUPPORT

- a. Logistics:

Each Section should stockpile food, water, personal protective clothing and equipment as necessary to provide essential services during a pandemic.

- b. Finance/Administration:

Each Section should take appropriate advance measures to provide mission essential finance and administrative services during a pandemic. Non-essential services during a pandemic should be temporarily discontinued to facilitate social distancing.

INCIDENT COMMAND

- a. The Incident Command Structure will follow the guidelines of the National Incident Management System.

- b. Command:

District Public Health will establish an Area Command at or before Phase 6 as appropriate and as local conditions dictate. Local Emergency Management and the local Health Department will support the establishment of the Incident Command System and Emergency Operations Center.

- c. Communications:

Whitfield County 911 with support from ARES will provide emergency communications which may be supplemented as needed by other county departments and divisions.

- d. Public Information:

Whitfield County Emergency Management, Public Information Officer, serves as emergency public information officer (PIO) in coordination with Georgia Department of Public Health and Catoosa County Government, using a Joint Information System (JIS).

ATTACHMENTS: PLAN SECTIONS

- Appendix A - Government-Schools-Transportation
- Appendix B - Public Health-Healthcare
- Appendix C - Media
- Appendix D - Business
- Appendix E - Community & Faith Based
- Appendix F - Individuals/Family
- Supplement 1 - Infection Control Policy
- Supplement 2 - Key Contact List by Section
- Supplement 3 – Plan Committee & Approvals

Appendix A: Government - Schools - Transportation

Purpose

The purpose of the Government Section is to provide guidance and direction for the coordination and preparedness of government services to the citizens of Whitfield County, the City of Dalton, City of Tunnel Hill, City of Varnell and the Town of Cohutta, before, during, and immediately after a pandemic outbreak.

Scope

The scope of the Government Section is to coordinate with all necessary sources prior to, and in the event of, a pandemic outbreak. The goal of the Government Section is to enhance preparedness efforts, develop a strategic response with key personnel, and plan for the long-term recovery after such a pandemic. Each government agency, department and authority will establish a Pandemic Continuity of Government Plan.

Preparedness Phase

This portion includes all preparedness and mitigation steps and plans.

The Government Section of this plan stresses that one of the most important preparedness measures is the education of all Sections.

The City of Dalton, City of Tunnel Hill, City of Varnell, Town of Cohutta and Whitfield County will take all necessary steps to assure that all citizens, customers, and employees will have the proper information so informed decisions may be made in a time of emergency. Information will be made available through the City and County websites, at City Halls, School Systems Facilities and all County Offices, through local media, and other available resources.

The Government Section also identifies several essential functions that must continue throughout the possible pandemic outbreak. These functions include, but are not limited to:

1. Maintaining a safe water supply for both consumption and sewer needs;
2. Continued public safety services including, law enforcement, detention, E-911 services, fire protection, and emergency medical services;
3. Accounting for all personnel records, utility billing, receipts of dollars expended during the emergency response, and vital records.

To assure that these essential functions will be maintained, the government agencies with responsibility will procure several items such as chlorine, water testing products and sampling materials for water and sewer treatment. Supplies such as; antibacterial soap and hand gel, gloves, masks, cleaning products, and other materials commonly associated with first aid, should

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be coordinated through Public Health District 1-2 and Region A Health Care Coalition. In the event that our workers will not be able to return home for rest, the Emergency Management Agency will coordinate temporary living arrangements such as the acquisition of hotel space. Any purchases will be made using the normal budgetary process and procurement process of each responsible agency under an emergency declaration.

The Government Section also recognizes the necessity to cross-train all employees for emergencies. The City of Dalton, City of Tunnel Hill, City of Varnell, Town of Cohutta, School Systems and Whitfield County will hold training sessions to educate staff and insure all employees are capable of implementing minimum standards necessary to maintain the essential functions of the local governments. Staff will undergo such training at normal staff meetings or as determined by their department heads.

The Whitfield County Sheriff's Office, as the lead law enforcement agency of ESF-13 (LEOP), will implement law enforcement measures to include policies, procedures, goals, and objectives on how to respond if an outbreak should occur within our community. Local police agencies should continue to serve and protect the citizens within their jurisdictions and follow set guidelines of ESF-13 as outlined by the Office of the Sheriff.

In the face of a pandemic threat or ongoing influenza pandemic, the need to vaccinate or dispense anti-viral is critical and we must rapidly and safely dispense to essential personnel within our community. In each section of this plan, the City of Dalton, City of Tunnel Hill, City of Varnell, Town of Cohutta and Whitfield County have identified "key" personnel and will collaborate to create a complete list including names, addresses, phone numbers, and will include members of said household. The County Health Department is responsible for developing a Point of Distribution Plan (POD) and the Office the Sheriff, the Office of Emergency Management, and County School Board will pre-plan for the implementation of POD's.

City and County Fire Services and the Emergency Medical Services will implement measures as dictated by ESF 5-Emergency Management, to include policies, procedures, goals, and objectives on how to respond if an outbreak occurs within our community. They will continue to serve and protect the citizens of Whitfield County should we face a crisis.

The Whitfield County Emergency Management Office must plan for the acquisition and distribution of additional resources within Whitfield County. The efficient distribution of the vaccine or antiviral medicine in accordance with CDC guidelines is particularly important.

