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NACCHO'S PREPAREDNESS SUMMIT SPOTLIGHTS RESILIENCY AND DISASTER RECOVERY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Washington, D.C., March 9, 2016—Emergency preparedness lies at the heart of a community's ability to survive both natural and man-made disasters; therefore, funding is critical in creating resilient communities. Preparedness and building resilience are the focus of NACCHO's 2016 Preparedness Summit to be held April 19–22, in Dallas, Texas, "Planning Today for Rebuilding Tomorrow: Resiliency & Recovery in the 21st Century."

"The chances of experiencing an event that displaces thousands of people are higher than ever in this country, due to our increasingly unstable climate and our reliance on a federal response system," said Dr. LaMar Hasbrouck, executive director of NACCHO. "The Preparedness Summit is a premier opportunity for local health departments on the frontlines to gather and learn from our top experts and from each other on what it means to help create conditions for resilient communities in the face of disaster."

Local, state, and federal public health organizations are a key piece of the resiliency puzzle. The 2016 Preparedness Summit's opening plenary on April 19 will explore **Innovations in Community Resilience**, Department of Housing and Urban Development's Marion McFadden and 100 Resilient Cities' Andrew Salkin will join Dr. Nicole Lurie from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response and NACCHO executive director LaMar Hasbrouck to discuss their programs and public health's vital place in the federal government's community resilience efforts.



On Wednesday, April 20, the plenary, **Making Smart Choices: Disaster Risk Reduction at Home and Abroad**, takes an international approach to Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) best practices. DRR states that while we can't prevent a hazard from happening, we can prevent it from becoming a disaster by investing in measures to mitigate the impact of these hazards on communities. Speakers include leading experts Dr. David Applegate, Acting Deputy Director, U.S. Geological Survey; Virginia Murray, Head of Extreme Events and Public Protection, Public Health in the UK; William Raisch, Director of the International Center for Enterprise Preparedness, NYU; and Mark Keim, founder of *DisasterDoc* and on White House Subcommittee on Disaster Risk Reduction.

At the Preparedness Summit's closing plenary, **Planning for the Marathon, Not the Sprint: Building Disaster Mental Health Recovery into Preparedness Planning**, Steven Moskowitz from the New York State Office of Mental Health, Dr. Ben Springgate from the St. Charles Avenue Multi-Specialty Clinic in New Orleans, and Kelly Suter from the International Medical Corps in Washington, D.C. will highlight successful programs that have built behavioral health recovery initiatives into their planning efforts. The speakers will discuss their experiences in mental health recovery during the Ebola response, Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy recoveries, and active shooter events.

ABOUT THE PREPAREDNESS SUMMIT

The Preparedness Summit (<http://preparednesssummit.org/>) is the first and longest-running national conference on public health preparedness. Since its beginning in 2006, the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) has taken a leadership role in convening a wide array of partners to participate in the Summit; presenting new research findings, sharing tools and resources, and providing a variety of opportunities for attendees to learn how to implement model practices that enhance the nation's capabilities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters and other emergencies. In 2015, the four-day annual event brought more than 1,800 attendees to Atlanta, Georgia from nearly every state in the nation, as well as several territories and countries, including China and Australia.

ABOUT NACCHO

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is the national non-profit association representing the approximately 2,800 local health departments (LHDs) in the United States, including city, county, metro, district, and tribal agencies. NACCHO's vision is health, equity, and security for all people in their communities through public health policies and services. NACCHO's mission is to be a leader, partner, catalyst, and voice for local health departments in order to ensure the conditions that promote health and equity, combat disease, and improve the quality and length of all lives.