LakeCounty

Health Department and
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2019 Novel Coronavirus

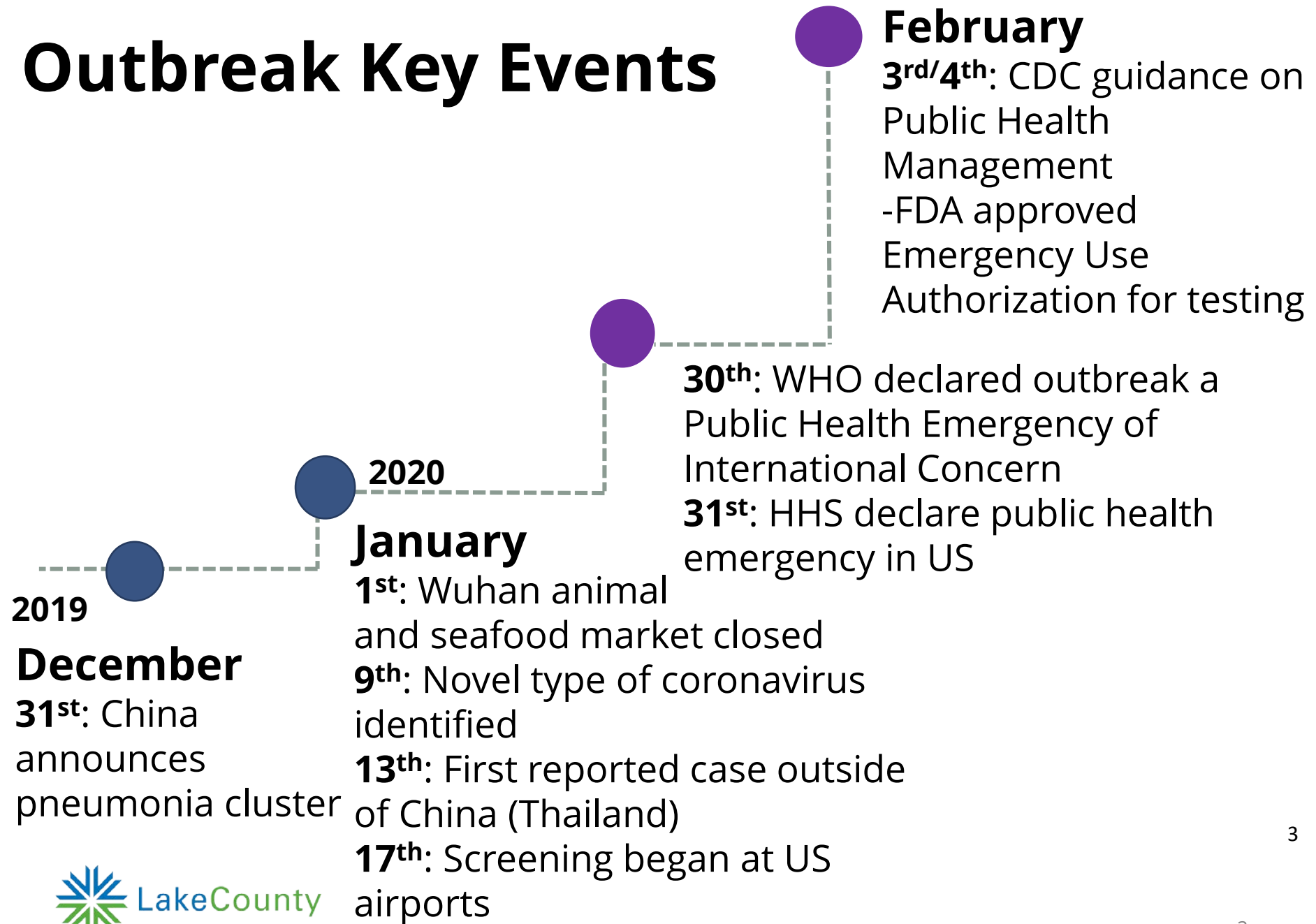Situational Update and Local Public Health Preparedness