The School System will develop an education and outreach program to reach all school-age children, college students, and their parents. The County Nurse Manager, with the Whitfield County Public Health, will provide input, informational materials, and assist in developing guidelines for educating our community to include steps to avoid getting or spreading of germs, staff responsibilities for tracking, monitoring, and reporting illnesses, and the staff's role if a pandemic alert is activated.

The School System will educate all staff (employees and contract) at each facility preventive measures to avoid getting or spreading the illness. They also will be a part of the monitoring and

reporting process as they work with children and parents. An emphasis will be on individual responsibility and developing a family plan for prevention and for responding to a pandemic alert.

The School System will use its website to educate the community about prevention. This site will also be useful in disseminating information and phone numbers during a pandemic alert. The school system will reach out to day cares and private schools, as we seek to educate our community.

Whitfield Transit will provide transportation services for the direction and coordination of the delivery of health services to the citizens of Whitfield County before, during and immediately after a pandemic outbreak.

Response Phase

This phase includes all responses to a pandemic outbreak with key personnel, equipment, and the continuity of essential services.

When a local or regional Pandemic-Phase 6 is declared, the EMA Director will activate the Local Emergency Operations Plan at a level to be determined considering local conditions and infections. Key personnel will be notified, as policy dictates, to have all essential employees report for duty and assignment.

All key personnel will be contacted and will be vaccinated or anti-viral distributed, to ensure that the essential functions of the Government Section will continue to operate, as set forth in Continuity of Operations.

The 911 Deputy Director will ensure that all needed Communication Officers report to work and will schedule other Communication Officers to report in as time requires. Conditions require the 911 Center to be fully operational at all times, both during and after the crisis. Special attention will be given to the power supply and phone service, making sure the center is operational.

The Detention Center Captain, will implement measures to meet the needs of staff, inmates currently incarcerated and any future inmates. The Detention Center medical staff will also monitor all current inmates and any new inmates coming into the facility for symptoms. The

Detention Center Nurse will coordinate the distribution of vaccine or anti-viral to employees, and those incarcerated. The food service provider, for the Detention Center, will implement their plan to provide meals to all inmates. The Emergency Management Agency will coordinate the provision of meals to all first responders during the crisis utilizing the central dining facility at the Sheriff's Office. Utilities and security measures for the Detention Center will be monitored to ensure the Center remains operational, for the duration of the event.

The Patrol Captain will implement a security plan prior to, during and after the crisis. It is of the utmost importance to provide a sense of security to the citizens of Whitfield County. With this in mind, several areas within the county must be protected. Officers will be dispatched to crimes in

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progress, as needed. Key areas such as those being used as points of distribution, water supplies, and critical infrastructure will be covered under the security plan.

A critical function of Dalton Utilities will be to maintain potable water and sanitary sewer services for their customers and the community.

Dalton Utilities will coordinate with their staff and implement shifts as needed to maintain the water and sewer facilities. Personnel will continually assess security issues at the reservoirs, springs, wells and wastewater treatment plant to determine if extra security is needed from Law Enforcement. Personnel will verify emergency stores of chemicals and materials necessary to maintain the water and sewer facilities.

The School System will develop plans within each department as to their responsibilities during a pandemic alert. Each department will have specific responsibilities for insuring buildings, equipment, and services can be used for the purposes required during the pandemic alert.

School Maintenance and Operations Staff will make sure each building is open, power is available, and communication networks are operable. General custodial responsibilities will also be maintained and support the necessary work.

School Food Services will insure that stored food is kept safe and used wisely to support the operations of the Pandemic Plan. A seven to ten (7-10) day supply of food and commodities are normally available in the school system. These foods can be committed to serving the efforts of the pandemic operation.

The School System will work closely with families to identify resources, websites, and communication tools necessary for educating students at home during the pandemic alert.

In the event of a pandemic outbreak the Whitfield County Board of Education, Transportation Department, will work closely with the Emergency Management, Public Safety and other related services on an as needed basis.

Recovery Phase

This phase includes both short and long- range plans and actions associated with recovery from a pandemic event.

Public Safety Agencies will continue to create a safe environment for the citizens of Whitfield County until the pandemic is over. Agencies will continue to monitor employees to make sure their health has not been affected in any way during the crisis. All inmates' health will continue to be monitored. Security will remain in place at all critical locations until it has been determined to be safe to relinquish control back to the owners.

The main goal of the Government Section of the plan will be to maintain a safe environment for the community as activities return to normal. We will continue with educational efforts, stressing public awareness of preventable measures. We also plan a thorough cleaning of all

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facilities of the City of Dalton, City of Tunnel Hill, City of Varnell, Town of Cohutta, School Systems and Whitfield County. The protocol for cleaning the facilities will be determined by Public Health using Center for Disease Control guidelines.

The School System will continue efforts to create a safe environment for children and adults as they return when the pandemic is over. Maintenance and Operations, Youth Health Services, Faculty and Staff, School Resource Officers, and School Food Services will all play a vital role as they work to insure that the facilities are safe for children and staff. Educational opportunities will be expanded to allow children to transition back into the school environment as health and safety issues for individual students improve. Hospital Home Bound services, distance learning opportunities, shorter school hours, and other initiatives may be needed for students. Counseling Services, Youth Health Services, and the Religious Community will be vital in helping students make the transition.

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Appendix B- Public Health and Health Care Section

Purpose

The purpose of the Public Health-Health Care Section is to provide guidance for the coordination and preparedness of Public Health care services to the citizens of Whitfield County, before, during and after a pandemic outbreak.

