ASSOCIATION OF HEALTHCARE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROFESSIONALS

AHEPP Annual 2027

Conference Agenda

Pre-Conference Sessions: Monday, February 22, 2027
Conference & Exhibits: Tuesday–Wednesday, February 23–24, 2027
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel at the Entrance to Universal Orlando | Orlando, FL

Pre-Conference | Monday, February 22, 2027

8:30 – 9:00am	**Pre-Conference Sessions Check-in**
9:00am – 4:00pm	CONCURRENT PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS (SEPARATE REGISTRATION) **Designing an Effective Operations-Based Exercise** *Presented by: Deb Teske & Jason Mediger, Mayo Clinic Health System* **Leadership Backed Emergency Management Mastery: Strategies for Gaining Leadership Support for Preparedness** *Presented by: Phillip Chaffee, University of Utah Health* **Resilient Hospitals: Mastering IT Downtime Preparedness** *Presented by: Mark VanDyke, TranscendX* **You Already Have the Warning Signs. You Just Don't Have a Process: A 6-Hour Behavioral Threat Assessment Management Intensive for Healthcare** *Presented by: Keith Hansen, Contingency Management Consulting Group*
12:00 – 4:00pm	**Exhibit Hall Set Up**
4:30 – 6:30pm	**In-Person Written Certification Exam**

Day 1 | Tuesday, February 23, 2027

8:00 – 8:30am	**Welcome, Announcements and Introductions**
8:30 – 9:30am	GENERAL SESSION **Time to Sweat the Small Stuff: Leveraging Small-Scale Emergencies for Large-Scale Preparedness** *Presented by: Jory Guttsman, NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Organizational Assessment and Risk Management; Planning
9:30 – 9:45am	**Break & Networking**
9:45 – 10:45am	**Collaborate with Colleagues (Networking Session)** **AHEPP Professional Standard:** Communication
10:55 – 11:45am	CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS **Turning Chaos into Calm: Lessons from TidalHealth's Emergency Management Program**

	Transformation *Presented by: Charles L. Dolan Jr. & Andrew Wile, TidalHealth* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Program Management & Governance; Leadership **Beyond Compliance: Designing Healthcare Exercises That Drive Real Improvement** *Presented by: Chris Reeves, Regional One Health and Mid-South Emergency Planning Coalition* **AHEPP Professional Standard:** Exercise Design & Execution **Health Effects from Radiation Exposure: Are We Better Prepared to Respond?** *Presented by: Alla Shapiro, Research Discovery Innovation (RDI)* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Planning; Response Operations **Health System Capacity Management and Emergency Preparedness: Collaboration & Partnership to Navigate Extreme Challenges** *Presented by: Kyan Safavi & Paul Biddinger, Mass General Brigham* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Response Operations; Coordination with Stakeholders
11:45am – 1:15pm	**Lunch and Networking**
1:15 – 1:45pm	CONCURRENT QUICK HIT SESSIONS **What's New in Healthcare Preparedness: Practical Resources from ASPR TRACIE** *Presented by: Rachel Lehman, HHS ASPR TRACIE* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Training & Education; Planning **Smarter, Not Harder: Practical AI for Healthcare Emergency Managers** *Presented by: Asha Salah, Boston Children's Hospital* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Program Management & Governance; Organizational Assessment and Risk Management **Building a Plane in Flight: Developing an Emergency Management Program During FIFA World Cup 2026** *Presented by: Lorrie Elizarraraz & Georgia White, Texas Health Resources* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Planning; Response Operations **The Future of Education – An Update** *Presented by: Luke Aurner, Michigan Region 6 Healthcare Coalition* **AHEPP Professional Standard:** Training & Education
1:55 – 2:45pm	GENERAL SESSION **Beyond the Risk Matrix: Communicating Risk and Influencing Executive Decision-Making in Healthcare** *Presented by: Roger Glick, Jensen Hughes* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Leadership; Organizational Assessment and Risk Management
2:45 – 3:15pm	**Break & Networking with Vendors**
3:15 – 5:05pm	CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS (3:15 – 5:05PM) **From Paper to Practice: Designing and Executing a Healthcare Downtime Functional Exercise** *Presented by: Angela Cone, UT MD Anderson; Verenice Valencia; Cherie Plouff, UT MD Anderson* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Exercise Design & Execution; Planning **Mass Casualty Incident Response Planning Consideration Workshop** *Presented by: Paul Mikita, RWJBarnabas Health*

