

COVID-19 RESPONSE IN LONG TERM OR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

COVID-19 After Action Report (AAR): CMS requires 2 emergency preparedness exercises a year to prepare for a real emergency but this year a real emergency, COVID-19, happened. Get credit for the hard work you have done and will continue to do by completing the attached *CMS After Action Report* that can be filled out to showcase all you have done and what to improve upon. The capabilities that most of you can address are:

1. Planning
2. Communication (*NHSN, DPH, Local Health, Families, some media*)
6. Epidemiological Investigation Surveillance & Investigation (*surveillance, testing*)
16. Critical Resource Logistics & Distribution (*PPE*)
18. Responder Safety and Health (*PPE, testing*)
26. Isolation and Quarantine

Partners: think of all the partners you worked with during this time: CT DPH, CT National Guard, Local Health Dept/ District, your local EMS, Hospital (if you sent cases), resident families (communication).

Section 2: has to do with exercise design. As this was a real event you might want to consider putting a timeline here of your activities- when planning started, first cases etc.

Strengths: give yourself credit for all you did. I think a big strength for all of you is that your staff showed up and worked despite the threat to their health. Other possible strengths: developed great working relationships with your partners; improved plans; demonstrated flexibility with all the changes.

I am curious if other infections such as MRSA, C Diff, GI decreased due to improved infection prevention (improved hand hygiene etc)? If so, that demonstrates how important good hand hygiene etc is and going forward you are going to ensure that staff continue these practices. That could be part of your improvement plan to continuously work on infection prevention with competencies, education and monitoring.

You have done so much good work and have learned so much please be sure to write what you did and be sure to update your emergency plans. Plans based on what is learned from a real event is more meaningful and helpful to others.