Scope

The scope of the Public Health Care Section is to develop a strategic response with key community personnel in collaboration with Health officials whose plan will encompass long term recovery after a pandemic event.

Preparedness Phase

Planning & Surveillance

- Public Health partners with the CDC, which maintains and coordinates a national influenza surveillance system that identifies circulating influenza viruses and monitors disease activity and trends on a constant status.

This surveillance system serves as an early warning system to track outpatient visits, hospitalizations and deaths related to influenza like illnesses. Vital statistic offices in certain cities across the US report mortalities related to flu. The National Notifiable Disease Surveillance System (NNDSS) is used by State Health Departments to report influenza associated deaths to the CDC.

Public Health Epidemiologists receive and compile reports on the flu activity in their territories/state. All Georgia physicians, laboratories, and health care providers are required by law to report patients with Public Health concerns to the local Health Dept. which helps identify outbreaks and disease trends.

The Health Alert Network (HAN) notifies health departments of current recommendations. These recommendations should be distributed to healthcare providers who then will report to the CDC any influenza case that tests positive for a novel influenza or meets the case definition in effect at that time.

Local Physicians and Public Health should meet to share information concerning the diagnosis and treatment and prevention of identified illness. Emphasis will be on lessons learned from similar epidemics and disasters. Local physicians will include all specialties that are based in Whitfield County. A program will need to be developed to identify those who have contracted the illness and those who will require additional levels of care; i.e. nursing homes staff, child and elder care providers.

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Meetings will be held with Pharmacists for the availability of medicines and supplies to include deliveries. Other skills will be identified in the delivery of medications and vaccines by the Pharmacists.

Meetings will also be held with the local Veterinarians. Discussion topics would include the assistance in administering animal vaccines, surveillance of health risks from the animal population and other issues.

Local poultry companies have developed protocols for tracking and containing infected flocks in coordination with Department of Agriculture. Ongoing discussions with Public Health will be held to support/augment their programs.

Whitfield County Emergency Management will provide a list of Community Emergency Response Team Volunteers that are trained to assist Public Health during POD Operations.

Whitfield County Emergency Management will provide Public Health a list of the first responders within the county so that correct amounts of antiviral medications can be sent to the county for preventive treatment of first responders.

It will be the responsibility of each first responder agency to maintain an updated list of personnel for their agency / department.

Discussions will also be held with the Coroner as there is a greater risk of death projected.

Education

Explanation of the need for a County Emergency Plan has been given to each planning committee Section. Each of the planning committee members will inform others in their place of employment and encourage participation by promoting continuing education for personal preparedness, family and community awareness.

Requesting media assistance for public education will begin with local television and radio, and in the local newspapers, to make the community aware of different types of flu and why the county needs personal preparedness.

The Whitfield County Health Department will continue to encourage annual flu vaccines. Promoting and teaching Good Hand Washing should be a proposed school nurse campaign during the school year.

Pandemic Flu information will be provided through Public Health to schools, churches, businesses and the medical community throughout the community. We will encourage those groups to request additional supplies as needed.

All staff members of Whitfield County Health Department have completed NIMS training on the most current versions of ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800. Health department management has completed ICS 300 and 400 as required. Health Department staff members have been given job descriptions of duties that must be covered in the need for sheltering or point of distribution site

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plans. Contacting and educating the medical community (doctor offices, dentists, pharmacists and veterinarians) as what their role is in county emergency preparedness is priority.

Discussions with veterinarians should include the assistance in administering vaccines, surveillance of health risk from animals, and other health issues.

The County Coroner, and funeral home directors will be included in preparedness meetings. Mass casualty morgue plans are in place within Emergency Management and the Coroner's Office.

Communication

Communication between each Section of the Planning Committee and Public Health is vitally important.

Notification of situations that are suspected or exist may come from many sources and may be directed to different emergency response agencies, including but not limited to Public Health, Emergency Management, and Public Safety agencies.

Public Health will maintain updated call down lists for all District Health Emergency Assessment Response Teams, Whitfield County Pandemic Planning Committee, Public Health Assessment and Survey Teams, District Operations Center and local government numbers.

A Health notification system will be used in all incident responses and exercises. A notification is an established message sent in response to a direction from a higher authority, input from the District Health Emergency Response Team or partnering member, or circumstances requiring communications assistance. Three notification levels have been defined:

HEALTH ALERT (highest level) A health alert indicates a catastrophic event/disease outbreak, such as pandemic flu, in which public safety is at great risk, there is a potential loss of life, or an actual high casualty rate has occurred.

HEALTH ADVISORY a health advisory indicates potential public health risk, such as a contained outbreak of pandemic influenza, etc.

HEALTH UPDATE a health update indicates a low health risk with no immediate illness. This update could be issued if a suspected case of mutated strain of flu was present and no cases were reported in the United States.

These notifications will follow the same color-coding as the Homeland Security terror alert system. ALERT (red), Advisory (orange) and Update (yellow). The District Health Director, and Incident Command will give approval for Health Alerts. The District Health Director may issue health advisories and health updates.

Emergency Drills and Tabletop Exercises will be scheduled by Whitfield County Emergency Management and Public Health Officials to help identify strengths and weaknesses of emergency/pandemic flu plans.

