

Chicago Healthcare System Coalition for Preparedness & Response Strategic Plan



Prepare
Alert
Respond

2025-2029



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CHSCPR Strategic Plan

Who We Are

The Chicago Healthcare System Coalition for Preparedness and Response (CHSCPR) is a collaboration of healthcare organizations and providers, the public health department, and community partners working together to care for our community before, during and after an emergency within the City of Chicago and EMS Region 11.

Mission

CHSCPR is dedicated to enhancing the emergency preparedness and response capabilities of the Chicago healthcare system. CHSCPR strives to achieve this by supporting the development and implementation of robust emergency plans, mitigation strategies, and response and recovery protocols.

Vision

A resilient and prepared Chicago healthcare system capable of effectively responding to and recovering from any emergency.

Values

Collaboration and Inclusivity: We emphasize bringing together diverse healthcare partners to address emergency preparedness needs.

Interdisciplinary Approach: We use committees, subcommittees, and workgroups with interdisciplinary teams to apply diverse expertise in emergency preparedness.

Adaptability: We proactively evolve strategies, strengthen partnerships, and leverage real-time data to respond effectively to healthcare emergencies.

Alignment with Preparedness Standards: Our work is congruent with local, state, and national emergency management and preparedness regulatory standards.



Development of the Strategic Plan

The 2025-2029 Strategic Plan was developed through extensive input from Coalition members and community stakeholders across various fields over several months, including surveys and multiple planning sessions. This collaborative process ensured that the plan reflects the priorities of those serving Chicago's diverse communities, particularly those most affected by disasters. Coalition members also validated the objectives and strategies to ensure alignment with the region's healthcare needs and emergency response priorities.

September 2024: Convened a working group to brainstorm the framework of the Strategic Plan with the following organizations:

- Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH)
- Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHA)
- Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center

November 2024: Held two Stakeholder Engagement Strategic Planning Sessions with representation from:

- American Red Cross
- CDPH
- Chicago Department of Family and Support Services (DFSS)
- Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA)
- Chicago Fire Department
- Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communication (OEMC)
- Cook County Medical Examiner
- Chicago Public Schools (CPS)
- IHA
- Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)
- Specialty and Safety-Net hospitals
- Strategic Advisory Committee
- CHSCPR Committee Chairs
- Additional Coalition Members (listed on page 11)

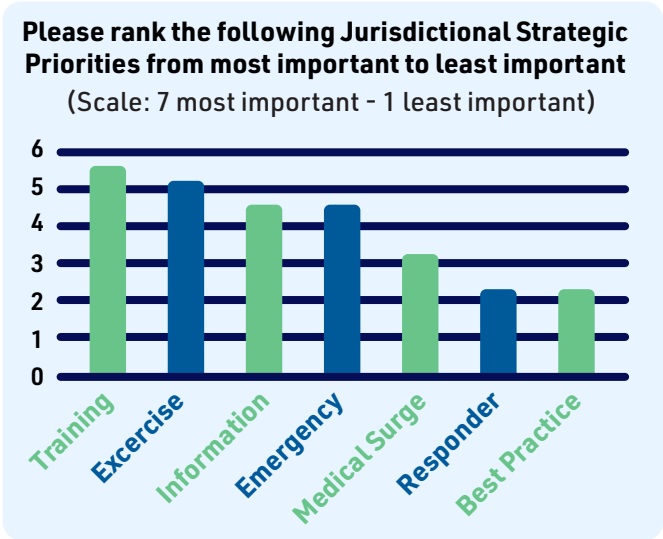
January 2025: Reviewed the Stakeholder Engagement Strategic Planning Session findings and validated data collected with Coalition membership.

February 2025: Efforts to advance the Strategic Plan included a survey outlining the Strategic Priorities for Coalition members. Use of an interactive storyboard tool also enabled Coalition members to highlight what is working well, challenges, and areas and ideas for improvement.



Priorities

CHSCPR members were surveyed to gauge what priorities are the most essential to focus on in the Strategic Plan. The findings are summarized in the following chart:



TRAINING: Providing tailored training programs to build the essential knowledge, skills, and abilities required for effective emergency response.

EXERCISE: Conducting coordinated exercises that test and enhance regional readiness while identifying resource needs and gaps related to regulatory requirements before, during, and after an emergency.

INFORMATION SHARING: Coordinating and activating the exchange of public health and medical-related situational awareness between Coalition members.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

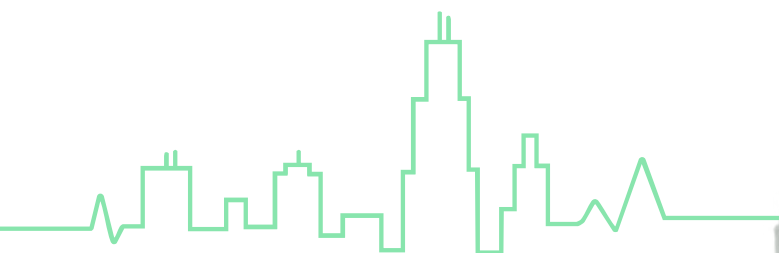
COORDINATION: Developing processes for notification and information exchange to determine and meet the immediate resource needs of Coalition members during emergencies.