	AHEPP Professional Standards: Training & Education; Planning
3:15 – 4:05pm	CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS **Forging Tomorrow's Leaders: Building an Emergency Preparedness Fellowship for the Next Generation of Healthcare Emergency Managers** *Presented by: Matthew Butler, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia* **AHEPP Professional Standard:** Training & Education **Identifying Shared Strengths and Planning Gaps Through a Thematic Analysis of Medical Surge Plans from Arizona Healthcare Facilities** *Presented by: Brianna Rooney, Arizona Center for Rural Health* **AHEPP Professional Standard:** Stakeholder Coordination
4:15 – 5:05pm	CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS **Preparing Your Hospital for Environmental Emergencies** *Presented by: David Reddick, Bio-Defense Network; Valeria Carlson, Clyde Consulting, LLC* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Training & Education; Coordination with Stakeholders; Leadership; Planning **TBA***
5:05pm	**Optional Networking**
6:00pm	**Dinner & Networking On Your Own**

Day 2 | Wednesday, February 24, 2027

8:00 – 8:30am	**Welcome, Announcements and Introductions**
8:30 – 9:30am	GENERAL SESSION **Shots Fired: Managing an On-Campus Shooting at a Hospital** *Presented by: Caleb Parton & Amanda Lemkuil, Corewell Health* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Response Operations; Coordination with Stakeholders
9:30 – 10:00am	**Break & Networking with Vendors**
10:00 – 10:50am	CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS **Beyond the Binder: Building HCID Readiness Through Interactive Education, Drills, Rounding, Real-World Practice, and Frontline Engagement** *Presented by: Jane Wade, Wellstar Health System* **AHEPP Professional Standard:** Training & Education **From Plan to Practice: Creating an Operational COOP Program** *Presented by: Emma Paras, Denver Health and Hospital Authority* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Planning; Organizational Assessment and Risk Management **The Quiet Death of Hospital Decontamination Programs: Rebuilding Capability Before the Next Unknown Substance Event** *Presented by: Arthur B. Ditzel, Jr., Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHealth)* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Program Management & Governance; Training & Education
11:00 – 11:50am	CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS **Medical Response and Surge Exercises at Scale: Lessons Learned from Planning and Executing a Statewide Healthcare Coalition Exercise** *Presented by: Amy Di Miceli, Arizona Coalition for Healthcare Emergency Response* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Exercise Design & Execution; Coordination with Stakeholders **Ride-Out Ready: Staffing Tools for Operational Resilience** *Presented by: Angela Cone, UT MD Anderson* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Response Operations; Planning **Moving Beyond Traditional ICS: Advancing Hospital Incident Command Through Engaged Leadership and Organizational Commitment** *Presented by: Michele Tanton, St. Louis Children's Hospital* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Leadership; Planning
12:00 – 1:30pm	**Lunch and Networking** 12:45 – 1:15pm: Lunch Session (sponsor and presenter TBA*)
1:30 – 2:30pm	GENERAL SESSION **Closing the Pediatric Preparedness Gap: Building and Sustaining a Comprehensive Pediatric Mass Casualty Incident Program** *Presented by: Hannah Hamilton-Hurwitz & Ashley Miller, Boston Children's Hospital* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Program Management & Governance; Training & Education
2:30 – 2:40pm	**Final Announcements & Prizes**
2:45 – 3:35pm	CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS **Rapid Clinical Resources and Considerations during Healthcare Supply Shortages** *Presented by: Rachel Lehman, HHS ASPR TRACIE; John Hick, MD, Hennepin Healthcare* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Response Operations; Coordination with Stakeholders

	Lights, Camera, Action! How Harnessing the Video Medium Can Enhance Your Hospital Emergency Management Program *Presented by: Andrew Moull, Hamilton Health Sciences* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Training & Education; Communications
	Beyond Hospital Walls: Emergency Preparedness for Home Hospital Programs *Presented by: Eilish Nebbia, Mass General Brigham Healthcare at Home* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Planning; Response Operations
3:40 – 4:30pm	**CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS** **Advancing Incident Command for Healthcare: A Functional Area Model Aligned with HICS Principles** *Presented by: Holly Matthews & Sara Greene, HCA Healthcare* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Response Operations; Leadership
	Ahead of the Surge: A Decade of New York City's Mass Casualty Incident Alerting Program *Presented by: Nicole Ziogas & Andrew Dahl, Greater New York Hospital Association* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Coordination with Stakeholders; Response Operations
	Coordinating Complexity: Multi-Agency Transport Planning for the MV Hondius Hantavirus Repatriation Mission *Presented by: Jackson Gruber, Nebraska Medicine; Benjamin Tysor, Omaha Fire and Rescue* **AHEPP Professional Standards:** Coordination with Stakeholders; Response Operations
4:30pm	**Adjourn**

Conference Notes

*TBA – Speaker selected and pending confirmation. Session details will be posted once confirmed.
The 2027 AHEPP Annual Conference has been approved for 13 HcEM Re-Certification Continuing Education Units.
Conference registration includes breakfast and lunch on February 23 & 24, 2027.
Agenda is subject to change. For the latest schedule and full session descriptions, visit **aheppannual.org/2027agenda**.

#AHEPP2027