Summary of Conclusions
FLINT WATER RESPONSE

Resilient People. Healthy Communities. A Nation Prepared.
Flint Water Crisis Timeline

- 5/2014 City of Flint switched from Detroit Water to the Flint River as its primary water source
- Different characteristics of the water and lack of corrosion control resulted in leaching of lead into the water supply
- 10/1/15 Genesee County Health Department issues Health Advisory
- 12/14/15 state of emergency declared by City of Flint
- 1/4/16 Genesee County declares State of Emergency and requests a Governor’s declaration
- 1/5/16 Governor issues Declaration of Emergency, State EOC Activated 24/7
Flint Water Crisis Timeline cont...

- 1/9/16 5 fire stations open as Points of Distribution
- 1/14/16 Request for Emergency Declaration and Major Disaster Declaration
- 1/16/16 Emergency Declaration approved; Major Disaster Declaration denied
- 1/17/16 FEMA IMAT deploys to Lansing ISO
- 1/19/16 U.S. DHHS designated as Lead Federal Agency; Dr. Nicole Lurie designated as Lead Federal Official
- 1/20/16 Federal Personnel deploy to Flint
- 1/25/16 Unified Coordination Group Formed; Joint Incident Action Plan Generated
- 2/1/16 State LNOs join UCG
- 8/14/16 FEMA Emergency Declaration ends; UCG continues operations
HHS as Lead Federal Agency (LFA)

- Draft PPD for Non-Stafford Act Responses
- Created Organizational Structure that became the UCG
- HQ HHS Set Overarching Objectives
  - Immediate Access to Safe Water
  - Long Term Water System Recovery
  - Address Immediate Health Needs
  - Mitigate Long Term Health Effects
- Objectives impacted which Departments participated in UCG
  - Resulted in fractured Federal response
Unified Coordination Group

Lead Federal Official
Dr. Nicole Lurie, HHS

FHCO
Tony Voirin, HHS

UCG
EPA, CDC, FEMA, State of Michigan

Operations Planning Logistics Finance & Admin
Operations

- Water Quality Task Force
  - EPA, ATSDR

- Nutrition Task Force
  - USDA

- Human Services Task Force
  - HHS

- Health & Medical Task Force
  - HHS, CDC

- Public & External Affairs Task Force
  - HHS, EPA, FDA, FEMA, CDC
AAR Key Findings

- Key Finding 1: The authorities of a Lead Federal Agency in a non-Stafford Act response need to be defined and specified.

- Key Finding 2: Lead Federal Agency designation resulted in objectives and tactics being driven by Washington D.C.

- Key Finding 3: National Response Framework was not utilized for LFA response.

- Key Finding 4: National Disaster Recovery Framework was not used.
AAR Comments

- Key Finding 5: In a non-Stafford Act response, FEMA needs to continue fill lead roles in which they are uniquely trained and experienced
- Key Finding 6: FHCO Support in a LFA response
- Key Finding 7: FHCO Training Requirements
- Key Finding 8: Need for a System of Record
AAR Recommendations

- **Recommendation 1:** Define authorities and responsibilities of a LFA and Departments supporting a LFA. In conjunction with FEMA, Develop CONOPS and associated training program for non-Stafford Act responses.

- **Recommendation 2:** If an LFO is designated, they should coordinate between departments in Washington D.C. and rely on the FHCO to lead the field operations.
AAR Recommendations

- **Recommendation 3:** If designated as the LFA, HHS should request DHS to activate the NRF structure and elements while retaining leadership. The UCG should be established and operate as outlined in the NRF to include State counterparts.

- **Recommendation 4:** When enhanced recovery coordination is indicated, FEMA appoint an FDRC and activate the RSFs.
**AAR Recommendations**

- **Recommendation 5:** Request FEMA support HHS by providing:
  - Federal Coordinating Officer (until FHCO’s receive adequate training)
  - Public and External Affairs – ESF15
  - Plans Section Chief
  - Federal Disaster Recovery Coordinator
AAR Recommendations

- **Recommendation 6:** Immediately provide the FHCO with:

  - Deputy FHCO, especially if the operation is expected to last longer than two weeks
  - Health and Medical Lead to focus on the HHS part of the mission
  - Public and External Affairs ESF15 lead, recommend FEMA fill
  - Information Manager for organizing mission related operational information.
  - Executive Assistant to maintain FHCO’s schedule, arrange meetings, track and follow up on commitments made during meetings.
AAR Recommendations

- **Recommendation 7:** Provide FCO type training to FHCOs, particularly preparing them to engage with the public and press.

- **Recommendation 8:** If the NRF is not going to be used for non-Stafford Act responses, develop and train on processes and procedures for receiving, evaluating, approving and tracking support requests from states. Recommend using the “Matrix” used during the Flint Response as a well-developed starting point.
QUESTIONS?
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Flint Partners
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