Lisa Kritz
Director of Prevention

Sana Shireen Ahmed, MD
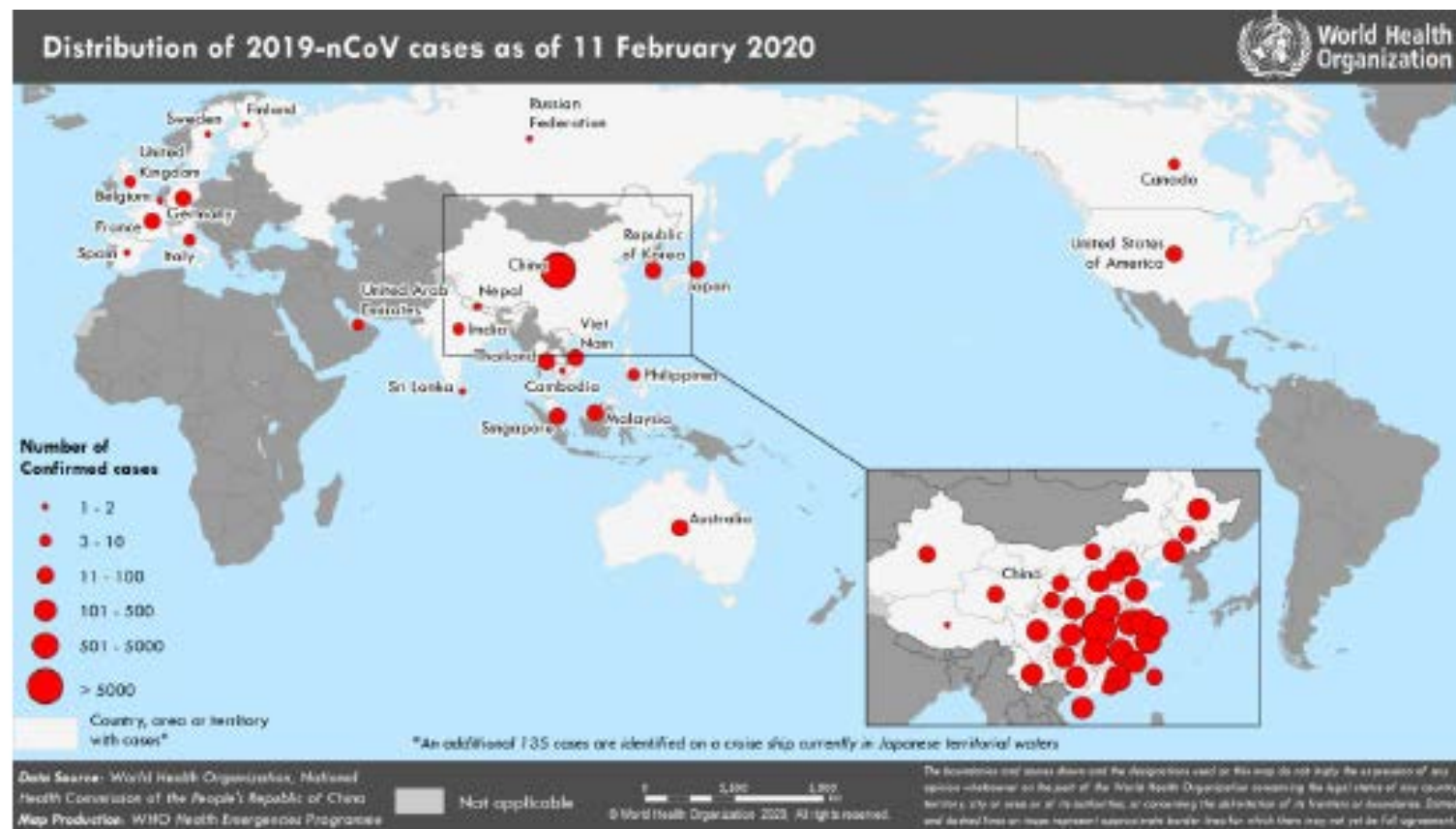*Medical Epidemiologist*

