

REP DECON EXERCISE

SCOTT GARNER - BRUNSWICK COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



BACKGROUND

- FEMA full-scale dress rehearsal (2016)
- FEMA full-scale exercise (injects) (2016)
 - Deaf family arrives at shelter
 - Phone call from Deaf individual into EOC via Video Relay Service
 - Discussion with EOC staff
- Lunch and Learn for Deaf Community (2016)
 - Emergency notification system
- Decontamination Exercise (baseline/no fault) (2017)
- FEMA full-scale exercise (training demonstration) (2018)

DECONTAMINATION EXERCISE

- Participants – by invitation
 - Deaf
 - Hard of Hearing
 - Late Deafened
 - Deaf-Blind
 - Low Vision
 - Blind
 - Service Animals

OBJECTIVES

- Develop collaborative rapport between agencies
- Identify challenges and communication barriers
- Identify potential solutions
- Share findings
- Incorporate Deaf/HoH/DB/Blind individuals in 2018 full-scale REP exercise



DRILL – DAY LOGISTICS

- SMAT Team
- Communication Access
 - Assistive Listening Devices
 - SSPs (Support Services Provider)
 - Interpreters
 - Whole Group
 - Tactile
 - Close Vision



THE EXERCISE

- Interpreters *not* used for communication during exercise
- Option to go through more than once



FINDINGS

- Hot Wash – generated 46 recommendations or observations



FINDINGS

- **Only remove items from individual only when it is determined that a full shower is required**
- **Prosthetics checked in place, glasses stay with individual**
- **Cochlear implants external unit and hearing aids removed.**



FINDINGS



- **Create a supplemental SOG to address functional needs processing**
- **Incorporate a quick turnaround for functional needs valuables (monitoring & decontamination) – ie: hearing aids, cochlear implant processors, white canes, etc.**

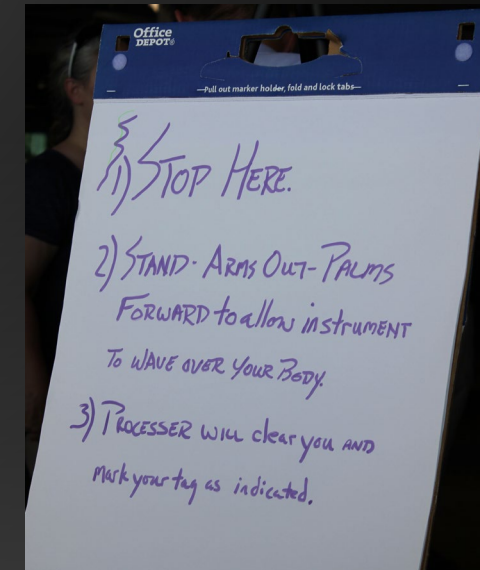
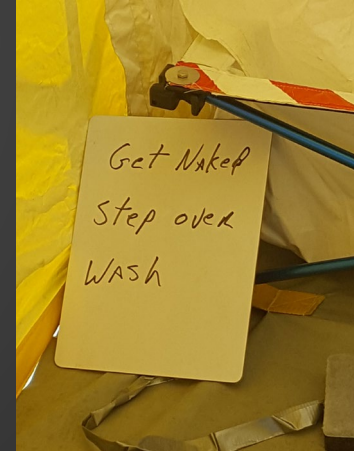
FINDINGS

- **Place name of emergency worker on front and back of protective clothing**



FINDINGS

- **Communication tools:**
 - **Dry erase boards with permanently made with standard messages (use lanyard for marker and board for hands-free)**
 - **Plastic boards with grease pencil for wet conditions**
 - **Portable signs with key words and braille to provide instructions**
 - **Create functional needs information notice form – use pictures as much as possible**



FINDINGS

- ASL Interpreters
 - Video Remote Interpreter (VRI)
 - Available at registration/medical table
 - Interpreter contacts in Code Red (or other call system for RCCC response)
- Do not ask a person if they can lip read
- Use gestures more than touch if possible when processing people with functional needs



FINDINGS

- Use Ludlum Model 52-1-1 portal monitor when processing functional needs and service animals
- Separate dog and owner during portal monitor phase
- Process the decontamination of service animals with owner
- Guide dog harness removal & replacement



