



RC/PIO News & Notes

August 28, 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 highlight this week, thanks in no small part to contributions from colleagues throughout the state.

Mesasles

The Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) has confirmed four additional cases of measles. These cases are close contacts of the measles case confirmed last week. A state [DPH news release](#) went out today.

International Visitors

Thanks to Russell Goutierez for sending the images and updates from an event on Monday that brought international visitors to the Cobb-Douglas Health District. *On Monday, Cobb & Douglas Public Health (CDPH, District 3-1) hosted 17 public health professionals from 15 countries as part of the CDC's [Public Health Emergency Management \(PHEM\) Fellowship program](#). Our staff briefed the Fellows on district-level functions, capabilities, equipment, and operations, while DPH presented on ESF-8 and the extensive public health planning and operational footprint of FIFA World Cup activities in metro Atlanta.*



CERC Training

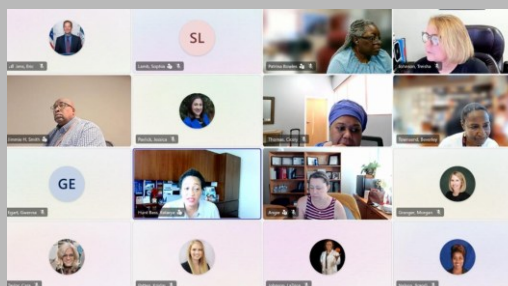
The next DPH Media / Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication training is Tuesday, September 22 at the LaGrange Health District Office. Registration is now

open: [CERC](#). As of Thursday afternoon, we have three of the 50 available seats filled.



GPHA

The Georgia Public Health Association (GPHA) Executive Board met Monday to map out strategies for revitalizing its programs after two years of mounting challenges. The board targeted three key priorities: expanding membership, transitioning the annual meeting back to an in-person format, and driving better health outcomes across Georgia. Following these discussions, committee leaders outlined their upcoming sessions. The next GPHA board meeting is scheduled for **September 28**.



Healthcare Coalitions

Thanks to Jennifer King for sending these highlights from the Region A Healthcare Coalition meeting last week. *We were proud to see such a strong turnout for the Region A North Georgia Healthcare Coalition meeting on August 18. Healthcare partners and community leaders from across our nine-county region, as well as from our state offices, came together to share important updates, strengthen connections, and collaborate on keeping North Georgia prepared for emergencies. We're grateful for the continued commitment of our Region A partners and proud to be part of this strong, collaborative coalition!*



Thanks to LaKieva Williams for an update on the Region E Healthcare Coalition meeting this week. She said preparing for severe weather, promoting rural health initiatives, and spotlighting volunteer program benefits, were among the meeting highlights.

Next Week Preview

On the calendar for next week is a webinar hosted by FEMA featuring Rockdale County Emergency Management's analysis of the 2024 Biolab plume. There is another state DPH EOC visit scheduled for international visitors Thursday morning. Thursday is also the next Region L Healthcare Coalition meeting.

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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