October 9, 2026

Weekly Situational Awareness Brief

Awareness Topics

Highlighting the Power of Prevention Coalitions to Reduce Youth Substance Use

“Youth substance use prevention is both an immediate public health priority and a long-term investment in future generations. Early substance use can have long-term consequences, including higher risk of substance use disorder, poorer educational and economic outcomes, and other health and social problems in adulthood.”

Maternal depression tied to higher risk of special educational needs in kids

“Children whose mothers had depression during pregnancy are at higher risk of having special educational needs that can’t be attributed solely to antidepressant exposure, according to a study led by researchers from the University of Glasgow and published yesterday in PLOS Medicine.”

Living Up to Their Name: Blackout Rage Gallons (BORGs) Marked by High-Intensity Drinking and Alcohol Consequences in College Students

“Public health significance statement: The blackout rage gallon (BORG) is a binge-drinking trend popular among some college students that facilitates high-intensity drinking and produces acute alcohol-related harm.”

Suspected plague incident leaves 1 dead, 200 under quarantine in Siberia

“Government officials in Russia have not confirmed that the woman died from pneumonic plague, but several media reports suggest she died after an accident involving a broken vial containing a live sample of plague, a deadly bacterial infection. Now, a rumored 200 people are suspected to be under quarantine.”

Florida's dengue outbreak is largest in continental U.S. in decades

“Florida's current dengue outbreak appears to be the largest in several decades in the continental United States.”

World Mental Health Day 10 October 2026

“World Mental Health Day is an opportunity to meaningfully engage with people with lived experience (PWLE) of mental health conditions and to recognize their knowledge as a vital form of expertise.”

The Relevance of Redundancy During Severe Weather

“During a tornado, snowstorm, or other severe weather event, failure should not be an option for emergency systems. Yet, systems sometimes do fail.”

Upcoming MESH Educational Offerings

Strong Hearts, Protected Minds

Caring for Others While Sustaining Yourself

Whether you are a caregiver, educator, volunteer, public health professional, healthcare
professional, first responder, or community health worker, the emotional demands of caring for others can take a toll. Just as personal protective equipment (PPE) shields us from physical hazards, we also need practical strategies to protect our psychological well-being. *Strong Hearts, Protected Minds* is an engaging and practical training designed to assist helping professionals recognize stress early, build resilience, and develop sustainable habits that support both personal well-being and high-quality care for others.

5 course dates between Fall 2026 and Spring 2027 | Live, Via Zoom | Grant Funded

–

Emergency Preparedness and Resilience Coach

Preparedness Reimagined

It doesn't take a hurricane to disrupt a life. For some people, a power outage, lost medication, or flat tire can be a disaster. When resources are already limited, even small disruptions can have big consequences. This course helps you understand where real needs begin—with everyday vulnerabilities—and how to meet them through simple, powerful steps. You'll learn how to use the framework of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery to guide people through disruptions of any scale—not just the big emergencies. **This isn't just disaster training. It's people training—practical, human-centered, and real.**

5 cohorts available in Spring 2027 | Live, via Zoom | Grant Funded

Visit our Website

Upcoming MESH Conference Presentations

NHCPC 2026

Dr. James M. Floyd, Jr. | Psychological PPE

December 1-3, 2026 | Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center

Registration is now open for NHCPC26!
Click here to register and lock in the lowest rate.

Events

[Click Here for Current and Upcoming Events List]

MESH does not assume any liability for the content, materials, information, and opinions provided within this communication. Further, MESH disclaims any liability resulting from use of any content within this communication. Information contained in this communication is provided "as is," with all faults. Neither MESH, nor any person associated with MESH, makes any warranty or representation with respect to the quality, accuracy, or availability of this information.

MESH serves as the designated Medical Multi-Agency Coordination Center for Marion County, Indiana. The MESH Intelligence Program is a joint-effort between the City of Indianapolis Emergency Management Agency and the Marion County Public Health Department designed to provide real-time information and support to the healthcare sector in the Indianapolis area.

Assistance with info or questions at: MESHintel@meshcoalition.org

To sign up for MESH Coalition Weekly Situational Awareness Briefs, subscribe at the bottom of our homepage at meshcoalition.org

MESH Coalition | 1202 West 16th Street | Indianapolis, IN 46202 US