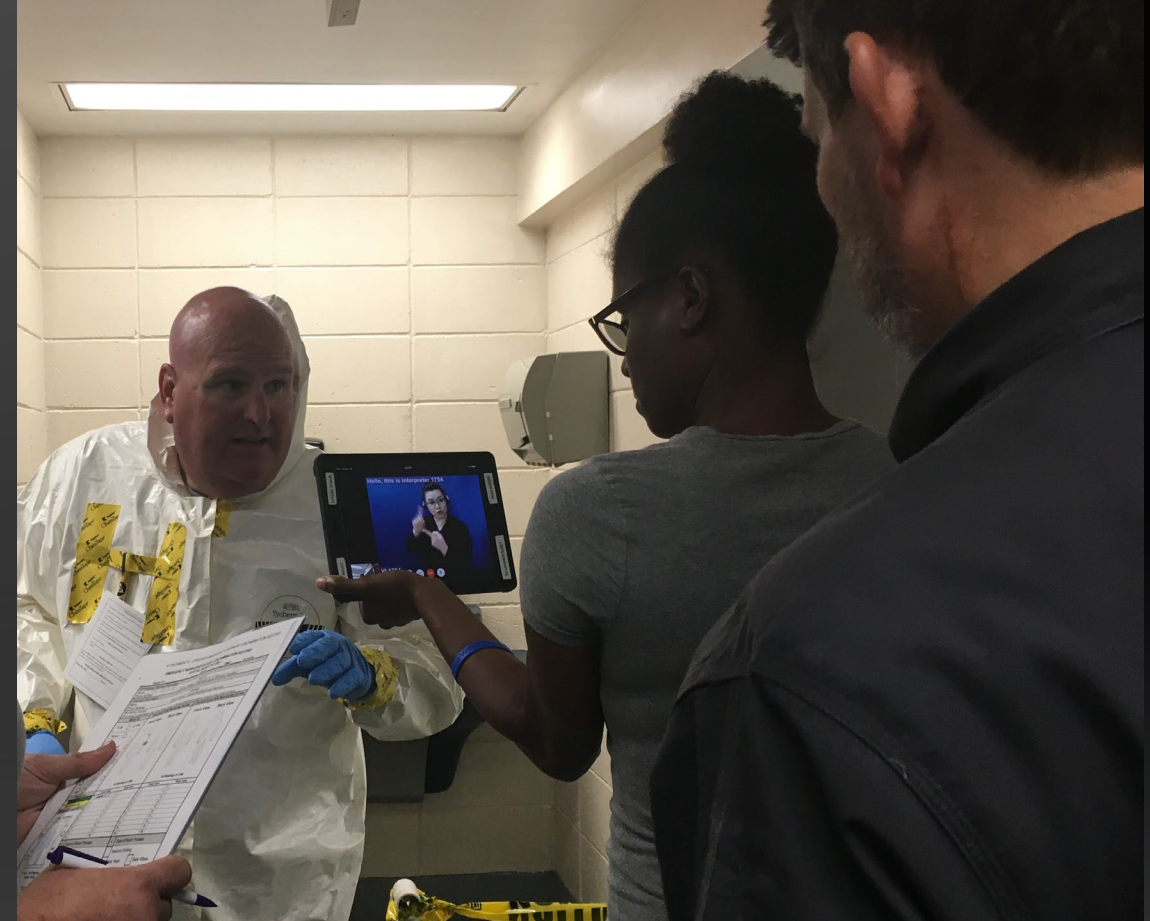
FINDINGS

- Eliminate trip hazards as possible
- Place rubber padding on tent flooring to assist with wet conditions and slip hazard
- Check safety strips on tent for visibility (not faded and hard to see)

