SECOND CONVENING OF THE NATIONAL CONSENSUS PANEL ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Presented by:

Center For Health Equality

Drexel University School Of Public Health

With support from:

U.S. Dept Of Health & Human Services

Office Of Minority Health &

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Millennium Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles, California

Mission of the Panel

To provide guidance to national, state and local agencies and organizations on the development of effective strategies to advance emergency preparedness and eliminate disparities for racial and ethnic communities across all stages of an emergency event.

HOW FAR HAS THE PANEL COME SINCE OUR FIRST MEETING?

Panel's Progress to Date

- *September 2007:*
  - Drafted National Consensus Statement.

- *October 2007 – February 2008:*
  - Worked with Panel Members in an iterative review process to finalize and reach a consensus on the statement.
  - Drafted Guiding Principles.

- *March 2008 – May 2008:*
  - Review of statement and guiding principles by federal agencies (e.g., OMH, OCR, and ASPR).
  - Received formal endorsements of statement from panel members.

Panel's Progress to Date (continued)

- *June 11, 2008:*
  - Press Release
  - Release of the National Consensus Statement and Guiding Principles
  - Launch of www.diversitypreparedness.org

National Consensus Statement

"The integration of racially and ethnically diverse communities into public health emergency preparedness is essential to a comprehensive, coordinated federal, state, tribal, territorial and local strategy to protect the health and safety of all persons in the United States. Such a strategy must recognize and emphasize the importance of distinctive individual and community characteristics such as culture, language, literacy and trust, and promote the active involvement and engagement of diverse communities to influence understanding of, participation in and adherence to public health emergency preparedness actions."

National Consensus Statement (continued)

"Additionally, this strategy must acknowledge the critical commitment to developing effective and sustainable services, programs and policies and building mutual accountability. Only through these comprehensive, unified efforts can we work to counter the legacy of racial and ethnic disparities and ensure that quality and equality for all communities form the foundation of the Nation's planning for any and all public health emergencies."

*~National Consensus Panel on
Emergency Preparedness and Cultural Diversity*

Guiding Principles

- *Principle 1:* Identifying, locating and maintaining a profile of diverse racial/ethnic, immigrant and limited English proficient (LEP) populations within the community.

- *Principle 2:* Establishing sustainable partnerships between community representatives and the public health preparedness system to assess, build, and sustain trust with diverse racial/ethnic, immigrant and LEP populations.

- *Principle 3:* Engaging community representatives to design, implement, and evaluate emergency risk communication strategies, ensuring that they are culturally and linguistically appropriate.

Guiding Principles (continued)

- ***Principle 4:*** Developing and testing drills and exercises that reflect the community and incorporate scenarios that explicitly take into account situations involving culturally and linguistically diverse populations.

- ***Principle 5:*** Building capacity within the public health preparedness system to respond to unique needs of diverse communities.

- ***Principle 6:*** Measuring and evaluating emergency plans and actions from preparedness to recovery, ensuring the active involvement of participants from the public health preparedness system and the community in a continual process of review.

Guiding Principles (continued)

- ***Principle 7:*** Coordinating information, resources and actions within and across organizations as well as with diverse communities in a concerted effort to maximize compliance and adherence to preparedness practices.

- ***Principle 8:*** Ensuring the availability of funds to develop and sustain services, programs and policies that strengthen diverse communities' ability to prepare and respond to as well as recover from emergency events.

Public Response to Release

Diversity Preparedness Website

- ***www.diversitypreparedness.org***

- Website is a reflection of the Panel's ideas and comments regarding the need for cohesion, communication and collaboration across agencies, disciplines and sectors.

- *Mission:* To serve as a central clearinghouse of resources and an information exchange portal to facilitate communication, networking and collaboration to improve preparedness, build resilience and eliminate disparities for culturally diverse communities across all phases of an emergency.

Features of the Website

- Catalog of over 350 annotated English-language resources organized by a range of topics, language and communities.

- Hundreds of translated resources in 40+ languages.

- Links to full-text sources, including peer-reviewed journal articles, training and education content, resource guides, measurement and evaluation tools, translated materials and other publications.

