

Abbreviated Progress Report 9/7/22 - 13 Recommendations by Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee (EPS) on Emergency Preparedness for Older Adults & the Disabled

| REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS | LEAD | TIMELINE | CURRENT STATUS |
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| 1. Identify individuals in rural areas with access and functional needs. | County OES | Ongoing | √ OES started initial work with Winters; Jill Cook to follow up on how to involve rural fire departments; there will be quarterly check-ins with OES on progress made. * |
| 2. Foster greater collaboration and cooperation between assisted living facilities and county emergency services. | County HHSA | Training module was to have been completed 12/21, but now tabled until county after action review completed | Douglas Brim, working with Cindi Unger, will develop specialized emergency preparedness training for assisted living facilities. Will ensure a more collaborative approach between county and assisted living facilities, with input from the facilities themselves, so training is directly related to their specific needs. |
| 3. Instruction to residents with special needs on what to do in a power outage. | County OES; Cities | Ongoing | √ County has power outage webpage that is constantly updated. Suggestions for improvements to the county power outage webpage are being worked on by Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee. |
| 4. Develop Alzheimers/dementia training and provide to EMT/fire/police | County HHSA | Training module to have been completed by June 2022; but because of staff transition process is ongoing | Douglas Brim, EMS Administrator, will work with Cindi Unger to develop this training. Cindi Unger will investigate specialized Alzheimer's training already utilized by the Sacramento Police Dept. to determine if it will be a good fit for Yolo County. |
| 5. Improve the accessibility and navigability of the county website for purposes of emergency preparedness information. | County CAO | Ongoing | √ Improvements to the county website are in progress. Suggestions for more improvements will be made by Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee, especially in regard to navigability. The Yolo County Fire Safe Council has developed its own webpage for wildfire safety that the county website can link to. * |
| 6. Create a rural CERT (Community Emergency Response Team). | County OES | Ongoing | √ A rural CERT has been formed in the Capay Valley by the Capay Valley Fire Protection District. It may evolve into a NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Team) if enough volunteers cannot be found to take the more extensive training required of a CERT. A NERT requires fewer hours of training. There are also a number of other emergency response teams that OES can tap into, listed on the county's website. |

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| <p>7. Ensure In-Home Supportive Service (IHSS) consumers are prioritized for free go-kits.</p> | <p>County HHSA; YCCAAS EPS</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>√ The In-Home Supportive Services Advisory Committee applied for and received a \$1,000 donation from Partnership Healthplan with Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance as the fiscal agent managing the donation. Resources for Independent Living of Sacto & Yolo donated 511 PG&E-funded go-kits. Yolo County IHSS and Health and Human Services Agency used \$121,500 to purchase the remaining 2,500 go-kits. Distribution started in the western, wildfire-prone part of the County and is ongoing. This may be a model for other counties to emulate.</p> |
| <p>8. Support appropriate legislation to increase county OES budgets.</p> | <p>County CAO; OES; YHAA</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>√ Completed. Potential legislation is closely followed. This was made a county legislative priority.</p> |
| <p>9. Ensure a representative from OES attends any county meeting if emergency preparedness is on the agenda if OES time permits.</p> | <p>County OES</p> | <p>Completed 10/1/2020</p> | <p>√ Successfully completed, and will continue to be closely monitored.</p> |
| <p>10. More information, particulars that are more useful, should be included in YoloAlerts; and more frequent YoloAlerts.</p> | <p>County OES</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>√ OES notified the YCCAAS Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee that the alerts software vender would begin charging a fee per alert. This was of grave concern to the Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee as it is antithetical to the purpose of alerts, giving an incentive to the county to send out fewer alerts to save money. The Yolo County Commission on Aging & Adult Services sent a letter of concern to elected officials. Since then, the vendor granted to Yolo County the previous contract of unlimited alerts without a fee per alert, which is effective through 10/31/2022. Meanwhile the state has purchased the Everbridge software, in anticipation of attempting to encourage all counties in California to adopt its use. Yolo County and our own OES Dana Carey were chosen to be one of the consultants on the state's implementation of Everbridge. Cal OES will pay for any pricing changes.' Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee still working on content and frequency of alerts.</p> |
| <p>11. Have an identifiable county contact for the public to communicate with, for any questions or concerns.</p> | <p>County HHSA</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>Facilities utilize MHOAC duty officer; Jill Cook to check with Brian Vaughn regarding staffing for a public information officer of some sort who can field calls from citizens. It appears there may be funding for such staffing.</p> |

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| <p>12. Provide public explanation why long term care facilities must follow certain protocols on the restriction of visitation in an emergency.</p> | <p>County HHSA</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>Public messaging needs to be published in the future about the reasons for health protocols for long-term care facilities and any acceptable alternatives to in-person visitation. County will take this issue up in the after action COVIDreview, take into account new federal regulations in regard to visitation in such facilities, and develop a closer relationship with these facilities in the future.</p> |
| <p>13. Develop a county policy whether to release the name of a facility to the public/press that is a “hot spot” of cases in an infectious disease outbreak.</p> | <p>County HHSA</p> | <p>TBD</p> | <p>Revisit issue during county after action COVID review, consulting with County Health Officer.</p> |
| <p>Emergency Preparedness Modules</p> | <p>Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>The 6 emergency preparedness modules have been posted to the county's website for public viewing at any time convenient and for review. On Sept. 13 & 20, 2021, the modules were presented to the public via Zoom in a trial run. Approximately 15 people attended, and had the opportunity to ask questions. Dana Carey of OES was present to respond to the various inquiries. Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance will assist the Subcommittee in making in-person presentations of the modules throughout the county.</p> |
| <p>Updated by: Elaine Roberts Musser Chair, Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee Vice Chair, Yolo County Commission on Aging & Adult Services CA Alert and Warning Guidelines</p> | <p>Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee</p> | <p>Completed 6/22</p> | <p>√Kate Laddish, member of Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee, and Chair of IHSS Advisory Committee, was invited to submit suggestions to improve CA state alert guidelines to include consideration of those with access and functional needs (like the elderly, disabled, blind, deaf, English as a second language speakers).</p> |