Planning for At Risk Populations in Public Health Preparedness

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Abstract

State and local public health agencies are tasked with preparing to deliver services to those populations most at risk. But how do you determine who is at risk and at risk for what? NC has developed a unique hazard based approach to at risk populations based on three hazard classifications: extreme weather/natural hazards, communicable disease and contaminating events. But then, how do you find the populations most at risk? This session will then demonstrate several open source GIS population tools and open a dialogue with participants to explore other possibilities.

Refreshments will be served in Daniels Hall room 428
Student Lounge from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
**Biography**

Dr. Julie Casani is the Director of Public Health Preparedness and Response in the North Carolina Division of Public Health. This Branch coordinates the preparedness system for 85 Local Health Departments and 4 regional offices. In addition to planning activities at the local, regional and state level, this Branch is responsible for providing Public Health coordination, subject expertise and support to the Local Health Departments. From 1999-2006, she was the Preparedness Director at the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Her office was lead on the anthrax events of 2001, implemented a number of enhanced health surveillance systems for Bioterrorism including BioWatch and the National Capitol Region Syndromic Surveillance Project, and developed and implemented the Smallpox Preparedness and Response Program. She is Adjunct Associate Professor at NC State University where she instructs in Global Public Health, Agriculture Security and One Health. She has been a policy and health practice consultant to several national workshops and committees in Weapons of Mass
Destruction for Federal and State agencies, serving on 3 Defense Science Boards. Currently, she is a member of the Homeland Security Science and Technology Advisory Committee for DHS.

Dr. Casani practiced clinical Emergency Medicine in the Johns Hopkins system from 1983 until 2001. She has been actively involved in Emergency Medical Services since the 1970’s serving at every level from ambulance provider to an appointed member of the Maryland State EMS Board.