- Links to federal, state and local government, as well as private sector, academic and community-based programs and websites devoted to preparing culturally diverse populations for emergencies.

- Bi-monthly e-newsletter

- "Voices from the Field"

Public Response to Website

- Over the past 4 months, the website has received significant positive response.

  - Featured on major national, state, and local as well as public health and emergency management media outlets (e.g., CBS Radio, APHA, CDC, FEMA, etc).

  - Over 8,000 visitors from all 50 states and nearly 100 different countries.

  - Over 500 subscribed members from a range of disciplines and sectors.

Next Steps for Website

- Given the breadth of positive feedback, HHS/OMH will renew its support for the website.

- User-feedback surveys as well as recommendations from panel members and others have identified additional features which would facilitate communication and collaboration across sectors.

  - Online Discussion Forum (password protected for members only)

  - Professional Member Directory of individuals with an applied focus on preparedness and diversity.

  - Advisory Panel or Review Committee

WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS SECOND MEETING?

2nd Panel Meeting Objectives

☐ To develop specific action steps to operationalize the National Consensus Statement and Guiding Principles.

☐ To develop specific recommendations on coordinating emergency preparedness planning and implementation across sectors to ensure the needs of racially and ethnically diverse communities are fully addressed.

Nominal Group Exercises

- Exercise 1:
  - 10:45am: After the break
  - Panel to break out into pre-assigned groups
  - Focus of exercise will be on Objective 1 (i.e., identifying specific steps and strategies to operationalize key themes identified in the statement and principles).

- Exercise 2:
  - 1:30 pm: After the networking lunch
  - Panel to break out into same groups
  - Focus of exercise will be on Objective 2 (i.e., identifying priorities for coordination across sectors).

NOMINAL GROUP EXERCISE 1

What are essential and specific action steps to "operationalize" or achieve the broader goals outlined in the National Consensus Statement and the related guiding principles?

Nominal Group Exercise 1

- Project Staff conducted a content analysis of the National Consensus Statement and extracted 4 major themes/goals that must be considered in any strategy to reach racially and ethnically diverse communities in emergencies.

- Each group will be assigned a separate theme/goal and will be asked to brainstorm specific action steps to achieve the goal.

Group 1

Goal/Theme 1 from National Consensus Statement: "Recognize and emphasize the importance of distinctive individual and community characteristics."

Guiding Principle 1: Identifying, locating and maintaining a profile of diverse racial/ethnic, immigrant and LEP populations within the community.

Guiding Principle 2: Establishing sustainable partnerships between representatives and the public health preparedness system to assess, build and sustain trust with diverse racial/ethnic, immigrant and LEP populations.

Group 2

Goal/Theme 2 from National Consensus Statement: "Promote the active involvement and engagement of diverse communities."

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Guiding Principle 3: Engaging community representatives to design, implement, and evaluate emergency risk communication strategies, ensuring that they are culturally and linguistically appropriate.

Guiding Principle 4: Developing and testing drills and exercises that reflect the community and incorporate scenarios that explicitly take into account situations involving culturally and linguistically diverse populations.

Group 3

Goal/Theme 3 from National Consensus Statement: "Develop effective and sustainable services, programs and policies."

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Guiding Principle 5: Building capacity within the public health preparedness system to respond to unique needs of diverse communities.

Guiding Principle 8: Ensuring availability of funds to develop and sustain services, programs and policies that strengthen diverse communities' ability to prepare and respond to as well as recover from emergency events.

Group 4

Goal/Theme 4 from National Consensus Statement:
"Build mutual accountability."

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Guiding Principle 6: Measuring and evaluating emergency plans and actions from preparedness to recovery, ensuring the active involvement of participants from the public health preparedness system and the community in a continual process of review.

Guiding Principle 7: Coordinating information, resources and actions within and across organizations as well as with diverse communities in a concerted effort to maximize compliance and adherence to preparedness practices.

BREAK

Please reconvene after the break in your nominal groups.

Group 1: Boardroom
Group 2: Dining Room
Group 3: Living Room
Group 4: Billiard Room

NOMINAL GROUP EXERCISE 2

What are the three most important priorities for bringing sectors together to coordinate actions across preparedness, response and recovery for culturally diverse communities?