A premium increase to OGB healthcare coverage will take effect on July 1, 2015, as follows:
- Magnolia Local Plus 12%
- Magnolia Open Access 10%
- Magnolia Local 4%
- Pelican HAS775 4%
- Pelican HRA100 4%

A special enrollment period beginning Friday, April 10th through Thursday, April 30th will be given to Magnolia Local Plus & Magnolia Open Access members only. Members enrolled in the Magnolia Local, Pelican HAS775 & Pelican HRA100 are not eligible to participate in this special enrollment period. During this special enrollment, Magnolia Local Plus & Magnolia Open Access members have three (3) options:
1. Choose a lower premium plan (effective July 1, 2015); or
2. Drop dependents (only if it results in a lower premium); or
3. Cancel their OGB health coverage.

If a member does not wish to make changes, no action is required.

With the upcoming start of the Atlantic Hurricane Season, GOHSEP along with local, state and federal partners participated in a four (4) day full scale exercise. All Emergency Support Functions (ESFs), as outlined in the State’s Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) were activated and reported to the State’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on Wednesday, April 15th and Thursday, April 16th. The State also activated the Joint Information Center (JIC) on Thursday, April 16th, wherein communications staff from supporting ESF’s reported to GOHSEP to test coordination efforts. A Unified Command Group (UCG) meeting was also held on Thursday by the Governor with all supporting ESF leads in attendance. A full scale exercise took place on Saturday, April 18th at the Naval Air Station/Joint Reserve Base-New Orleans and the Acadiana Regional Airport included helicopter and boat search-and-rescue (SAR) operations, restoring civil order, medical support and evacuations, commodities distribution and re-establishing communications.

The 4 day full scale exercise allowed the State to test a variety of response efforts in order to ensure that the established procedures and systems will support response efforts during an event.

We are excited to present our “new” agency newsletter, THE GOHSEP FOCUS! This newsletter will be disseminated on a bi-weekly basis and I am hopeful we will provide staff with beneficial information and news items.

Over the last decade GOHSEP have become known as a leader in emergency management and it is my intent to highlight the contribution and achievements of our team members.

If you have any information or news of interest that you would like considered for the newsletter, submit your topic and/or articles to Allison Hadley or Mike Steele.

If you are enrolled in a Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BCBS) health plan through OBG, you can save $120 annually by participating in the Live Better Louisiana wellness program.

To qualify for the discount, complete the following steps by August 15, 2015:
1. Participate in an on-site wellness check-up (or at your primary care office)
2. Complete your Personal Health Assessment (PHA) on the BCBSLA website
Courses of Interest are listed below:
(please check our GOHSEP Training site for all listings)

Response
⇒ LEPC: Emergency Planning + Response Workshop
⇒ LA CBRNE: Chemical + Biological + Radiological + Nuclear & Explosives

Louisiana FirstNet
⇒ FN 001: FirstNet Outreach

Preparedness Classes
⇒ AWR 310: Natural Disaster Awareness for Community Leaders
⇒ G 318: Mitigation Planning Workshop for Preparing Local Plans
⇒ ICS 300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents for Operational First Responders
⇒ MGT 310: Jurisdictional Threat & Hazards Identification Risk Assessment
⇒ MGT 416: Continuity of Government Operations Planning for Rural Communities
⇒ Intermediate Social Media Tools and Techniques
⇒ L0311: Hurricane Preparedness for Decision Makers

FEMA announced the release of the new State Mitigation Plan Review Guide ("Guide"). The Guide clarifies federal regulations that apply to FEMA; policy; and guidance around state hazard mitigation plan for state agencies and other officials developing mitigation plans. It helps to ensure a consistent plan review process for FEMA and the states that aim to improve the analysis and integration of evolving risk, such as climate change.

The Guide will go into effect in approximately March of 2016, for all state mitigation plans submitted to FEMA for review and approval. The transitional period allows for FEMA and the states to work together to support their familiarity and understanding of the updated Guide.

Disaster Proof Your Financials

Being ready for a disaster is more than having water and supplies... You will also need to be financially ready should a disaster strike!

