

## I. PURPOSE

To provide an overview of how health and medical care needs will be met in the event of a major emergency or disaster situation.

## II. PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

### A. Law Enforcement Personnel

1. Will be responsible for initial on scene care of victims, to their level of training.
2. Will support and assist emergency medical service staff.

### B. Fire Department Personnel

1. Will be responsible for initial on scene care of victims, to their level of training.
2. Will support and assist emergency medical service staff.  
**MNWALK 57**  
**MNWALK 66**
3. Will decontaminate victims exposed to hazardous chemicals. Guidance and assistance of the State of Minnesota Chemical Assessment (CAT) and Emergency Response (ERT) Teams, is be requested via the State Duty Officer.

### C. Emergency Medical Service Personnel

#### **MNWALK 56**

1. The primary ambulance service for the jurisdiction experiencing the event will be responsible for coordinating the transportation and services required by special populations with physical or mobility challenges, during emergencies, disasters, or evacuations. They will utilize the assistance of mutual aid ambulance services, and public or private transportation services as needed.
  - a. Adams Area Ambulance Service- 303 West Main Street, Adams
  - b. Gold Cross Ambulance Service- 1010 West Oakland Ave, Austin
  - c. Grand Meadow Ambulance Service, Grand Meadow
  - d. LeRoy Area Ambulance Service- 128 West Main Street, LeRoy
2. The primary ambulance service for the jurisdiction experiencing a disaster event will be responsible for coordinating the triage, treatment and transportation of injured victims during a major emergency or disaster. They will be expected to use a standard triage tagging system to track the victims. They will utilize the assistance of mutual aid ambulance services, and public or private transportation services as needed.
3. Each ambulance service is responsible for maintaining a disaster plan including a mass casualty plan, and a stock of disaster supplies.

#### D. Hospitals

**Hospital Care**-Injured victims will be transported to Austin Medical Center. If the number of victims requires the use of additional hospitals, the following hospital(s) will be utilized:

1. Albert Lea Naeve Hospital - 404 Fountain Street, Albert Lea
2. Olmstead Medical Center - 1650 SE 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Rochester
3. Methodist Hospital – 201 West Center Street, Rochester
4. St Mary’s Hospital- 1216 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SW, Rochester

1. Each hospital is required to maintain a disaster plan and exercise according to the requirements of their licensing body.
2. Hospitals will be responsible for tracking injured disaster victims cared for in their facility.
3. Due to the unpredictable nature of disaster situations, casualty collection points are not pre-identified within this plan, but would be established as required by the Incident Commander and EMS Branch Director as identified in NIMS.

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4. Austin Medical Center is able to decontaminate victims exposed to chemical, biological or radiological contaminants.

#### E. Coroner-Medical Examiner/ Victims

MNWALK 64

1. The County Sheriff’s Department is responsible for routine coroner duties and requests the assistance of the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) for unusual situations. In a mass fatality incident the Sheriff’s Department would call upon the County Coroner to coordinate mortuary services and the identification of victims.
2. Local morticians will work with Mower County Emergency Management to identify remains, notify next of kin and return victims to families. Temporary facilities (identified in section III, C) can be used as needed. The American Red Cross can also assist with family services.
3. The County Sherriff’s Department, local morticians and Ambulance services will be responsible for the transportation of victims to a designated facility. This facility will be available for family services and collection of remains.

#### F. Funeral Directors

Local Funeral Directors, which can be found in Resource Manual, will obtain assistance from the Minnesota Funeral Director’s Association for mass fatality operations.

G. Health Services

1. The County Public Health, Community Health and Environmental Health Departments will coordinate their efforts to meet the inquiry and referral needs of residents of Mower County.
2. The Public Health Department would be responsible for providing appropriate inoculations, if needed, for disease prevention. Assisting with the detection of potential biological, chemical and radioactive agents, respiratory protection and decontamination.