Response Phase

Providing medical care for the acutely ill will be the greatest challenge. The main complications for influenza are pneumonia, heart attacks, and strokes. Treating these without a medical facility will be challenging. A strong reliance will be made on local health care groups providing an acute care area supported by a pharmacist.

When the Governor has requested and deployed the SNS (Strategic National Stockpile), the state Public Health office will notify the District Health Office and make arrangements to receive prophylaxis treatment for all first responders in Whitfield County. The SNS should arrive into Whitfield within 12 to 36 hours, possibly less. In addition, the Whitfield County Pandemic Response Trailer is stocked with equipment and supplies as well as a Pandemic Flu Kit for each department supplying first responders. These kits contain basic personal protection as well as disinfection supplies.

Development of Strategic National Stockpile Response Plan (Point of Distribution/Administration)

Public Health will prepare to open a distribution/administration site at one the pre-designated area in Whitfield County. Local law enforcement will be needed for security and traffic direction. Local Law Enforcement will be responsible for transporting the SNS Push Package (vaccine) to the Whitfield County POD if the CDC is unable to deliver the asset. When the assets arrive at the administration site, said site can be opened only when the HD staff advise they are ready to distribute. The public will be notified by local media about when and where to respond to the local Point of Distribution.

Recovery Phase

Public Health Staff and volunteers will retrieve and finalize reports that need to be sent into the district and state health offices to help with statistical and financial data totals. This information will be used to better educate, plan, and treat future populations. There should be adequate records of who contracted the illness to include their age, sex, medical conditions, survival, medications used, etc., so information can be gleaned to get a better picture of what happened during the pandemic. Useful information could be used for better planning and treatment for future epidemics or pandemics.

Identifying any “ hot spots” of influenza that remain, or those who were not medicated or immunized, will be important to prevent the virus from spreading to other areas. All buildings used during the administration of asset will be brought back to normal operations, disinfected if appropriate, and all surplus supplies returned to appropriate agencies. Equipment and supplies used will be recorded for quantity, expenditures and reimbursements. Accurate personnel timesheets, physical and mental health statuses, will be documented and reported as needed.

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Drug inventories will need to be updated to reflect the pharmaceuticals dispensed during the emergency period. Public Health will expect to see an increase in visits to health department for health evaluations and referral.

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Appendix C: Media - External Communications

Purpose

The purpose of the Media Section is to provide guidance and direction for the preparedness, coordination and dissemination of Media services for the citizens of Whitfield County before, during, and immediately after a pandemic outbreak.

Scope

The scope of the Media Section is to coordinate public information sources prior to and in the event of a pandemic outbreak. The goal of the Media Section is to enhance preparedness efforts, develop a strategic response with key personnel, and plan for the long term recovery after such a pandemic.

Preparedness Phase

Immediate action: A complete contact list of media sources that serve Whitfield County has been prepared. “Preventative Measures” and “Preparedness” releases will be distributed to all media. Educational and preparedness media releases will be formulated, introducing Sections of prevention or preparedness including common myths of pandemics. All media releases must be coordinated through District Public Health Office. Whitfield County Emergency Management has the capacity to provide for a “Hot Line” for immediate, real-time, dissemination of information to the public, and utilize the Emergency Notification System (CODE RED) to distribute immediate notifications.

Response Phase

Telephone and/or emails will be the first method of contact between all Section members. All published information will come from the Emergency Management Public Information Officer (PIO), in coordination with the District Public Health PIO. All messages will be consistent. If power (marshal law) or social distancing (quarantine) becomes an issue, print media can be moved to desktop publishing/email format. Single sheet distribution may be needed in cases of extreme emergency. The PIO will contact other media sources from previously compiled lists to assist with distribution/communication as needed.

Recovery Phase

This phase includes providing the community with consistent messages regarding after-effects, recovery, and steps that need to be taken to resume daily activities. All published information is to come from PIO. Messages and distribution will be consistent in all publications.

MEDIA RESOURCES -- WHITFIELD COUNTY:

Government – Public Information			
Whitfield County			
Claude Criag	EMA Director	PIO	706-259-3730
Scott Chitwood	Sheriff	PIO	706-278-1233
Mitch Talley	Communications Director	PIO	706-876-1678
Rick Lovelady	IT Director	Website	706-281-4800
Blanca Cardona	County Clerk	Open Records	706-275-7507
City of Dalton			
Bruce Frazier	Communications Director	PIO	706-278-9500 x 92402
Bernadette Chattam	City Clerk	Open Records	706-529-2490
City of Tunnel Hill			
	City Manager	PIO	
City of Varnell			
Mike Brown	City Manager	PIO	706-694-8800
Town of Cohutta			
Ron Shinnick	City Manager	PIO	706-694-3330
Public Health District 1-2			
Jennifer King	Public Information Officer	PIO	706-529-5757 x13191
Local Media Contacts			
Radio			
North Georgia Radio Group	WYYU, WBLJ, WDAL		706-278-5511
Web – Social Media			
Whitfield County	http://www.whitfieldcountyga.com	Facebook, Twitter & Instagram	
City of Dalton	https://www.cityofdalton-ga.gov/		
North GA Health District	https://www.nghd.org/	Facebook, Twitter & Instagram	
City of Varnell	http://cityofvarnell.com/		
Town of Cohutta	https://cohuttaga.com/		
Newspaper			
Daily Citizen News	https://www.dailycitizen.news		706-217-6397
Television			
North Georgia Television	https://www.wdnntv.com/		706-278-9713

Appendix D- Business Section

Purpose

The purpose of the Business Section is to provide guidance and direction for the coordination and preparedness of essential business services to the citizens of Whitfield County before, during, and immediately after a pandemic outbreak. The Business Task Force should also seek to offer a class geared toward small business and a financial preparedness plan, should a pandemic restrict or halt their cash flow for a period of time.