MEDICAL SURGE: Providing adequate medical evaluation and care planning during incidents that exceed the limits of the normal medical infrastructure within the community.

RESPONDER SAFETY & HEALTH: Supporting healthcare organizations in planning, equipping, and training responders to effectively manage high-acuity public health emergencies - while promoting physical safety, fostering mental well-being, and strengthening long-term resilience.

BEST PRACTICE SHARING: Developing opportunities for CHSCPR members to gain insight into creative and novel best practices and to network with peers facing similar challenges.

Additional priorities mentioned by CHSCPR members included fostering relationship-building among members and addressing the gaps left by the reduction of resources for public health response.



Strategic Advisory Committee

Objective: Maintain a Strategic Advisory Committee to provide expert guidance on CHSCPR's development, ensuring its deliverables, response efforts, and strategic goals evolve to meet the needs of members and the communities they serve.

Leverage the Executive Committee to Establish a Strategic Advisory Committee:

The Executive Committee will serve as the Strategic Advisory Committee. It is composed of the Public Health Chair, Healthcare Chair, Vice Chair, Past Chair, Region 11 RHCC Manager, three At-Large Committee members, a Clinical Advisor, a Readiness Response Coordinator, a representative from the Emergency Medical Services Division of the Chicago Fire Department, and a representative from OEMC.

All positions, except the Public Health Chair, Region 11 RHCC Manager, Readiness Response Coordinator, EMS representative, and OEMC representative, are elected for a two-year term.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Public Health Chair

Chicago Department of Public Health

Healthcare Chair

Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

Healthcare Vice Chair

Endeavor Health Swedish Hospital

Healthcare Past Chair

Loretto Hospital

Regional Hospital Coordinating Center (RHCC)

Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center

At-Large Members

Prime Healthcare Saint Mary of Nazareth Hospital

UChicago Medicine

Erie Family Health Centers (Non- Healthcare Partner)

Emergency Medical Services

Chicago Fire Department

Clinical Advisor

UChicago Medicine

Readiness Response Coordinator

Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center

Emergency Management

Office of Emergency Management and Communications

Fiduciary Agent and Program Support

Illinois Health and Hospital Association

CHAIRS

Information Sharing

Sinai Chicago

Medical Surge

Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center

Responder Safety and Health

Chicago Department of Public Health and UChicago Medicine

Training and Exercise

Advocate Trinity Hospital



Policy Approach

Objective: Proactively address policy and regulatory challenges during incidents that impact Chicago's healthcare delivery system, advocating for solutions that support an effective and coordinated response.

Strategy 1: Communication and Situational Awareness

Prioritize communication and situational awareness regarding regulatory and policy changes among Coalition members. Maintain effective notification systems (emails, STARCOM21, EMResource, Coalition website, Chicago Health Alert Network (HAN)) to quickly and efficiently disseminate critical information. Provide regular presentations and overviews of updated policies and standards to ensure that Coalition members are informed and aligned.

Strategy 2: Information Dissemination

Maintain central hubs (Coalition website, EMResource) to share information and provide guidance, training documents, policies, and updates, ensuring easy access for all Coalition members.

Strategy 3: Knowledge Sharing

Encourage opportunities to spotlight Coalition members and invite subject matter experts to share best practices. Engage organizations that can interpret policy updates and share insights from recent disasters or regulatory surveys. Additionally, facilitate mentorship opportunities by connecting experienced Coalition members with others to navigate policy and regulatory changes effectively.

Strategy 4: Advocating for Solutions

Ensure the Strategic Advisory Committee is included in committees, planning sessions, and conferences that influence or develop policy and regulatory updates. Membership should collaborate across all levels of regional, local, state, and national committees.



Coordination for Healthcare Response Incident Management

Objective: Strengthen CHSCPR's emergency operations framework to align with the needs and collective response capabilities of its members, enhancing regional preparedness and resilience.

Strategy 1: ESF-8 Integration

Establishment of joint planning and coordination with neighboring Healthcare Coalitions (HCCs), embedding operational integration and conducting targeted training and exercises. A robust governance structure will guide these efforts to ensure an effective response to public health and medical emergencies.

Strategy 2: Public Health Emergency Operations Center (PHEOC)

Activation of the PHEOC will serve as a conduit to vital city emergency resources agencies as a bridge to IDPH for Coalition members, thereby enhancing coordination and streamlining communications during critical incidents.

Strategy 3: Situational Awareness

Continuous situational awareness will be maintained by regularly providing timely information on evolving disasters, emergencies, or large-scale events. This information will be integrated into all Coalition meetings as a proactive monitoring tool to identify hazards and inform strategic decisions.

Strategy 4: Emergency Operation Plan Development and Maintenance

Sustainability and refinement of emergency operations plans and annexes will be ensured by having the Strategic Advisory Committee oversee revisions. Lessons learned from real-world responses and exercise after-action improvements will be incorporated into this ongoing process.

