



Lealman Community Emergency Response Team

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Training Topic: Mass Dispensing Sites – A Primer for Volunteers

Lealman CERT members are encouraged to take the following on-line course. Upon completion please print two copies of the certificate and forward one of the copies to: K. Larry Thompson, Lealman Fire District, 4360 55th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33714 or fax to (727) 525-9657 or email to klt@lealmanfire.com. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact Captain Thompson for possible alternative arrangements.

The Department of Health would like to utilize CERT volunteers for mass dispensing operations. Each CERT member may take the course titled **Mass Dispensing Sites – A Primer for Volunteers**, on his/her own time and will need to include their email address and a password to sign on to the University of Minnesota Center for Public Health Preparedness website for training. The U. of M. School of Public Health 'Center for Public Health Preparedness' has developed the on-line training course for volunteers that will work in mass dispensing PODs. The course provides a positive discussion on issues such as family preparedness, liability, purpose and explanation of the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), sample layout of a POD and patient flow options that would not be covered in “just-in-time” training and takes a great deal of time in presentations. The training even prompts the volunteer through a self-assessment form on what jobs the volunteer could attend and there are Job Action Sheets for the POD positions.

To access the course, go to the following page and register as a new user by using your email address and a password: <https://cpheo1.sph.umn.edu/massdisp/index.asp> . You will receive a confirmation email, must left click on the URL in the confirmation note.

This training course is designed to provide an overview of the general operations of mass dispensing sites and serves as an orientation for individuals who may be asked to work in those sites during an emergency. It is intended to complement “just in time” training provided on site at the time of deployment. Volunteers such as CERT members and others including public health staff may find this training beneficial. Your volunteer coordinator may request that you provide her/him with your completed volunteer assessment form and course certificate to be maintained as part of your training record. Participants are eligible to receive a certificate upon completion of the training, including pre-test, post-test and evaluation.

Learning Objectives - Upon successful completion of the program, participants will be able to describe:

- The important role that volunteers will play in a large public health emergency.
- Key issues that volunteers should understand in advance of an emergency and where additional information on these issues can be found.
- Why mass dispensing is a national priority for planning, training, and exercises.
- How the federal Strategic National Stockpile, or SNS, fits into overall public health emergency response.
- Challenges to operating mass dispensing sites.
- Basic site design and patient flow in a mass dispensing site.
- The types of positions that must be staffed for effective operation.
- The command structure used to manage sites.