Scope

The scope of the Business Section is to coordinate with Government and Health Care sources prior to and in the event of a pandemic outbreak. Their goal is to enhance preparedness efforts, develop a strategic response with key personnel, and plan for the long term recovery after such a pandemic by providing financial planning and preparedness for disasters that will affect business sales, cash flow, availability of products and more.

Preparedness Phase

This portion includes all preparedness and mitigation steps and plans.

1. The Chamber of Commerce will educate local businesses on the need to create a Continuity of Operations Plan and Financial Preparedness Plan that encompasses items such as, but not limited to:
 - a. Educate employees about Pandemic outbreaks of all kinds, such as bird flu, etc., and how to take protective measures in the workplace and home.
 - b. Determine if their business, its products and services, are essential, core (important, but not essential) or non-essential to the public. Businesses will also differ regarding whether they come in contact with the public or not. (Example, retail stores vs. utility companies.)
 - c. Will they need to eliminate some services – and/or add some services?
 - d. How will employee absences affect their business? Are personnel cross-trained? Can some or all employees telecommute (work from home)?
 - e. How will reduced revenue affect their business? (**Develop a financial plan that will respond to reduced cash flow.**)
 - f. How will reduced shipping/receiving affect their business?
2. The Chamber of Commerce will develop two committees – one for essential businesses – one for non-essential.

3. The Chamber of Commerce will contact the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) regarding a class on planning and financial preparedness that is specifically geared toward businesses. This class will be promoted to all businesses.
4. Utility companies such as telecommunications and power are included in the business Section. Their ability to function will affect government operations as well as business. They will develop a plan to insert in this Section that will address possible outages and ways to assure continuity of service, particularly to the government sector and essential business.
5. Both the Chamber of Commerce and the Library have e-mail systems that may be used to help educate businesses and citizens about the need to plan and prepare. The Chamber of Commerce's newsletter and mail-outs will also be a tool for educating businesses.
6. Financial institutions and other lenders and their business customers should communicate ahead of time about policies regarding late payments due to reduced business revenue during a pandemic outbreak.

Response Phase

This phase includes all response plans to a pandemic outbreak with key personnel, equipment, continuity of services, etc.

1. The Chamber of Commerce staff will maintain the office for information services if possible. E-mail notifications can be done from a home base if needed.
2. Businesses will implement their plans so that essential services and products are available to the community. Non-essential services may be temporarily discontinued if reduced personnel or other factors necessitate such action. Non-essential businesses will make determinations as to their ability to operate according to general directives given by Office of the Governor.
3. Businesses will instruct employees that can telecommute to do so.
4. Businesses will reduce contact with customers and objects as much as possible through use of protective masks, gloves and sanitizers.
5. Financial businesses and other lenders should be prepared to work with clients who have reduced revenue due to a pandemic. Hopefully reduced or late payments will be accepted with minimal impact to both businesses and the lenders.
6. The Chamber of Commerce and possibly the Library's e-mail system may be used to update their contacts on the latest directives or updated action plans.

Recovery Phase

This phase includes both short and long range plans and actions associated with recovery from pandemic events.

1. Businesses should make every effort to reinstate services and/or products that were reduced during the pandemic as soon as possible. It is recognized that the ability to do so depends on many sources that are not controlled by the business itself. Uncontrollable circumstances such as, percentage of employees that can return to work, ability to ship and receive goods, amount of cash flow available to purchase goods, and more, will all affect a business's ability to return to normal operation. It is recognized that each business will vary greatly according to their product and/or service.
2. The Chamber of Commerce will work to make known any financial assistance or loan programs that may become available to businesses impacted by a pandemic.
3. The Chamber of Commerce of Commerce will continue to encourage everyone to do business locally when at all possible.
4. Short and long range plans will be implemented that were developed through classes, such as those formulated by the Small Business Development Center.

Appendix E: Community & Faith-Based Organizations

Purpose

The purpose of the Community & Faith-Based Section is to provide guidance and direction for the coordination and preparedness of Community & Faith-Based Organizations to the citizens of Whitfield County before, during, and immediately after a pandemic outbreak.

Scope

The scope of the Community & Faith-Based Organizations Section is to coordinate with Emergency Management prior to and in the event of a pandemic outbreak. The goal of the Community & Faith Based Organizations Section is to enhance preparedness efforts, develop a strategic response with key personnel, and plan for the long term recovery after such pandemic.

Preparedness Phase

This portion includes all preparedness and mitigation steps and plans:

- To encourage public participation in Community Emergency Response Teams.
- To encourage public participation with American Red Cross.
- To designate an Information Officer for the recruitment of new volunteers targeting mainly civic groups i.e. Rotary, Lions, Women's Club, Church Congregations and others for volunteers to assist in the preparedness, response and recovery areas.
- To encourage participation by faith based organizations.
- To encourage participation by retired professionals.
- Prepare for alternate meeting or congregational service plans, i.e., video/audio messaging.
- To encourage individuals and congregations to prepare by creating emergency disaster supplies cache to include: N95 masks, nitrile gloves, alcohol based hand wash.
- Ministers and church leaders should plan for mass memorial services and alternative ways to provide those services.