Objectives

- Timeline of Events

- Background of Coronavirus

- United States and Illinois Response

- Local Public Health Response

- Local Public Health Preparedness

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Outbreak Key Events

February
3rd/4th: CDC guidance on Public Health Management
-FDA approved Emergency Use Authorization for testing

30th: WHO declared outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern
31st: HHS declare public health emergency in US

2020

January
1st: Wuhan animal and seafood market closed
9th: Novel type of coronavirus identified
13th: First reported case outside of China (Thailand)
17th: Screening began at US airports

2019

December
31st: China announces pneumonia cluster

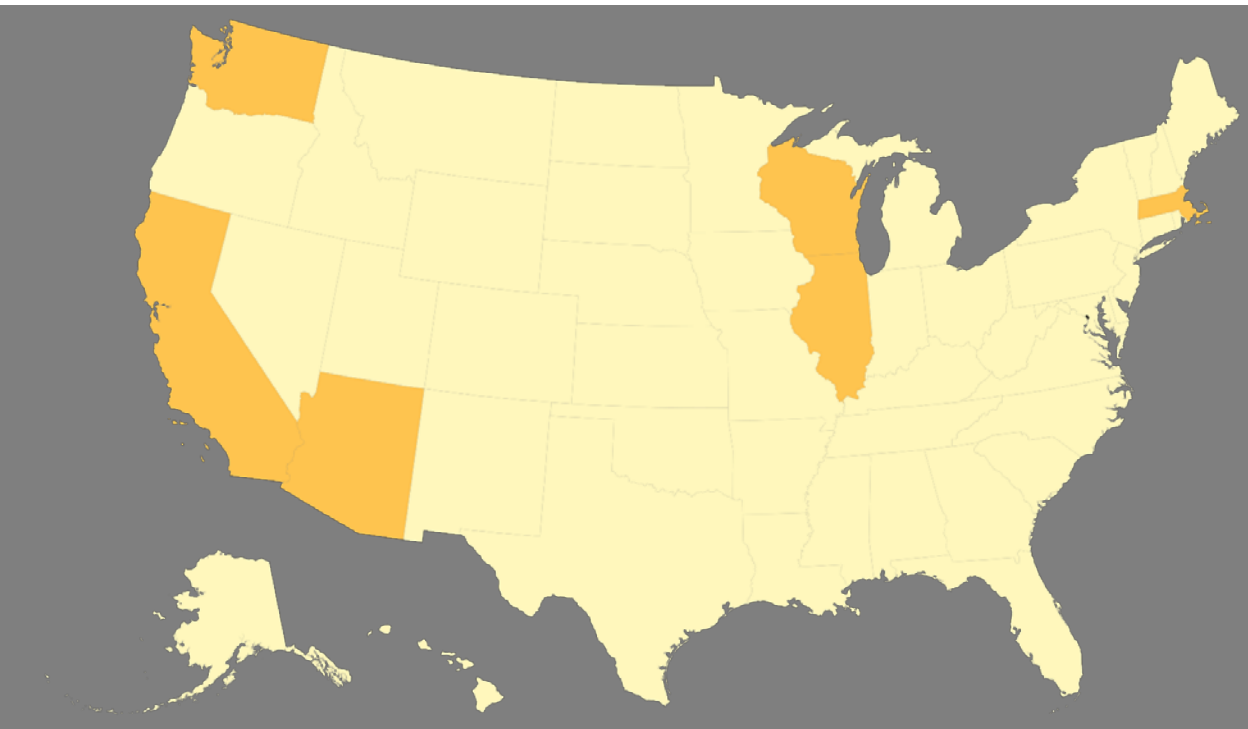LakeCounty
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Global Distribution of Confirmed 2019 Novel Coronavirus

