

# Tuolumne-Calaveras Health Care and Safety Coalition (HCSC) Governance Document & Participation Agreement

Initial Plan: August 2013, approved March 2014

Revision date: January 2018

## I. Introduction

Since 2002, states, hospitals, public health, and emergency management communities have worked tirelessly to improve the state of medical and public health preparedness. The early program focused on building capacity and emphasized activities such as decontamination, pharmaceutical caches, identifying hospital bed surge capacity, and training providers in the diagnosis and management of diseases caused by bioterrorism.

In August 2011 a new 5-year Public Health Emergency Preparedness cooperative agreement was initiated with updated standards for local and state public health preparedness. These new standards emphasize the need for a coordinated collaboration between all members of the entire healthcare community. Strong and resilient Health Care Coalitions are the key to an effective state and local response to an event-driven medical surge. This reasoning led to further development of the Health Care and Safety Coalition.

Furthermore, core coalition member requirements were introduced in 2017 and one of the requirements is the participation of at least two acute care hospitals. For this reason, Tuolumne County and Calaveras County combined coalitions in 2017 with Tuolumne County taking the role of the “Lead Coalition” and Calaveras County taking the role of “Subcommittee Coalition.” While the combined Tuolumne-Calaveras Health Care and Safety Coalition will plan, meet, train, and exercise together, each county’s subcommittee of the coalition will also continue to operate within their own jurisdictions with individual grant and fiscal responsibilities.

## II. Mission

- A. The **mission of the HCSC** is to develop a dynamic public-private partnership that promotes an effective **community** response to a public health or medical emergency. **Priorities** of the HCSC are determined by the Hazard Vulnerabilities Assessment (HVA), identifying the **local** Top Ten Hazards.

Activities include conducting mutual hazard vulnerability/risk assessment to identify community health gaps and develop plans and strategies to address; development of standardized tools, emergency plans, processes and protocols, trainings and exercises to support the community.

- B. The work of the HCSC aligns with the emergency preparedness community prioritization requirements described in the Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response (ASPR)

National Guidance for Healthcare System Preparedness and the CDC National Standards for State and Local Planning as well as other documents.

- C. The Health Care and Safety Coalition’s primary goal is to foster collaboration amongst provider types in order to strengthen the overall health system by leveraging expertise, sharing resources, and increasing capacity to respond.

### III. Structure

- A. Meetings: **HCSC meetings** are conducted under the leadership of the organizational structure, which includes a Chair, a Co-Chair, and a Recorder. The Tuolumne-Calaveras Health Care and Safety Coalition will meet as determined by the Coalition Coordinators. Input from members will be considered when determining a meeting schedule for the Tuolumne-Calaveras HCSC and an effort will be made to alternate meeting locations between Tuolumne County and Calaveras County.

In Tuolumne County, meetings are conducted every other month in order to plan, test, and evaluate protocols that mitigate effect, and improve the response and recovery to public health and medical emergencies and disasters in the Tuolumne County area. In Calaveras County, meetings are conducted quarterly to plan, test and evaluate protocols that mitigate effect, and improve the response and recovery to public health and medical emergencies and disasters in the Calaveras County area.

- B. Meeting content: Projects and outcomes of the HCSC meetings are aligned with local, regional, state and federal Emergency Preparedness initiatives. Input from the Tuolumne County Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Steering Committee will inform the HCSC of these local, regional, state and federal guidelines.

- C. Officers and Elections

- 1. Leadership positions are decided by consensus of the coalition partners. Terms are one year.

- a. Chair

- Leads coalition meetings
- Sets agenda
- Communicates dates/ times/ minutes

- b. Co-Chair

- Collaborates with the Chair to facilitate planning and exercises
- Fulfills chair role in their absence

- c. Recorder

- Creates record of meetings and distributes to the HCSC members
- *One of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness staff may serve this function and submits records in compliance with the PHEP and HPP grant programs.*

- 2. Members

- a. Members are delegated representatives of their respective organizations and facilities with authority to sign formalized agreement (or facilitate getting the signature when needed.)

