

# ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Request

**Requestor:**

**Requestor Phone:**

**Requestor Email:**

**Request Receipt Date (by ASPR TRACIE):** 9 June 2016

**Response Date:** 23 June 2016

**Type of TA Request:** Standard

## Request:

██████████ is requesting personal preparedness resources for staff of specialty healthcare organizations (e.g., home health, long term care, etc.) in hopes that having these plans in place will help reduce absenteeism during an emergency.

## Response:

The resources below are categorized in two sections: Section I includes specific resources for home health and long-term care professionals; and Section II includes general guidance/resources for healthcare professionals.

Please note: We do not include resources or guidance for developing emergency preparedness plans for homecare, long-term care, or other similar healthcare organizations; or regulations/laws regarding healthcare workers responding during an emergency. We focused this response on personal preparedness and individual resilience.

Please see the following ASPR TRACIE Topic Collections specific to specialty healthcare organizations that may also be helpful in your presentation: [Dialysis Centers](#), [Homecare](#), [Long-term Care Facilities](#), and [Virtual Medical Care \(e.g., telemedicine, nurse triage lines\)](#). Also, check out our [Continuity of Operations \(COOP\)/ Failure Plan](#) and [Recovery Planning](#) Topic Collections.

## I. Home Health/ Long Term Care

Baron, S., McPhaul, K. et al. (2009). [Protecting Home Health Care Workers: A Challenge to Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Planning](#). Am J Public Health. 99 (Suppl 2): S301-S307.

This article discusses findings from a national stakeholder meeting that highlighted the need to integrate home healthcare employers, workers, community advocates, and labor unions in pandemic influenza planning. It includes a section on “Ability and Willingness to Respond” in which it notes that of the 6400 employees in 47 New York City LTC facilities, 80% are able to report to work after a mass casualty event, but only 63.5% are able to report to work following a severe acute respiratory syndrome outbreak.

Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital System, Public Health Department; and Santa Clara County Emergency Medical Services Agency, Allied Healthcare Facilities Work Group. (2007). [Emergency Preparedness and Planning Toolkit for Long-Term Care Providers](#).

This toolkit provides checklists on various long-term care related topics such as, personal preparedness, emergency planning for healthcare facilities, emergency supplies, food supplies, transportation, and pandemic influenza planning and supplies checklists. It also provides tools for hazard and vulnerability analysis, guidance for home healthcare providers, plan templates, guidance for writing memorandum of understanding, evacuation planning considerations, and a list of emergency preparedness courses and training.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. (2007). [Emergency Planning Checklist Recommended Tool for Persons in Long-Term Care Facilities & Their Family Members, Friends, Personal Caregivers, Guardians, & Long-Term Care Ombudsmen](#).

This checklist discusses the necessary items to have during an emergency and is applicable to those that work in the long-term care/home health sector.

## II. General Guidance/Resources

Adams, L., Berry, D. (2012). [Who Will Show Up? Estimating Ability and Willingness of Essential Hospital Personnel to Report to Work in Response to a Disaster](#). ANA Periodicals, Vol 17 No 2.

This article discusses the results of a study with healthcare professionals on their ability and willingness to report to work during a disaster. It includes a discussion of the barriers of reporting to work and strategies for addressing these barriers.

ASPR TRACIE. (2015). [Responder Safety and Health Topic Collection](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response.

The resources in this Topic Collection focus on safety strategies (e.g., preventing fatigue, ensuring the availability and correct use of personal protective equipment) and maintaining behavioral health (e.g., working through stress and preventing/addressing compassion fatigue).

California Hospital Association. (n.d.). [Personal Preparedness](#).

This page includes a variety of personal preparedness resources for hospital and other healthcare professionals. It also includes checklists and resources for planning.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (n.d.). [Emergency Preparedness and You.](#)

This page includes general guidance for individual preparedness for public health emergencies.

Cox, C., Landahl, M. (2009). [Employee and Family Preparedness in the Resilient Organization.](#)

This PowerPoint presentation given at the 2009 Emergency Management Higher Education Conference provides tips to employers for helping employees with personal preparedness.

Georgia Department of Public Health. (n.d.). [Personal & Family Preparedness.](#)

This site provides general personal preparedness tools and guidance. Sample templates are available to develop a customized emergency plan and preparing a disaster kit.

Johns Hopkins Center for Public Health Preparedness. (n.d.). [Personal Preparedness Planning.](#)

This online training provides public health workers with concepts in personal preparedness so they can function effectively as public health emergency responders. It includes three main topics: assembling an emergency kit, make a family communication plan, and learning more about readiness.

Operation Hope. (2005). [Personal Disaster Preparedness Guide.](#)

The PDPG template allows for individuals to quickly create a personalized disaster preparedness plan. It also provides guidance for what to do during an emergency. This site provides a link to the guide that can either be completed online or printed.

Ready.gov. (n.d.). [Make a Plan.](#) U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

This website includes personal preparedness tips for a variety of disaster scenarios and general guidance. Example emergency plan templates and areas for consideration are included.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response. (2015). [2016 Force Protection: Health and Safety Plan.](#)

The 2016 Force Protection: Health and Safety Plan (HASP) is specific to National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) staff. It includes sections on personal protective equipment, training, general safety and health requirements, medical services and first aid, sanitation, roadway safety, fire and life safety, security, and logistics safety. It also includes forms and actions sheets in the appendices.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response. (2015). [Individual Resilience: Factsheet for Responders](#).

This fact sheet provides questions and answers about individual resilience, which involves behaviors, thoughts, and actions that promote personal wellbeing and mental health, with a focus on the context of disasters or emergencies. A disaster can impair resilience, even for experienced responders, due to stress, traumatic exposure, distressing psychological reactions, and disrupted social networks. The resource discusses why responder resilience is important, and what contributes to individual resilience.