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Resilience Report

Brief insights and the latest innovations in emergency management and health security.

On the 19th anniversary of the September 11th attacks, we want to take a moment to acknowledge and appreciate the dedication and commitment of all of those working to keep our world safe, from first responders, to healthcare workers, to emergency planners. This event marks a major milestone for many of us in choosing a career in emergency management. This week on Resilience Report, we're talking vaccine planning.



Honoring the Fallen in a Responsible Way.

The annual ceremony at the 9/11 Memorial and Museum in New York will [look a little different this year](#). Speakers will still read names, but they will be pre-recorded and streamed online Friday morning. Families can still gather in person at the memorial but will be spaced out.

NYPD Evaluates Effectiveness of Implicit Bias Training.

Communities across the US continue to reckon with racial justice issues. The NYPD recently released findings from a study of the [effectiveness of implicit bias training](#) it implemented in 2018. The training seems to have shifted attitudes about racial bias, but not necessarily behaviors.

A Sad Milestone.

Over 900,000 people across the globe have died from COVID-19, [a sad milestone](#) in the international fight against the pandemic. While some progress has been made in the fight against coronavirus in the US in recent weeks, the US still accounts for more than 1/5 of all global fatalities.

Fires Ravage Western States.

Wildfires continue to rage across the Western states of [California, Oregon, and Washington](#). In California alone, more than 14,000 firefighters are battling 28 fires across the state, causing thousands of Californians to evacuate their homes.



SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT: VACCINE PLANNING

Every week, we'll dedicate space for a hot topic that we think is especially important for emergency managers to read. Nine [major drug companies just pledged](#) to follow sound ethical and scientific principles in approving and distributing COVID-19 vaccines in an effort to increase public confidence in the vaccines, which has been affected by concerns of political interference in the scientific process. While we can't know for sure when a vaccine will become available, we can certainly plan for when it does!

There are a lot of tools and guidance out there for vaccine planning. Here are just a few that we think are particularly cool/important.

- Check out [Re-Plan!](#) It's a tool developed by the University of North Texas that can be useful in developing POD and RSS plans using local population data.
- The CDC rolled out a [checklist](#) for jurisdictions to assist in early planning efforts for an eventual COVID-19 vaccination effort. The agency also provided a list of [vaccination program planning assumptions](#).
- There is also a wealth of POD planning resources from health departments across the country, including training videos, guidebooks, and best practices [here](#) (scroll down to where it says "Community Closed POD Resources").

What are other organizations doing right now?

In addition to reviewing the most recent guidance and resources, here are some ideas for what your organization can start doing to prepare for eventually distributing a COVID vaccine, based on what we're seeing local health departments and emergency management agencies across the country are doing:

- **Review Your Jurisdiction's Pan Flu Plan:** If your jurisdiction has a pandemic influenza plan, now is a good time to review it! Starting from there will help so your jurisdiction doesn't have to reinvent the wheel for COVID.
- **Reach Out to Community Organizations:** Start reaching out to community organizations and target groups to coordinate. Since initial supply of the vaccine will be limited, it will be crucial to develop and maintain working relationships with priority groups to streamline early distribution.
- **Start Acquiring Supplies:** Coordinate with your logistics section to start ordering any new supplies your organization will need to distribute vaccines, including cold storage equipment, PPE for those administering the vaccine, and waste disposal containers.

FUN THINGS

The Search for Paper Towels is Over.

There may be one community no longer desperately searching for paper towels: Saratoga Springs, New York. Jamie Kennedy from KPM Restoration [won 1500 rolls](#) when he was named a *Brawny Giant* for making a difference in his community by providing free disinfection services to first responders.

Some Giants Are Spared.

While wildfires have brought, and continue to bring, destruction throughout California there was good news out of Big Basin Redwoods State Park. [Mother of the Forest and Father of the Forest](#), two of the biggest trees in the park, have survived the CZU Lightning Complex fires.

Ask a Contractor!

We want to make Resilience Report more collaborative with you, our lovely readers. So we're introducing "Ask a Contractor." If you have any questions under the sun about emergency management, health security, good disaster movies, or anything in between, submit them [using this form](#) and we'll happily answer them in the next issue of Resilience Report!

We're Here to Support You

If you need help with vaccine planning, COVID-19 AARs, EOC surge staff, or anything in between, shoot us an email at scott@constantassociates.com. We are here to help.



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