



2026 AHEPP Annual Conference Agenda

Preconference - February 23, 2026

8:30am - 9:00am	Pre- Conference Sessions Check-In		
9:00am – 12:00pm	Resilient Hospitals: Mastering IT Downtimes Preparedness Presented by: Mark VanDyke, President & Visionary, TranscendX, MI	Leadership Backed Emergency Management Mastery: Strategies for Gaining Leadership Support for Preparedness Presented by: Phil Chaffe, Senior Operations Manager, Emergency Management & Business Continuity at University of Utah Health Sciences, Hospitals and Clinics, UT	Achieving Regulatory Compliance by preparing for Crisis Response: A Workshop for Healthcare Leaders and their Emergency Managers Presented by: Presented by: Greg Santa Maria, Advent Health & Maria Griffin, FL
12:00pm – 1:00pm (approx.)	Lunch & Networking		
1:00pm – 4:00pm	Resilient Hospitals: Mastering IT Downtimes Preparedness (Con't)	Leadership Backed Emergency Management Mastery: Strategies for Gaining Leadership Support for Preparedness (Con't)	Achieving Regulatory Compliance by preparing for Crisis Response: A Workshop for Healthcare Leaders and their Emergency Managers (Con't)

4pm - 6pm	In-Person HcEM Exam (optional-add'l fee req'd)
6pm -	Dinner and Networking on your own

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Day 1 February 24, 2026

8:00am - 8:30am	Welcome, Announcements, and Introductions		
8:30 - 9:45am	P.A.C.E. Planning as a Strategic Framework for Hospital Preparedness and Response Presented by: Kevin Arthur & Phil Chaffee		
9:45am - 10:00am	Break & Networking		
10:00am - 11:15am	Collaborate with Colleagues		
11:20 - 12:10	Reimagining Business Continuity Management in Healthcare Presented by: Richard Karsseboom HcEM-M, William Osler Health System, CAN	Don't Eat Your Young: mentoring the Next Generation of Emergency Management Professionals Presented by: Chris Blomgren, Katmai Solutions	Rapid Response: Hospital Evacuation Presented by: Matthew Akers, OhioHealth & Lauren Yeagle, OhioHealth , OH
12:00pm - 1:30pm	Lunch & Networking		
1:30pm - 2:20pm	Refining EMS Interstate Transport of Patients with High Consequence Presented by: Jory Guttsman, HcEM-P & Anthony LoPiccolo, NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue, NY	What Next? Lessons Learned from a Systemwide 30-day Network Outage Functional Exercise Presented by: Julie Bulson, HcEM-M, Corwell Health, MI	Meeting Regulatory Compliance in the Wake of Federal Restructuring Presented by: Greg Santa Maria, Advent Health, FL
2pm - 2:05pm	Transition		
2:05 - 3:05	North Carolina Healthcare Response to Hurricane Helene Presented by: David Marsee, HcEM-P, Central Carolina Healthcare Preparedness Coalition , NC		
3:25pm - 4:00pm	Break & Networking w/ Vendors		
4:00pm - 5:40pm	Design and Efficacy of Pocket Exercises to Enhance Emergency Department Readiness Presented by: Jennifer Shearer, Mass General Brigham & Theresa Klink, Mass General Brigham , MA	The Hotel2Hospital Project: A Practical Solution for Medical Surge Presented by: Jenny Schmitz, Charles Little, Megan Nies, Amy Herron, Huffman, CO	

8:00am - 8:30am	Welcome, Announcements & Introductions		
8:30am - 9:30am	Behavioral Threat Assessment in Healthcare: Making Prevention a Reality		
9:30am - 10:00am	Break		
10:00am - 10:50am	Trauma Transfer Triage During a Regional MCI: Seeing the Trauma Center as a Rate Limiting Factor in Delivering Patient Care During a Regional MCI Presented by: Paul Mikita, HcEM-M, RWJBarnabas Health Network, NJ	When Critical Resources are not Available: A Command Center Response to the Baxter IV Shortage Presented by: Julie Bulson, HcEM-M, Corewell Health & Pauline Lai, Corewell Health, MI	A River Runs Through It Presented by: David Marsee, HcEM-P, Healthcare Preparedness Coordinator, Central Carolina Healthcare Preparedness Coalition, NC
11- 11:50 am	The Goal Standard: Aligning Continuity Wins with Performance Expectations Presented by: Cherie Plouff, MD Anderson Cancer Center & Angela Cone, MD Anderson Cancer Center, TX	Building a Pediatric Mass Casualty dream Team: A Multi-Disciplinary Approach to Hospital Readiness Presented by: Michelle Tanton, St. Louis Children's Hospital, MO	Chaos in Cowtown: A Focus in Crisis Communications. Lessons Learned from the Largest Multi-Agency Disaster Exercise in Fort Worth Presented by: Kasey Pollan, Cook Children's Healthcare System & Kim Brown, Story and Strategy PR, TX
12pm - 1:30pm	Lunch & Networking		
1:30pm - 2:30pm	Dynamic Environment, Supply Chain, and Workforce: Adapting Your Facility's Emergency Response to New Challenges Presented by: Jacquelyn Marchand, HcEM-B, Poydras Home, LA		
2:40pm- 3:00pm	Final Announcements and Prizes		
3:05pm - 3:55pm	Preparedness on Call: A Guidebook for Hospital Emergency Management Presented by: Rachel Lehman & John Hick, ASPR Tracie, DC	Pediatric Preparedness in Action: Using Live Child Actors in a Full-Scale Exercise Presented by: Rebekah Reynosa, Penn State Health, PA	An All-Hazards Approach to Ambulatory Evacuation Planning Presented by: Eva Stanton and Haylee Manning, Mass General Brigham, MA
4:00pm - 4:50pm	Beyond the Tourniquet: Equipping Staff with Tools, Training, and Support for Armed Intruder Response Presented by: Don Boyce & Meghan McPherson, The Mount Sinai Health System, NY	Empowering Healthcare Emergency Management through the Bronze-Silver-Gold (BSG) Framework: A Hospital-Based Model for Crisis Response Presented by: Richard Karsseboom, HcEM-M, William Osler Health System, CAN	Outages with Intention: Turning Planned Disruptions into Business Continuity Presented by: Angela Cone, MD Anderson Cancer Center, TX