



# The Alphabet Soup of Public Health Emergency Preparedness

## Acronyms and How Volunteers Fit

**November 18, 2023**

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### Acronyms

- **Maine DHHS** - Department of Health and Human Services is dedicated to promoting health, safety, resilience, and opportunity for Maine people.

- **Maine CDC** – Center for Disease Control and Prevention

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### Acronyms

- **PHEP** – Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) cooperative agreement is a critical source of funding for state, local, and territorial public health departments. This helps health departments build and strengthen their abilities to effectively respond to a range of public health threats, including infectious diseases, natural disasters, and biological, chemical, nuclear, and radiological events.



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### Acronyms

- **Federal DHHS** - The mission of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is to enhance the health and well-being of all Americans, by providing for effective health and human services and by fostering sound, sustained advances in the sciences underlying medicine, public health, and social services.



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### Acronyms

- **ASPR** - The Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response is an operating agency of the U.S. Public Health Service within the Department of Health and Human Services that focuses preventing, preparing for, and responding to the adverse health effects of public health emergencies and disasters.



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### Acronyms

- **VMC**- Volunteer Management Coordinator - coordination of Maine CDC's volunteer cadre using the Maine Responds registry tool for registering, credentialing and deploying volunteers. <https://www.maineresponds.org/>
- **MRC** - Medical Reserve Corps is a national network of more than 300,000 volunteers, organized locally to improve the health and safety of their communities.



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### Acronyms

- **ESAR-VHP**- The Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals is a United States federal program to establish and implement guidelines and standards for the registration, credentialing, and deployment of medical professionals.



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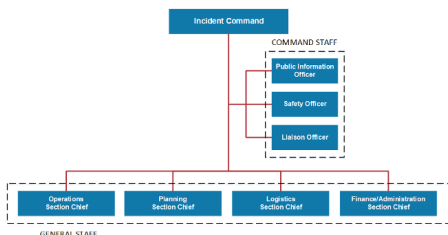
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### Acronyms

- **ICS**- Incident Command System is a common management structure utilized throughout the emergency management community.



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### Acronyms

- **PHEOC** - Public Health Emergency Operations Center is a physical, virtual, or hybrid location that accommodates staff and equipment for incident coordination.
- **ESF #8**- Emergency Support Function #8 – Public Health and Medical Services provides the mechanism for coordinated Federal assistance to supplement State, tribal, and local resources in response to a public health and medical disaster, potential or actual incident.



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**Acronyms**

- **HCC- Health Care Coalition of Maine** is comprised of three regional chapters that are each made up of key partners from across the state, including hospitals, emergency medical services, emergency management, public health, behavioral health, and ancillary health care providers.



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**Acronyms**

- **HPP - Hospital Preparedness Program** provides leadership and funding through cooperative agreements to states, territories, and eligible major metropolitan areas to increase the ability of HPP funding recipients to plan for and respond to large-scale emergencies and disasters.
- **HAN - Health Alert Network** is primary method of sharing cleared information about urgent public health incidents with federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local public health practitioners; clinicians; and public health laboratories.



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**Acronyms**

- **SNS- Strategic National Stockpile** is part of the federal medical response infrastructure and can supplement medical countermeasures needed by states, tribal nations, territories and the largest metropolitan areas during public health emergencies.



- **MCM - Medical Counter Measures** are medicines and medical supplies that can be used to diagnose, prevent, or treat diseases related to chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear threats.

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### Acronyms

- **RSS - Receipt, Stage, and Store** is a warehouse that is used to receive and manage SNS shipments of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies delivered to Maine. The warehouse is operated by local staff and possibly volunteers who respond during an emergency.



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### Acronyms

- **FAC - Family Assistance Center** secure facility established following a mass casualty incident to provide information about missing or unaccounted persons and the deceased, and to provide a “one-stop shop” of services for victims and their loved ones.



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### Acronyms

- **ACS - Alternate Care Site** is a location to provide either inpatient and/or outpatient health care services when existing facilities are compromised by a hazard impact or when an expected volume of patients exceeds available capacity and/or capabilities.



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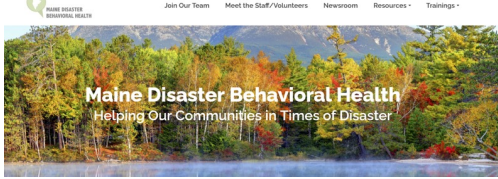
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## Acronyms

- **DBH – Disaster Behavioral Health** disaster response is to assist individuals in coping with the immediate psychological aftermath of the disaster, mitigate additional stress and psychological harm, and to promote the development of resilience techniques and coping strategies that individuals, responders and communities may be able to utilize throughout recovery.



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## Acronyms

- **POD - Point of Dispensing** is a mass dispensing site that provides medications (prophylaxis) or vaccinations to protect the general population from biological threats or epidemics.



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## Where do Volunteers Fit into Public Health Volunteerism?

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### When Might Volunteers Be Needed?

- **Normal business is impacted**
  - High employee absenteeism or unavailability
  - Unable to provide necessary services to the public
- **Business resources are exhausted**
  - All normal staffing arrangements utilized
- **Local, County, and Health Care Coalition resources are exhausted**
- **If all the above is true, and necessary healthcare services continue to be impacted, the next step is to request State resources**

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### Foster Healthcare Volunteerism

- **Where do you Fit?**
  - Maine Responds
  - Maine Medical Reserve Corps
  - Disaster Behavioral Health Response Team
  - Nurse, PA, NP, Physician, Allied Health Professional
  - Butcher, Baker, or even a Candlestick Maker

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# THANK YOU!

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