

## **COVID 19 Partner Call 10/30/20**

**COVID stats- 179,639 cases, 3,643 deaths**

**Election Preparation – Kevin hood (Virginia Fusion Center):** Record year for voting, manageable numbers for election period. Absentee ballots coming in up to November 6. No known specific threats, however there is a contentious environment. There may be groups using cover to cloak their actions. Conversations starting about how to protect election from both sides and are being monitored for intimidation. Possible cyber issues are something they are keeping an eye on. Watching for lone wolf possibility not specifically linked to other groups. Watchful eye for opportunists and those seeking a revolution regardless of different sides (militias) to avoid a pathway to violence. Anticipates things going smoothly.

**VEST Election Preparation – Michelle Oblinsky (VDEM):** Preparing for potential of civil disturbance and cyber event. Providing resource management and provide assistance in the event of any actions. Daytime activation will begin Election Day thru November 16<sup>th</sup> with options for 24 hour shifts.

**MRC Medical Reserve Corps- Jennifer Freeland:** Providing Election support for infection prevention in the voting environment. In addition to preparing for Election Day, over 200 volunteers in Loudon county has been providing assistance everyday leading up to. Over 12,100 deployable volunteers with 60% medical.

**Testing- Dr. Parham Jaber:** Timely testing capability has improved over time ...working on 2 days and sometimes less than that. Moving forward with baseline testing, in congregate care and nursing home with National Guard. Additional funding for man-power and resources. Utilizing Redcap to manage requests for resources for testing. Screening and doing surveillance wherever is possible. Focusing on healthcare providers, and health institutions to assist in moving forward in reopening. Metrics are being posted in order to be transparent and help guide how testing is done where trends are increasing. Community testing events for vulnerable populations to provide access to testing for all. Estimated 5,000 community events.

Testing stepped up to exceeding 15,000 and meeting expectations. With Halloween weekend and voting over the weekend and next week there will be testing events. Testing is no charge , but may have registration requirements.

**Testing – Antigen – Dr. Rossheim:** VDH released a document this week on antigen testing recommendations on how they should be used. The document is a recommendation document, not a mandate. These tests are different from the PCR tests and known as point of care testing done onsite. Results come back between 15 and 30 minutes providing a significant advantage. 6 different tests are available nationally, but need a prescription to be done. Certificates are needed from CMS to do the tests for providers with someone designated as a lab director. Tests are straight forward, providers need to be trained an example tests from AVID has a robust training series, however other manufacturers have their own training. Positive or negative results have to be reported to VDH within 24 hours. On the slides, there is an example of the interpretation of tests. The document is a recommendation document, not a mandate. Antigen was designed for symptomatic individuals but can be used to test asymptomatic people. The document location has been posted online in several places.

**Christmas Parades- Rachel Ellicks (OEPI):** Not specific guidelines but falls under Phase 3. Under 1000 people and social distancing. CDC advises they are high risk and should be viewed as such. Drive through parades are recommended and those carpooling are not counted in the 1000. Carpooling is discouraged with those outside of family. Mitigation policies should be in place.

**Bob Mauskopf:** Vaccination seminar and ttx slides and screenshots will be posted on public facing website (Large file) along with recording from seminar. Covid 19 panel was very well received. Suzi will put out announcement on subpanel meeting.

**Questions: No questions**