

FROM Eric Jens, GA DPH Risk Communicator Contents may be FYUO – FOR YOUR USE ONLY

News and Notes

Mental Health Awareness month has just begun. We'll have more on that plus exercise planning and a vulnerable population transportation workshop this week.

Tranquil Passport FSE planning



The full-scale exercise, Tranquil Passport, will be held late next month involving multiple state and federal agencies, medical centers, and multiple transportation activities. For some members of the planning team in Georgia this week, that included a site visit to PDK Airport. Thanks to Litty Varghese for the picture above and for helping with connections to Public Affairs at ASPR. The exercise will include four states and Canada.

Vulnerable Population workshop

A Vulnerable Population Evacuation Operations Transportation Plan workshop was hosted by Aaron Biggs Wednesday. He talked about the multiple modes of transportation and the request process that would bring them into use in a large-scale evacuation event. He also shared a list of on-line resources that provide tropical storm forecasts and updates to help decision makers determine trigger points for evacuation procedures. This was the first of two workshops. The second is May 14.



Mental Health Awareness Month

Today is the second day of Mental Health Awareness Month. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has a toolkit to help highlight weekly themes throughout May, along with other related resources: <u>SAMHSA</u>



The toolkit was highlighted in this week's National Public Health Information Coalition News Highlights. Among the recognition events is Georgia is next week's Children's Mental Health Day at the Capitol, organized by Georgia Parent Support Network and the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities.



Next Week Preview

The Region C Healthcare Coalition will meet virtually on Tuesday. Thursday is the aforementioned Children's Mental Health Day at the Capitol. There are various meetings throughout the week to plan for upcoming trainings, exercises and real-world events.

About "News & Notes"

"News & Notes" is a weekly communication aimed at risk communicators and public information officers within Georgia's 18 public health districts. The goal of the communication is to increase preparedness through the exchange of information about significant events, training and other planned activities. Some information herein may be considered FYUO or For Your Use Only. Please be judicious when forwarding. For questions, comments or to submit information for inclusion, contact Eric Jens at <u>Eric.Jens@dph.ga.gov</u>