



RC/PIO News & Notes

July 31, 2026

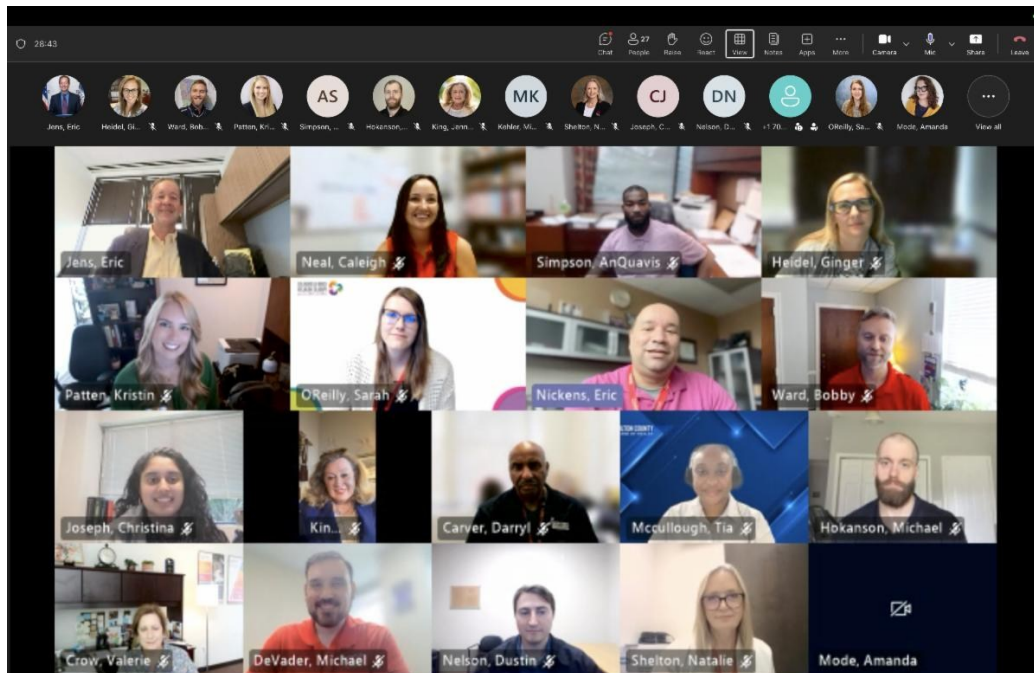
A Weekly Update from **Eric Jens, Risk Communicator** – Georgia Department of Public Health. Contents may be FYUO – For Your Use Only

News & Notes

We have a good variety of topics to share in this final edition of News and Notes for July 2026.

Quarterly RC Meeting

Thanks to all who participated in Wednesday's quarterly DPH Risk Communicators meeting. Leah Hoffacker discussed the recently completed FIFA response and how it will help with information sharing during similar events in the future. Sara-Beth Tung provided examples of the new digital forms for the Children 1st Program. Nancy Nydam Shirek and representatives from EY shared the growing success of the DPH Home Visiting Program and plans for the future. There were 17 of 18 health districts attending the meeting, including 5 districts with multiple communicators present.





"Prep" Rally

Thanks to Chandler McGee for sending us the image and information regarding an event held in the Southeast Health District last weekend.

This past Saturday, our EP Coordinator, Andy Wall, and Region M Healthcare Coalition Facilitator, Kristie Holder, participated in a Hurricane "Prep" Rally here in Waycross. Alongside several community partners, this event was an opportunity for families to learn emergency preparedness tips, gather

information and resources, and participate in preparedness activities with their kids.

Breast Cancer and Cervical Cancer Campaign

Thanks to Connie Smith-Lindsey for an update on a Breast Cancer and Cervical Cancer campaign promoting mammograms and HPV testing, among other risk-reduction measures.

- *Mammograms. Earlier is better. Now is best. Get ahead of breast cancer.*
- *HPV Testing. Stay ahead of the curve. Protect yourself. Take charge of your cervical health.*

Our next two phases for the Home Page Takeover (HPTO) are scheduled for August 18 and September 2. The campaign will conclude on September 20, 2026.

The paid media campaign for BCCP is a statewide awareness campaign on social media, digital display on smart devices and desktops, audio streaming, and large kiosks in English and Spanish.

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MAMMOGRAMS

**Earlier is better
Now is best**

Get ahead of breast cancer. dph.georgia.gov/BCCP



Arts and Entertainment



Atlanta's Dogwood Festival coming back in 2027, but uncertainty lingers

Ticketing provided the Piedmont Park staple extra income this year, but the City of Atlanta won't permit it again.



GUEST COLUMN

A 'grandma' performance in Cobb County changed my mind about concerts

The Beach Boys' most recent concert in metro Atlanta created an atmosphere of enjoyment and without chaos.



Atlanta's Dragon Con suspends new eternal memberships for first time ever

Organizers felt it was growing too quickly, even at \$4,500 a pop.

Georgia and Metro News



AJC HER+STORY

She suffered a brain tumor and quit a top job. Here's her comeback.

Britain Prigge led an Atlanta wealth management firm

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CERC Training

The next DPH Media / Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication training is expected to be held on September 22 at the LaGrange Health District Office. More details and a registration

link should be posted in News and Notes in about two weeks.

Next Week Preview

Meeting and webinar topics next week include active shooter incident training, planning for a highly infectious disease exercise, and community resilience.

About "News & Notes"

"News & Notes" is a weekly communication for risk communicators and public information officers across Georgia's 18 public health districts. The goal of this communication is to enhance preparedness by exchanging information on significant events, training, and other planned activities. Some information herein may be considered FYUO (For Your Use Only). Please be judicious when forwarding. For questions, comments, or to submit information for inclusion, contact Eric Jens at Eric.Jens@dph.ga.gov.

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