

## ***Bioterrorism Exercise Held in August***

On August 5 and 6, federal, state and local agencies from Northern Kentucky, Southwest Ohio and Southeast Indiana gathered to take part in a bioterrorism exercise designed to examine the Tristate's emergency response capability to a biological event. The purpose of the exercise was to capitalize, reinforce and provide feedback on the responder's training and preparedness.

A portion of the exercise examined the region's management and response capabilities to the incident and their interaction with the other participating agencies and assets that would respond. Participants included chief elected officials, public health, hospitals, law enforcement, transportation, public information, emergency management, communications, fire/EMS service and several others. An after-action report will be compiled that will include participants' recommendations for future training and response procedures.

The drill was held at the Cintas Center in Cincinnati and the Northern Kentucky METS Center in Erlanger. Funding for it was provided by the US Department of Homeland Security Office for Domestic Preparedness as part of the State Homeland Security Grant Program. ■

## **Collaborative Launches CincinnatiMDjobs.com**

To attract and retain top quality physicians, the Health Improvement Collaborative is managing the production of [cincinnatiMDjobs.com](http://cincinnatiMDjobs.com), a complimentary online service that offers area physician job listings and practice profiles that are marketed to medical residents and practicing physicians regionally and nationally.

Physician employers that take advantage of [cincinnatiMDjobs.com](http://cincinnatiMDjobs.com) can save the typical fees that can run up to \$1,000 per job listing for this type of service. The site began accepting physician job listings and practice profiles on August 23.

Concern about an adequate supply of physicians in the community sparked this project. Data on 39 specialties shows Greater Cincinnati has fewer physicians per capita than surrounding Tristate and Midwest

cities, especially in 14 of those specialties. Of additional concern, physicians in seven specialties are substantially older than the average age of physicians in those specialties practicing in and around Tristate and Midwest cities.

The primary function of [cincinnatiMDjobs.com](http://cincinnatiMDjobs.com) is to provide local physician job lists and candidate matching services. Physicians using the site can also gather information on working and living in Greater Cincinnati, which will assist candidates in making their decision to practice in this area, rather than in other cities. Information about the area will be provided through a partnership with the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce.

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## **Explore New Frontiers at Solutions 2005**

The Health Council's ninth annual health conference and expo will debut in its new time of year on Thursday, March 31, 2005, 8:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m., at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center. *Solutions 2005: New Frontiers in Health Care* will offer attendees exciting new educational programs on hot topics, with CEUs included, and networking opportunities with colleagues and vendors.

*Solutions* will feature keynote speaker Edward O'Neil, MPA, PHD, director of the Center for Health Professions at the University of California, San Francisco. The Center for Health Professions is a research, advocacy and training institute created to assist health care professionals, health pro-



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fessions schools, care delivery organizations and public policymakers in responding to the challenges of educating and managing a health care workforce capable of improving the health and well-being of people and their communities. It manages several initiatives that are designed to understand and address the issues facing health care and health professionals.

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## CincinnatiMDjobs

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"It is so important for Cincinnati to enhance its presence on the Internet for those physicians looking for jobs," said Lynn Olman, executive director of the Health Improvement Collaborative and president of the Health Council. "This website is the ideal tool for representing Cincinnati and its suburbs as a desirable place to work and live, and it provides those searching for jobs with career opportunities in our area."

CincinnatiMDjobs.com provides information about:

- Physician jobs in Greater Cincinnati including tools for employers and the capability to search candidate CV's
- Health care in Greater Cincinnati including practice profiles

- Non-physician jobs in Greater Cincinnati for spouses or family
- Living in Greater Cincinnati
- Real estate in Greater Cincinnati
- Networking forums in Greater Cincinnati for physicians, African-American/minority physicians, physician spouses, and practice administrators

For more information on cincinnatiMDjobs.com, contact Lynn Olman at (513) 531-0200. ■

## September 21-22

### JCAHO Emergency Preparedness: Strategies and Solutions

This one-and-three-quarter day program is designed to help health care providers prepare for emergencies including bioterrorism. Joint Commission's emergency preparedness standards will be reviewed in detail. This program will be held at the Quality Hotel and Suites in Norwood, and the cost is \$575.

## October 21 & 26

### ServSafe Certification

This program will assist participants in maintaining compliance with the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code and the Ohio Administrative Code for Nursing and Rest Homes. The \$100 fee includes books/materials and the exam. Fifteen hours of CEUs are available for dietary managers, dieticians, and dietetic technicians, registered. The program will be held at the Health Council.

## November 9

### JCAHO Hospital Accreditation Essentials: The Advanced Course

This program focuses on the survey process and standards including: highlights of changes in standards and the survey process for the upcoming year; strategies for successful survey outcomes; and "scoring changes" that can impact your organization's accreditation score. This program will be held at the Health Council, and the cost is \$400.

Register online today at [www.gchc.org](http://www.gchc.org) or call (513) 531-0200 for more information. ■

## Solutions

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O'Neil is also a professor of family and community medicine and dental public health. He is active in several other groups such as the Pew Scholars and Latin American Fellows Programs in the Biomedical Sciences and the Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellows Program.

### Sponsors and Exhibitors

Solutions provides a great opportunity for local businesses and organizations to tap into decision makers from Council member facilities through sponsorships and exhibiting.

Various sponsorship levels are available that will offer organizations premiere exposure at the event, advertising in pre-conference materials, complimentary registrations, booth discounts and much more. For sponsorship information, contact Colleen O'Toole at (513) 531-0200.

The central location for the exhibit hall and the booth incentives provide a great opportunity for vendors to meet with conference attendees. Exhibitors who register for Solutions before November 30 will receive an early bird rate. For exhibitor information, contact Maurie Hanauer at (513) 531-0200. ■

**What leadership changes are occurring at your organization?**

**Have you recently added new services or welcomed new management staff?**

**Let us know!**

The Council is pleased to offer hospital and affiliate members the opportunity to publish news and events in *The Digest*.

Send your press releases or other materials to: Tracey Downing

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