- b. Members must have signed participation agreements to receive Hospital Preparedness Program funds (HPP).
  - c. Membership is not limited to hospitals, but may include EMS, outpatient services (dialysis, primary care, and tribal health), skilled nursing, mental health, assisted living, government entities such as Veterans Affairs and forensic health, and community response agencies, such as the American Red Cross, law enforcement, faith-based organizations, and other non-governmental organizations.
  - d. Utilization of Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) provides for improved coordination of preparedness, response, and recovery activities by contributing specialized knowledge to the plan. SMEs may be regular coalition members or may be brought in on an ad hoc basis.
3. Steering Committee
- a. Steering committee members include the Public Health Emergency Preparedness coordinators, the Health Officer, Director of Public Health Nursing, Emergency Medical Services Administrator, Environmental Health, Behavioral Health, Tuolumne County Office of Emergency Services, and the Director of the Human Services Agency (or designees).
  - b. The steering committee meets, upon request, when guidance in local compliance with regulatory agencies is needed. They assist with priority setting and integration of health and medical response plans with county emergency plans.

**IV. Roles and Responsibilities of the Coalition Members and Partners**

Topic	Responsibility
<b>Attendance and participation</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Attend 75% of annual meetings</li> <li>2. Participate in Exercises, Trainings, and Drills, including the Statewide Medical and Health Exercise (SWMHE).</li> </ol>
<b>Planning</b>	<p>During the planning phase, each healthcare organization participating in the coalition agrees to do as able:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establish and maintain relationships with healthcare partners and local emergency response partners.</li> <li>2. Share information</li> <li>3. Review health emergency response plans and provide feedback; the policies and procedures developed by the Coalition.</li> <li>4. Maintain emergency supplies for disaster response.</li> <li>5. Develop, and integrate where applicable, organization disaster response, recovery and continuity plans.</li> <li>6. Properly store and maintain supplies according to manufacturer’s specifications, items purchased through the emergency preparedness funding streams, including restricted use for intended purposes and provide training for applicable employees on the proper use of the supplies.</li> <li>7. Contact County Public Health within 30 days if any items purchased through the emergency preparedness funding streams if any item is broken or determined to be no longer needed. The County will provide direction regarding repair, transfer, or disposal of the item.</li> </ol> <p>The Tuolumne and Calaveras County Public Health Hospital Preparedness Programs agree to do as able for their respective jurisdiction:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maintain inventory of grant purchased supplies and equipment.</li> <li>2. Inspect the storage and maintenance of grant purchased supplies and equipment with at least 7 days’ notice to the partnering agency.</li> </ol>
<b>Response</b>	<p>During the response phase, each healthcare organization agrees to share resources to the best of its ability:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personnel</li> <li>• Equipment</li> <li>• Supplies</li> <li>• Pharmaceuticals</li> <li>• Information</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reimbursement: Reimbursement of shared resources should be agreed upon between the receiving and providing organizations. It is recommended that Mutual Aid agreements are completed <i>prior</i> to an emergency event between healthcare coalition members.</li> <li>2. Implementation: Only the Incident Commander at each healthcare organization has the authority to activate the process of sharing of mutual aid and resources.</li> <li>3. Resource Request Process: The process for requesting medical and health mutual aid resources is coordinated by each county’s Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) and the Region IV Regional Disaster Medical health Coordinator (RDMHC).</li> <li>4. Collaboration: Participate in shared healthcare system community response, including mass dispensing, bed decompression for the hospitals and consistent messaging through a Joint Information Center.</li> <li>5. Scarce Resources: Participate as a Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) group to assist with de-confliction of scarce resources.</li> </ol>
<b>Recovery</b>	<p>During the recovery phase, each healthcare organization agrees to do the following to the best of their ability;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Begin recovery planning as soon as the response phase begins</li> <li>2. Return facility to pre-event status in terms of staffing, supplies and equipment, communications, EMS services, facility use, medical records, standards of care and finance.</li> <li>3. Resume day-to-day functions</li> <li>4. Monitor staff, patients, residents and volunteers for signs of stress, illness or needed interventions.</li> </ol>

## Signature Page

The following community and governmental agency, facility or organization agrees to participate in the Tuolumne-Calaveras Health Care and Safety Coalition, a collaborative body representing the broad range of healthcare and safety resources in Tuolumne and Calaveras Counties committed to the goal of being prepared for a coordinated response to a local health emergency and/or disaster. This commitment includes all of the obligations stated in the previous pages of the participation agreement.

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Agency

Name & Title of Representative

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Date

Signature

Please return original document to the county in which your agency is located:

Tuolumne County Public Health  
HPP Coordinator  
20111 Cedar Rd. N,  
Sonora, CA 95370

or

Calaveras County Public Health  
HPP Coordinator  
891 Mountain Ranch Rd.  
San Andreas, CA 95249