COVID-19

*The situation report includes information provided by national authorities as of 10 AM Central European Time
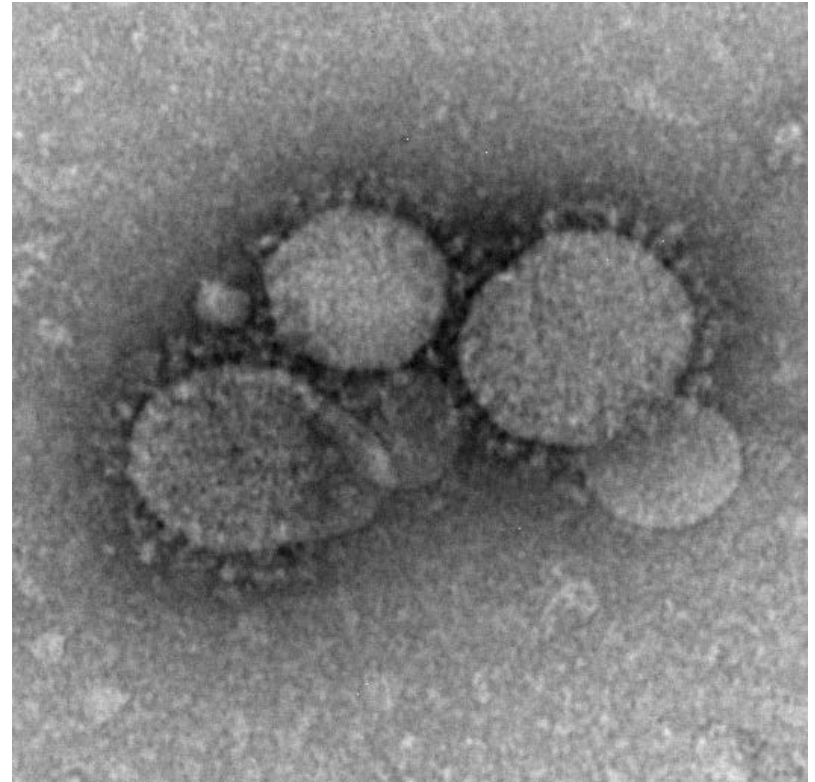
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States with Confirmed Cases of COVID-19

As of February 18, 2020,

15 confirmed cases reported in the United States.

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Coronaviruses

- Virus that comes from a large family of viruses

- Circulates among animals, but can evolve and infect humans (e.g., MERS, SARS, etc.)

- Spreads to an uninfected person when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks (within 6 feet); evidence of animal-human transmission initially

- Causes respiratory illness (fever, cough, shortness of breath)

- Can lead to complication of pneumonia of both lungs

Picture of MERS-CoV CDC:
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/mers/photos.html

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Federal Public Health Response

- Develop public health, healthcare provider, school, and community guidance

- Reduce number of travelers from China

- Travelers from Hubei Province mandatory quarantine for 14-days

- Institute airport screenings

- Isolate, genetically sequence COVID-19 and develop diagnostic testing, reverse transcriptase PCR (rt-PCR)

- FDA approves Emergency Use Authorization for rt-PCR; test now accessible by states and other countries

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IDPH Response

- Monitoring global situation

- State preparedness and response activities

- Clinical guidance
    - HAN's disseminated through SIREN
    - Assist with evaluation, reporting, testing, case investigation
    - Coordination of diagnostic testing

- LHD guidance
    - Portal resources
    - Case investigation resources

- Sharing information with state partners and health system partners

- Resources
    - Website guidance, resources, up-to-date information
    - Portal page
    - Hotline

Local Public Health Response

- Share information with infection control preventionists and providers for preparedness of hospitals and outpatient clinics

- Developed healthcare checklist describing process of managing a person with symptoms that recently traveled or was in contact with confirmed case

- Update schools regarding guidance for travelers returning from mainland China

- Respond to public, school, and private business inquiries

- Investigate possible Persons Under Investigation (PUIs)

- Developed a Lake County Health Department webpage to update community

- Worked with LCHD-FQHCs to ensure our ability to screen, test and manage PUIs

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LCHD COVID-19 Update

Update on PUIs in Lake County

Return travelers from mainland China or contacts to confirmed case:

- Categorized as medium risk to public health:
  - Self-monitor symptoms with LCHD supervision for 14 days
  - Avoid school/work and other congregate settings and practice social distancing for 14 days
- Categorized as low risk to public health:
  - Self-monitor for symptoms
  - No restrictions on mobility

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LCHD/CHC COVID-19 Preparedness

- Three highly trained Communicable Disease (CD) staff led by Dr. Ahmed, Medical Epidemiologist (previously with Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) at CDC)

- 3.5 additional LCHD staff trained in CD investigation

- Oversight COVID-19 Team formed, twice weekly huddle: Director of Prevention, Director of Health Information & Technology, Emergency Management Program Coordinator, Medical Epidemiologist

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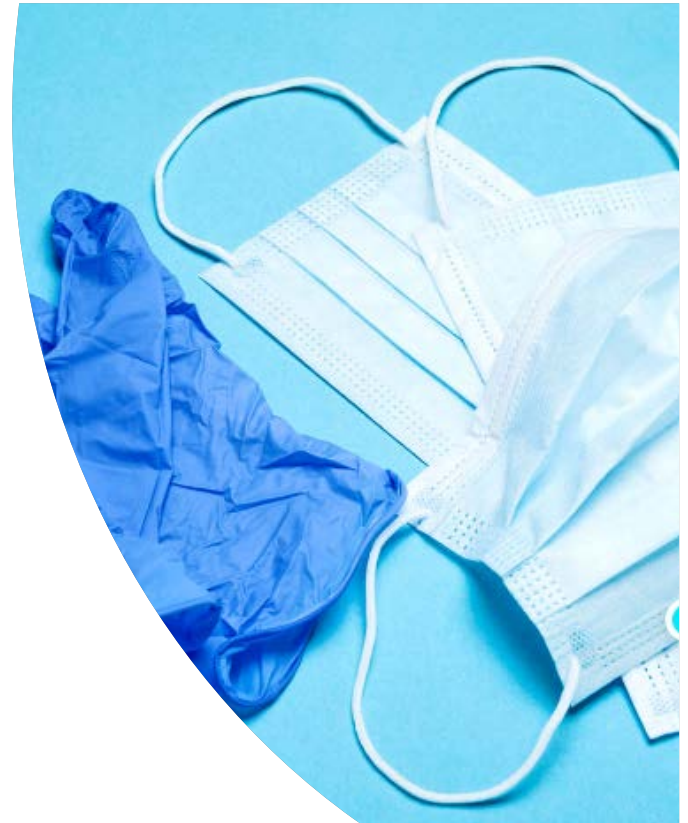Community Health Center

LCHD/CHC COVID-19 Preparedness

- Dr. Ahmed in constant contact with IDPH and CDC

- Eight (8) additional LCHD staff trained for potential surge in incoming calls; log-in to phone system to receive those calls

- Forty (40) additional staff ready as surge capacity for contact tracing investigation calls

- Send Word Now set up to immediately notify both groups

- Just-in-time training for callers ready

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LCHD/CHC COVID-19 Preparedness

- LCHD CHCs have supplies and are trained on precautions and testing

- Infection Control Kits prepared for individuals being monitored

- New CD On-Call phone; new number disseminated (224-355-5675)

- Additional phones ready to deploy in Board Room, if needed

- Coordinated with Lake County legal system to develop process for involuntary quarantine orders

- Lake County Coroners Office, EMS and Police Chiefs educated on COVID-19

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General Emergency Preparedness

- Emergency Operations Center (EOC) ready

- Staff EOC training held January 27, 2020

- MOUs with 17 schools and 11 municipalities for vaccination and/or medication dissemination sites, if needed

- Site general operating manuals prepared

- Potential site manager list updated

- Inventory of supplies

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General Emergency Preparedness

Currently:

- Planning training session for potential site managers

- Circling back with schools and municipalities to get current staff names, current inventory of supplies (tables, chairs, etc.)

- Visiting sites for site-specific manuals to be developed and determine potential operation times and process flows

- Reminding schools and municipalities to ensure security plans are updated

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