The said training will mainly cover shelter operations, transportation of food, medical supplies and other humanitarian resources as designated; provided for PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) counselling and Mass Burial Management.

Response Phase

This phase includes all response plans to a pandemic outbreak with key personnel, equipment, continuity of services, etc.:

- **Provide Personnel for:**
 1. EOC Operations
 2. Transportation Services
 3. Informational Services
 4. Shelter Management Services
 5. Points of Distribution Services

- **Identify Equipment for:**
 1. Shelter Materials
 2. Point of Distribution Supplies
 3. Mass Transportation
 4. Generators
 5. Tents
 6. Storage Facilities
 7. Mass Communications Capability

- **CERT Response:**

A Community Emergency Response Team support unit is equipped and will be available for training volunteers. A key element in responding to this disaster will be an Emergency Coordinator that will coordinate all Community Organization Volunteers, address Human Resource issues, and to insure continuous service to those in need. We anticipate only 1/3 of our volunteers will be able to participate in our efforts due to being personally involved in the disaster.

- **Faith-Based Response:**
 1. Issuance of request to suspend services, (most probably to coincide with the school systems decision to suspend school).
 2. Communication with public health for those sick in congregation.
 3. Provide public service with counselors.

Recovery Phase

This phase includes both short and long range plans and actions associated with recovery from a pandemic event.

Along with supplying manpower for transportation, shelter operations and other responsibilities, this committee will collaborate with faith based organizations and local mental health services to supply immediate and long term crisis counseling, not only the general public but to relief workers, both paid and volunteer as well.

Recommend service renewal plans in conjunction with public health officials, while providing continued support to area congregations while providing PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) counselling.

Appendix F- Individuals/Family Section

Purpose

The purpose of the Individuals/Family Section is to provide guidance and direction for the coordination and preparedness of informational services to the citizens of Whitfield County before, during, and immediately after a pandemic outbreak.

Scope

The scope of the Individuals/Family Section is to coordinate with all Sections, media and public sources prior to and in the event of a pandemic event. The goal of the Individuals/Family Section is to enhance preparedness efforts, develop a strategic response with key personnel, and plan for the long-term recovery after such a pandemic.

Preparedness Phase

This portion includes all preparedness and mitigation steps and plans.

Public information regarding preparedness and prevention will be communicated through planning kits and strategically prepared press releases. All published material will be disseminated county wide through the schools, mass email, human resource departments, local newspaper and radio, Chamber of Commerce, churches and other mass exposure sources. All public materials will be approved by the Public Health District Public Information Officer (PIO) prior to dissemination. In cooperation with the local media, we will implement a series of approved public service announcements to keep issues and information fresh in the minds of our community.

A pandemic hotline, may be established in preparation for the response phase, to provide a source of information for the general public. The hotline will be arranged in conjunction with public health at the request of our Public Health Office.

During the preparation phase we will establish alternate means of communication with the general public in preparation for the response phase. This will involve some form of county wide notification system. Available resources will be determined by the local EMA Director. This Section will work closely with Appendix C – Media Section.

Response Phase

This phase includes all response plans to a pandemic outbreak with key personnel, equipment, continuity of services, etc.

Activate the county wide emergency notification system. Begin communication of pandemic activation procedures to the general public. Emphasize social distancing and “essential” services. Procedures for this will have been established by the various Sections of the committee and will be communicated through the resources identified in the preparedness phase.

As a last resort, implement door to door notification and surveillance systems.

Recovery Phase

This phase includes both short and long range plans and actions associated with recovery from a pandemic event.

It will be of the utmost importance to identify and communicate issues of public concern to appropriate personnel and resources. Every effort will be made to communicate post event information to the general public, through available channels, and to create post event awareness public service announcements. The committee will evaluate effectiveness of response phase and conduct post event review.

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SUPPLEMENT 1

Infection Control Policy

DRAFT

Forward

The primary object of this policy is to protect the health of all employees and the public by reducing the possibility that they will become exposed or, if infected with an illness, such as the flu, infect others. It is important that all employees practice good hygiene habits and learn to recognize the symptoms of influenza in themselves and others and take the appropriate steps necessary to minimize infection for themselves and/or contagion of others.

Overview

Influenza and other viruses are known to survive on non-porous surfaces, such as steel and plastic, for up to 24-to-48 hours after introduction. Cloth, paper, and tissues for up to 12 hours. Viable virus can be transferred from non-porous surfaces to hands for 24 hours and from tissues to hands for 15 minutes. Influenza is easily spread from person to person by coughs and sneezes and/or by touching the eyes, nose, or mouth with hands. It is therefore important that the following procedures be followed:

A. Workplace Sanitation

Surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected daily or after every shift change or at all staff changes for shared workstations. Surfaces that should be addressed include door knobs, telephone handsets, touch pads, keyboards, mice, control knobs, all work surfaces, chair arms, seats and adjustment handles, and any object that is touched or potentially coughed on by employees or by the public. These areas should be cleaned with an EPA registered disinfectant by the person using the work area.

If an EPA-registered disinfectant is not available, use a dilute solution (1part chlorine to 6 parts water or 5.33 oz. per quart, 22.33 oz. per gal) of bleach solution, applied with moistened towel and allowed to remain wet for 5 minutes. Do not soak or spray surfaces, especially keyboards or other electronic equipment. Gloves should be worn during cleaning procedures. When using chemical disinfectants, all manufacturers' instructions should be followed. Always use disposable towels or wipes.