**MNWALK 69**

The Mower County Public Works – would be responsible for the following disease prevention and health issues:

- a. Pest and vermin control
  - b. Well and water supply safety
  - c. Water quality testing
  - d. Indoor air quality information
  - e. General sanitation including refuse and sewage disposal
3. The Minnesota Department of Health – Rochester Office is responsible for food safety.

H. Mental Health

**MNWALK 51**

1. The County Department of Human Services and their social workers will be responsible for the mental health, crisis counseling, etc. for care of victims and workers, to their level of training.
2. Outside organizations such as the American Red Cross would be called in for assistance depending on need.
3. Critical Incident Stress Debriefing – This will be arranged and coordinated by the Mower County Department of Human Services or designee.

**MNWALK 16**

I. Red Cross

1. The American Red Cross provides congregate care and shelter services for the area. Their plan includes providing health and medical care for the disaster victims in the shelters.
2. The local ambulance service of their designee will support and assist the shelter medical staff as requested and provide emergency medical transportation as needed.

### III. COORDINATION

- A. All agencies responding to disasters and major emergency situations will be required to operate within the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The responding organizations would be responsible for assigning appropriate representation in the EOC.
- B. Should an event require the activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), overall coordination of the response of the health/medical organizations mentioned in this section will take place in the EOC of the affected jurisdiction.

#### MNWALK 58

- C. If temporary facilities are needed to treat casualties, mortuary or for disease prevention, the following facilities have been identified for possible use:
  - Riverside Arena
  - Mower County Fairgrounds
  - Mower County Public Works (generator available)
  - Packer Arena
  - Oak Park Mall
  - McFarland Truck Line

### IV. SUPPORTING PLANS/PROCEDURES AND PERSONNEL

- A. Austin Medical Center maintains a disaster plan, as do other hospitals listed in this annex. Most local hospitals do not have the capability of providing gross decontamination for radiologically or chemically contaminated casualties.

#### MNWALK 65

1. Providing proper and appropriate amounts of medical supplies for the initial emergency response will be the Austin Medical Center. If supplies will be short, they should make arrangements to have medical supplies brought in, perhaps by the responding ambulance services from outside our area.
2. Coordination with the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) will be done by the Austin Medical Center, with support from the MN Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

#### MNWALK 59

#### MNWALK 61

- B. The Mower County Resource Manual contains lists of medical facilities, ambulance services, mortuaries, and other volunteer health support services. Mower County Public Health will be responsible for coordination and supplies of a mass care facility and sheltering, See Annex I.
  1. Health/medical care at shelter/congregate care facilities will be provided by American Red Cross, MRC of Mower County Volunteer Medical Reserve Corp, supplemented by LPN's, RN's, EMT's, and First Responders who are not involved in emergency medical services in the field, or at the incident. The Department of Health can be of assistance.

- C. Ambulance service and other pre-hospital emergency medical service agencies or organizations which respond to the scene of a serious accident/incident are responsible for developing and maintaining whatever standard operating guidelines (SOG's)/emergency response plans that may be required. SOG's must include guidance and instructions for responding to hazardous materials incidents.

**MNWALK 60**

- D. Local funeral directors, those within our county, and those in SW MN can be called upon to provide mortuary services, temporary morgues, supplies and notification of next of kin. In addition, their state association has an emergency response plan to assist them.

Minnesota Department of Health – Disaster Mortuary Emergency Response Team (D-MERT) Plan. Attachment A

1. (MFDA), Minnesota Funeral Director's Association must be requested by the coroner/medical examiner at 763-398-0115.

MFDA will help:

1. Provide immediate care of the dead.
2. Work with the families of the dead.
3. Select temporary morgue facilities.
4. Locate other resources
5. D-MERT

2. Local morticians will work with Mower County Emergency Management to identify remains, notify next of kin and return victims to families. Temporary facilities (identified in section III, C) can be used as needed. The American Red Cross can also assist with family services.

V. STATE SUPPORTING PERSONNEL

Support is available from the Minnesota Department of Health in the event of a serious radiation incident, or other major health threat. (See the Radiological/Hazardous Materials Protection Annex to this plan.)