The month of April is Financial Literacy Month, so now is the time to ensure that you have adequate insurance coverage and an alternate way to access financial and personal records during a disaster. Having your personal documents and contract information easily available following a disaster can help make your recovery quicker and less stressful.

The Emergency Financial First Aid Kit (EFFAK), is a joint publication from Operation Hope and the FEMA Citizen Corps, which can be used to help you prepare now.

GOHSEP Employee Events

If you have a special event you would like to share with our GOHSEP Team, such as births, adoptions, birthdays, etc., just let us know and we will feature in our next issue of… The GOHSEP Focus!

New Hires or Appointments

⇒ Jill Ruth, PA Team Lead-Public Schools & Higher Education
⇒ Alexis Williams, HM Team Lead, Grants Management
⇒ Sean Wyatt, Assistant Deputy Director, Grants and Administration
⇒ Jason Lachney, Section Chief, Operations
⇒ Allison Hadley, PRO, DR Management
⇒ Andrea Hebert, PA Closeout Specialist
⇒ Dawn Holmes, PA Closeout Specialist
**Mark Your Calendar**

**Wednesday, April 29, 2015**
Deadline to complete the mandatory safety training and submit your course Acknowledgement Form for “Drug Testing—Drug Free Workplace Policy”. Contact your immediate supervisor with any questions or concerns.

**Friday, May 8, 2015**
Deadline to submit orders for GOHSEP embroidered shirts with the new seal. Complete your Shirt Order Form and submit to Daniel McLaughlin by COB on Friday, May 8th.

**Monday, May 4, 2015 thru Thursday, May 7, 2015**
The 2015 Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Association LEPA/GOHSEP Workshop will be held in Lake Charles at the Golden Nugget. More information is available on the LEPA webpage. http://www.lepa.org

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**Federal Risk Management Standards**


Future federal investments in, and affecting floodplains, will be required to meet the level of resilience established in the **Federal Flood Risk Management Standard**. This will include projects where federal funding is used to build new structures and facilities, or to rebuild those that have sustained damage. These projects make sure that buildings are constructed to withstand the impacts of flooding, improve resilience, and protect federal investments in the future.

Between 1980 & 2013, the US suffered more than $260 billion in flood-related damages. Flooding accounts for approximately 85% of all disaster declarations. Currently, the public comment deadline on the “Draft Guidelines for Implementing the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard” has been extended until Wednesday, May 6, 2015.

**What is EMAC???'**

The Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) is a formal agreement between states to provide assistance to each other during a governor declared event. EMAC was established in 1996 to allow states that are **not** in the decelerated area to aid those states in need.

In previous years GOHSEP’s highly trained teams have been called upon to assist in emergencies such as Hurricane Irene in Maryland and Vermont, flooding in Tennessee and North Dakota, the 2011 tornado in Alabama, winter weather in Maryland, ice storm in Kentucky and most recent Hurricane Sandy in 2012.

EMAC is now offering multiple interactive online courses for target audiences such as:

- State Emergency Management Personal
- State Fiscal/Administration Personal
- State Grant Officers
- National Guard Commanders, Operations, Logistics & other staff
- Response & Recovery Resource Providers/Personal

**America’s PrepareAthon!** is an opportunity for individuals, organizations, and communities to prepare for specific hazards through drills, group discussions, and exercises.

National PrepareAthon! Day is **April 30, 2015** and will revolve around taking the actions to prepare for these six specific hazards: Earthquake; Flood; Hurricane; Tornado; Wildfire and Winter Storm.

This is a great opportunity for GOHSEP Team members to Get A Game Plan and begin your preparations for this season!

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**Request For Articles**

If you would like to include your information/article in future issues of *The GOHSEP Focus*, please contact:

Allison Hadley or Mike Steele
(225) 718-1815 or (225) 925-3966

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**Follow GOHSEP’s Social Media….**

Websites: gohsep.la.gov or getagameplan.org
Facebook: gohsep
Twitter: @gohsep