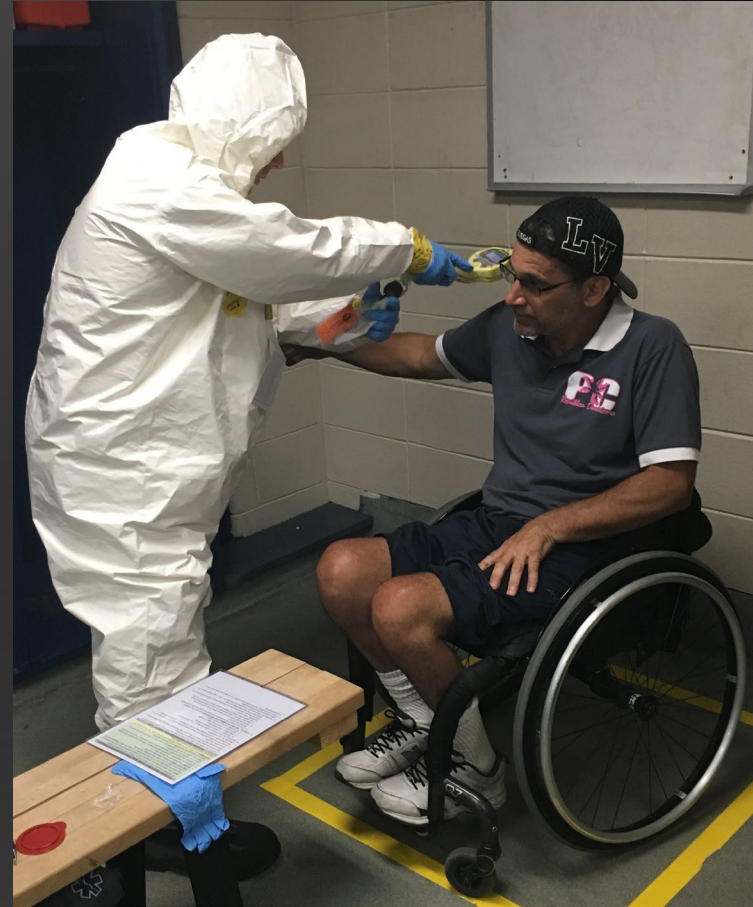
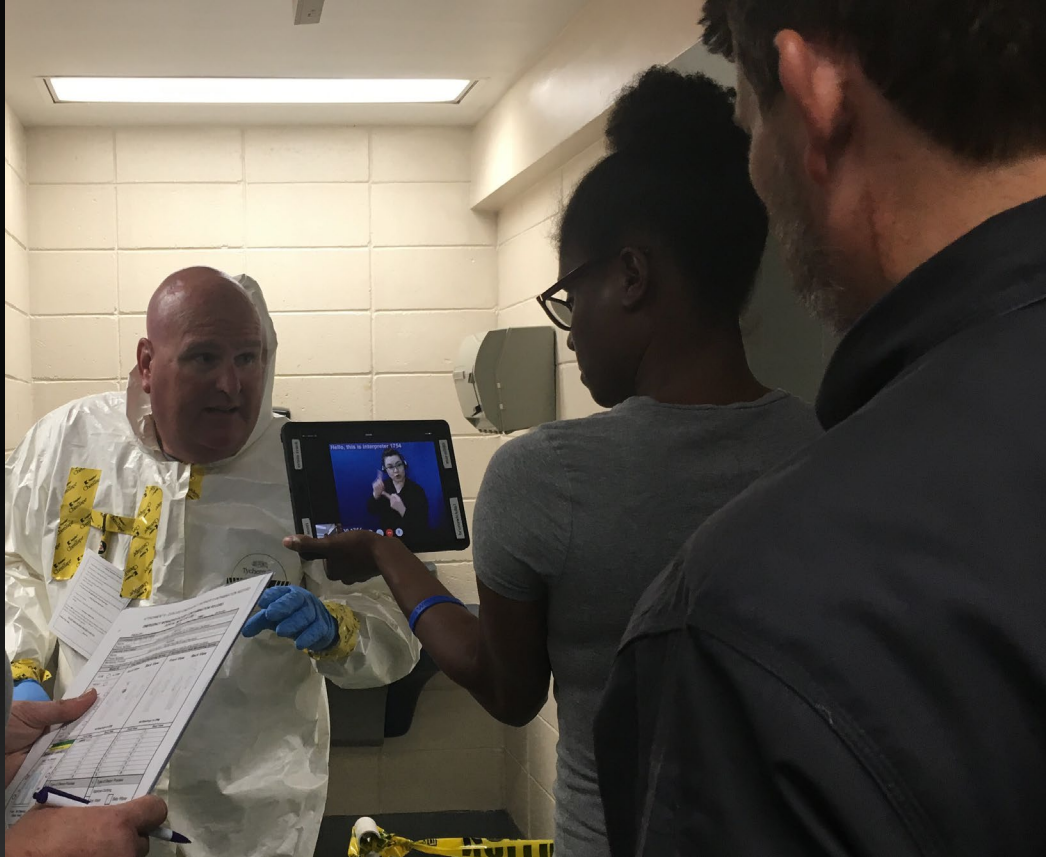


NEXT STEPS

- Developing SOGs
- Emergency Messaging in ASL
- 2018 REP Exercise



2018 REP EXERCISE



QUESTIONS?

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