

# EMORY OFFICE OF CRITICAL EVENT PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

## Vision:

The Office of Critical Event Preparedness and Response (CEPAR) serves as the center for Emory enterprise-wide **planning** for and **coordinated response** to **catastrophic events** and will **exercise its expertise and resources in partnership with the broader community** to improve outcomes after an event.

## History:

“When Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast in fall 2005, the response here at Emory was both professional and inspiring. Plans were drawn quickly and efficiently over that fateful Labor Day weekend, and people set to work, running at a sprinter's pace even as they realized that they were in a marathon. They met planes, triaged patients, staffed shelters, housed evacuees, set up phone lines to locate patients' families, helped displaced students, and generally reached out with hearts and hands to help people in great need. We can all be proud of this response. But no one should be surprised. Responding to great need is simply what they do best, each and every day.”

Michael M.E. Johns, MD  
Chancellor, Emory University

## CEPAR OFFICE

Alexander Isakov, MD, MPH  
Executive Director

Robert Nadolski  
Senior Administrator

James Zerylnick, RN, EMT-P  
Training/Operations Manager

Holley Butkovich  
Program Coordinator

- ◇ Hurricane Katrina demonstrated Emory's ability to apply its resources in partnership with the community to ease suffering and respond to needs
- ◇ A dedicated Office of Critical Event Preparedness and Response now serves as the center for Emory's planning activities and coordination of response to future catastrophes directly and indirectly impacting Emory and the broader community

## Objectives:

- ◇ Improve coordination and integration of the existing operational, educational and research activities of Emory relevant to planning, response, mitigation and recovery from catastrophic events. Exercise all the relative components of the Emory enterprise in delivering an orchestrated response to a catastrophic event
- ◇ Catalyze development of novel, multi-disciplinary solutions for the mitigation of threats
- ◇ Communicate with the community, as well as local, state and federal agencies with one voice
- ◇ Serve to enhance the capabilities and opportunities for Emory to collaborate with its community partners

## Structure:

- ◇ The Office reports to the university president and designated senior leadership of Emory allowing an authoritative and interdisciplinary platform for preparedness, response, mitigation and recovery activities

*Emory University is one of the nation's leading private research universities. It is ranked as one of the country's top 20 national universities by U.S. News & World Report. In addition to its nine schools, the university encompasses The Carter Center, Yerkes National Primate Research Center and Emory Healthcare, the state's largest and most comprehensive healthcare system.*



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