B. Personal Hygiene

Transmission of influenza and other illnesses can occur from direct or indirect contact with hands and articles freshly soiled by someone who is infected. The evidence of infection may or may not be evident. Influenza and other illnesses are readily inactivated on hands by cleaning them with soap and water or an alcohol –based hand rub. Proper hand washing is the single most effective barrier to infection. Hands must be thoroughly and properly washed at the beginning and end of each work shift, after using the toilet facilities, coughing, sneezing or after touching surfaces that may have been contaminated by someone already infected.

Rinse hands under cool running water and apply antimicrobial soap, lather well. Wash hands and fingers for a minimum of 15 seconds.

Work soap around fingers and nails. Do not use a scrub brush, because it may cause abrasions.

Rinse thoroughly with cool running water (hot water opens pores and dilates capillaries).

Dry hands with paper towels and use the towel to turn off the faucet.

Cover cuts and abrasions with Band-Aids or finger cot until fully healed.

If hands are not visibly soiled or sticky, they may be sanitized with an alcohol-based hand rub containing at least 60% alcohol. Apply enough product to cover all surfaces of both hands, rubbing hands together until all surfaces, including between fingers, are dry.

Hands should *always* be washed and/or disinfected, after using the toilet facilities, coughing or sneezing, or eating.

Always cover coughs or sneezes with a tissue or by using the bend of the elbow when tissues are not available. Dispose of tissues immediately and clean your hands.

Do not share glasses, dishes or eating utensils unless they have been thoroughly washed and dried first. Break areas without washing facilities should be equipped with disposable cups, plates, and utensils.

C. Social Distancing

Employees should take every appropriate action to minimize the possibility of infections to themselves and others, especially during the flu season. In addition to the sanitation measures listed above, social distancing may be crucial to protect yourself and others.

Employees who frequently come face-to-face with the public can reduce their risk by maintaining a distance of approximately 3 feet from anyone who they suspect may be ill. Avoid shaking hands or hugging others if you suspect they, or yourself may be ill.

Employees who feel ill, or observe another exhibiting influenza symptoms, should notify their supervisor immediately. (The ill should avoid face-to-face contact if possible). The supervisor will determine if the employee should be sent home or segregated until they can leave the workplace. The following should be used as a screening guideline for influenza-like illnesses:

Ascertain if the employee has any of the following symptoms

- Fever (feels feverish or hot)
- Headache
- Fatigue or weakness

- Sore throat, cough, or difficulty breathing
- Muscle or joint aches or pains

Once an employee has left the workplace, the area should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected following the guidelines listed previously.

Employees who become ill should remain at home and away from others as much as possible. If influenza is suspected, you should seek medical attention as soon as possible.

The following precautions are recommended:

- It is recommended that you minimize visitors to your home during times of illness.
- Designate one caregiver in the home, to limit exposure of those who are not infected.
- Obtain a flu shot each year.

Employees who have been diagnosed with influenza should not return to work until they are no longer infectious.

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The following information is intended as a *guide* only. Employees should seek medical advice if they believe they have contracted influenza.

Differences Between Influenza And The Common Cold

Symptom	Influenza	Common Cold
Fever	Usual, sudden onset, last 3-4 days	Rare
Headache	Usual and can be severe	Rare
Aches and Pains	Usual and can be severe	Rare
Fatigue and weakness	Usual, can last 2-3 weeks after acute illness	Sometimes, but mild
Debilitating fatigue	Usual, early onset, can be severe	Rare
Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea	In children < 5 yrs. old	Rare
Watering of the eyes	Rare	Usual
Runny, stuffy nose	Rare	Usual
Sneezing	Rare in early stages	Usual
Sore Throat	Usual	Usual
Chest Discomfort	Usual and can be severe	Sometimes, but mild to moderate
Complications	Respiratory failure, can worsen a chronic condition, can be life threatening	Congestion or earache
Fatalities	Well recognized	Not reported.