Strategy 5: Financial Preparedness

Prioritized through the allocation of funds to ensure flexibility in addressing unexpected challenges. The Fiduciary Agency will implement comprehensive strategies for effective financial resource management, ensuring stability and sustainability for CHSCPR membership.





Community Impact



Objective: Ensure CHSCPR's top priorities address the healthcare needs of the communities across the Chicago region, with a focus on those most affected by disasters and health disparities.

Strategy 1: Community Needs Assessments

Community needs assessments will be enhanced by encouraging the sharing of key findings related to at-risk or vulnerable populations during Coalition meetings. This process will align efforts with the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program which builds community capacity to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and build resilience following disasters and public health emergencies.

Strategy 2: Information Sharing and Communication

Information and data-sharing protocols will be strengthened to rapidly disseminate accurate information to all stakeholders and community partners. Prioritization will be given to culturally sensitive communication and messaging for diverse populations by incorporating multiple languages capabilities and real-time data monitoring.

Strategy 3: Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA)

A comprehensive Hazard Vulnerability Assessment will be conducted to align training, exercises, information sharing, medical surge planning, and responder safety and health initiatives with the hazards and risks most likely to impact the city of Chicago. This assessment ensures that strategies are targeted and responsive to local challenges.

Strategy 4: Robust Infrastructure and Resource Management

Preexisting infrastructure will be maintained and enhanced to support efficient resource allocation during emergencies. Emphasis will be placed on the equitable distribution of resources to support at-risk and vulnerable populations, ensuring a robust and responsive healthcare system.



Community Engagement

Objective: Foster continuous engagement with community partners and key stakeholders throughout the strategic planning and implementation period to drive alignment, innovation, and shared impact.

Strategy 1: Governmental and NGO Engagement

Strong partnerships with government agencies and NGOs will be fostered to ensure a coordinated and comprehensive response to emergency events. Engagement with city services, including the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), OEMC, DFSS, and other preparedness funding programs, such as Region V for Kids and Great Lakes Healthcare Partnership, will be enhanced to facilitate timely notifications of training/exercises.

Strategy 2: Non-Hospital Healthcare Partners

Collaboration with non-hospital healthcare partners within CHSCPR, including long-term care facilities, dialysis centers, home health agencies, hospices, and blood banks, will be strengthened. Recognizing their vulnerability and potential impact on the acute care system, efforts will focus on supporting their regulatory advancement and sustainment.

Strategy 3: Public/Private Information Sharing

Emergency plans of local public and private partners including disaster agencies, schools, businesses, cultural institutions, event venues, and hotels, will be assessed to enhance coordination. Strategic planning sessions with these key stakeholders will ensure engagement, timely information sharing, and alignment with the broader healthcare response, establishing effective communication processes.

Strategy 4: Community Preparedness

Integrate with community organizations that will promote local, state, and national preparedness initiatives, such as CHI 311, MRC, the Community Emergency Response Team, National Preparedness Month, and the "If You See Something, Say Something" campaign. Partnerships with organizations like the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and various religious and civic groups will support culturally appropriate training, disaster preparedness, and community resilience-building.





Strategic Plan Participants

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| Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) | Cook County Health (CORE Center) | Prime Healthcare Saint Mary of Nazareth Hospital |
| Advent Health | Cook County Medical Examiner's Office (CCMEO) | Provident Hospital of Cook County |
| Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center | Endeavor Health Swedish Hospital | RML Specialty Hospital |
| Advocate Trinity Hospital | Erie Family Health Centers | Roseland Community Hospital |
| American Red Cross (ARC) | Fresenius Kidney Care | Rush University Medical Center |
| Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago | Holy Cross Hospital | SAH Dialysis Center at 26th Street |
| Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) | Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) | Saint Anthony Hospital |
| Chicago Department of Family and Support Services (DFSS) | Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHA) | Shifa Dialysis, LLC |
| Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) | Insight Hospital and Medical Center | Shirley Ryan AbilityLab |
| Chicago Fire Department (CFD) | Jesse Brown VA Medical Center | Shriners Children's - Chicago |
| Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC) | John H. Stroger Jr., Hospital of Cook County | Sinai Chicago |
| Chicago Public Schools (CPS) | La Rabida Children's Hospital | South Shore Hospital |
| Collaborative Healthcare Urgency Group (CHUG) | Loretto Hospital | St. Bernard Hospital |
| Community First Medical Center | Medxcel | The Pearl of Montclare |
| Cook County Emergency Management and Regional Security | Northwestern Medicine | UChicago Medicine |
| | Northwestern Memorial Hospital | UI Health |
| | Prime Healthcare Resurrection Medical Center | Unity Hospice of Chicagoland |
| | | Visiting Nurses of Illinois |
| | | WellBe Senior Medical |

CHSCPR membership is made up of healthcare organizations that provide services within the City of Chicago, including the following: acute and specialty hospitals, public health services, emergency medical services, dialysis centers, long-term care facilities, federally qualified health centers, free and charitable clinics, home healthcare providers, medical professional associations, and any organizations involved in emergency preparedness and response efforts.





chscpr.org