SUPPLEMENT 2

Key Personnel Contact List By Appendix

Annex P1 - Whitfield County Local Emergency Operations Plan

Section	Name/Title	Agency/Dept.	Office #	Email
Government	Director, Claude Craig	Whitfield EMA	706-876-2510	ccraig@whitfieldcountyga.com
Government	Deputy Director, Jeff Ownby	Whitfield EMA	706-876-2511	jownby@whitfieldcountyga.com
Government	Deputy Director, David Metcalf	Whitfield 911	706-876-2593	dmetcalf@whitfieldcountyga.com
Public Health	Director, David Husky	Public Health 1-2	706-529-5741 x 11181	david.huskey@dph.ga.gov
Public Health	PIO, Jennifer King	Public Health 1-2	706-529-5757 x 13191	jennifer.king@dph.ga.gov
Government	Director, Sharrel Jones	Health Dept.		jsharrel@dph.ga.gov
Government	Sheriff, Scott Chitwood	Whitfield SO	706-278-1233	schitwood@whitfieldcountyga.com
Government	Capt. Clay Pangle	Whitfield SO	706-278-1233	cpangle@whitfieldcoutyga.com
Government	Capt. Wesley Lynch	Whitfield SO	706-278-1233	wlynch@whitfieldcountga.com
Government	Chief, Edward O'Brien	Whitfield FD	706-259-7433	eobrien@whitfieldcountyga.com
Government	Chief, Todd Pangle	Dalton FD	706-278-7363	tpangle@daltonga.gov
Government	Director, Scott Radeker	Hamilton EMS	706-278-9211	sradeker@hhcs.org
Schools	District Safety Coordinator, Richard Knox	Whitfield Schools	706-217-6721	Richard.knox@wcsga.net
Schools	Safety & Transportation Coordinator, Jeff Wells	Dalton Schools	706-463-5037	Jeff.Wells@Dalton.k12.ga.us
Transportation	Operations Manager, Melissa Scott	Whitfield Transit	706-876-2515	mscott@whitfieldcountyga.com
Transportation	Director of Transportation, Rick Holsomback	Whitfield Schools	706-876-7280	Rick_holsomback@whitfield.k12.ga.us
Government		Dalton Utilities		
Government	Director of Communications, Mitch Talley	Whitfield CO PIO	706-876-1678	mtalley@whitfieldcountyga.com
Government	Director of Communications, Bruce Fraizer	Dalton PIO	706-278-9500 x 92402	bfrazier@cityofdalton-ga.gov
Public Health	Director of Public Safety, Jerry Tatum	Hamilton Medical Center	706-272-6081	jtatum@hhcs.org
Business	Chief Operating Officer, Phyllis Stephens	Chamber of Commerce	706-712-0951	stephens@daltonchamber.org
Government	Chief, Cliff Cason	Dalton Police	706-278-9085	ccason@daltonga.gov
Government	Chief, Tray Rider	Tunnel Hill Police		trider@cityoftunnelhill.com
Government	Chief, Lyle Grant	Varnell Police		lgrant@cityofvarnell.com
Government	Chief, Greg Fowler	Cohutta Police	706-694-3330	gfowler@townofcohutta.com
Government	Coroner, Greg Bates	Whitfield County Coroner	706-275-6235	gbates@whitfieldcountyga.com
Community				
Community				
Community				
Faith Based				
Faith Based				
Faith Based				
Faith Based				

Glossary and Acronyms

CDC- Center for Disease Control

CPPC- County Pandemic Planning Committee

Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)- Plan that provides for the continuity of essential functions of county government in the event an emergency prevents occupancy of its primary headquarters building, or an event that limits operations through extensive staff losses or other resource limitations.

COOP Event- Emergencies or potential emergencies that may affect a department or agency's ability to carry out its essential functions, such as, but not limited to: epidemics, or pandemic disease; natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes or tornados; terror attacks, or related emergency events.

Devolution: The transfer of essential functions, as the result of a COOP event, to another organizational element (i.e., person, office or organization, etc.) geographically located outside of the threat area.

Employee Assistance Program (EAP) - County program to assist employees with personal and behavioral health issues.

*Epidemic-*The occurrence of more cases of disease than expected in a given area or among a specific group of people over a particular period of time.

Essential Functions- Essential functions are those functions that enable each agency to provide vital services, maintain safe and quality operations, and maintain the safety of employees and associates, and sustain an industrial/economic base during an emergency.

HAN- Health Alert Network- National program, providing vital health information and the infrastructure to support the dissemination of that information at the State and Local levels

Isolation- The separation, and restriction of the movements of, a person or persons who have a specific infectious disease from those who are healthy, in an effort to stop the spread of the disease

*Pandemic-*An epidemic occurring over a very wide area (several countries or continents) and usually affecting a large proportion of the population.

POD- Point of Distribution- Location from which local public health provides for mass immunization of, or distribution of needed supplies to, the general public.

Prophylaxis- a treatment that prevents disease or stops it from spreading, e.g. vaccination.

“Push Package” - Rapid deployment and delivery of vaccines or other treatment and includes a broad spectrum of medical supplies from the National Strategic Stockpile.

Quarantine- The separation and restriction of movement of persons who, while not yet ill, have been exposed to an infectious agent and therefore may become infectious.

SNS- Strategic National Stockpile- National repository of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies designed to supplement and re-supply state and local public health agencies in the event of a national emergency.

Social Distancing- The restriction of movement or contact by persons, designed to increase the space between people and to decrease the frequency of contact among them, in an effort to prevent or limit the spread of infection.

SOG- Standard Operating Guidelines

WHO- World Health Organization

SUPPLEMENT 3

Planning Committee & Approvals

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Planning Committee

<input type="checkbox"/> Claude Craig	Director	Whitfield County Emergency Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Ownby	Deputy Director	Whitfield County Emergency Management
<input type="checkbox"/> David Metcalf	Deputy Director	Whitfield County 911
<input type="checkbox"/> Edward O'Brien	Chief	Whitfield County Fire Department
<input type="checkbox"/> Scott Chitwood	Sheriff	Whitfield County Sheriff's Office
<input type="checkbox"/> Scott Radeker	Director	Hamilton EMS
<input type="checkbox"/> Richard Knox	Director of Safety	Whitfield County Public Schools
<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Wells	Safety/Emergency Mgt.	Dalton Public Schools
<input type="checkbox"/> David Huskey	Director	North Georgia Public Health
<input type="checkbox"/> Todd Pangle	Chief	Dalton Fire Department
<input type="checkbox"/> _____	_____	Dalton Utilities
<input type="checkbox"/> _____	_____	Chamber of Commerce

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