



Missouri Healthcare Coalition
Emergency Preparedness Alliance

Why the Missouri Healthcare Coalition Matters

About the Missouri Healthcare Coalition

When disasters strike, emergency response depends on trusted relationships, real-time coordination and the ability to rapidly mobilize across organizations and disciplines.

The Missouri Healthcare Coalition (MO HCC) helps build those relationships before emergencies happen. MO HCC is a unique interdisciplinary network that brings together hospitals, public health agencies, EMS providers, long-term care organizations, emergency management agencies, federally qualified health centers and other health care and response partners across 92 Missouri counties.

Together, these organizations prepare for emergencies before they happen and respond when they do strengthening communication, coordination and collaboration across the health care system and the communities they serve.

Networks and Resources That Matter in an Emergency

In a disaster, response depends on knowing who to call, what resources are available and how organizations can work together under pressure. The coalition is a practical coordination network where different parts of the health care and emergency response ecosystem gain access to information, relationships and capabilities they cannot build alone. The MO HCC helps members:

- Build trusted relationships across regions and disciplines
- Share real-time situational awareness
- Support resource coordination
- Connect with emergency management structures at the local, regional, state and federal level
- Break down silos that can slow emergency response

"Within two hours, I had 17 to 20 nursing homes, emergency managers and partners checking in asking: 'What do you need? Do you need transportation? Blankets?' Having people take care of each other is a big deal."

- MO HCC Member

Members also gain access and greater familiarity with tools and systems that support coordinated response across Missouri. These include EMResource and eICS, which help health care organizations share situational awareness, communicate during incidents and coordinate resource needs during emergencies.

Why It Matters

Emergencies do not happen in isolation, and no single organization can respond alone. The people who will respond together need to prepare together *before* the emergency.

MO HCC provides the structure, relationships and coordination that help communities respond more effectively during crises ranging from tornadoes and infectious disease outbreaks to mass casualty incidents and infrastructure disruptions.

By strengthening relationships before disaster strikes, the coalition helps health care and emergency response partners move faster, communicate more effectively and support one another when it matters most.

"We'd already seen over a thousand patients and I heard a voice - a guy from a hospital about 60 miles away bringing supplies. Having that personal touch where I knew his voice made all the difference."

- MO HCC Member

What Participation Looks Like

Coalition members participate in:

- Regional and statewide meetings
- Emergency planning and coordination activities, such as vulnerability analyses, assessments and plan development
- Trainings and exercises
- Information sharing during incidents and emerging threats
- Collaborative response efforts during emergencies

Benefits of Participation for Organizations

Organizations participate in MO HCC because the relationships built before an emergency often determine the effectiveness of the response during one. The coalition provides a trusted network where hospitals, public health, emergency management, EMS, long-term care and community partners can build connections, share information, strengthen preparedness and coordinate across regions and disciplines. Participating in MO HCC helps organizations:

- Strengthen their internal emergency management program and meet regulatory and accreditation requirements.
- Foster relationships with regional partners across disciplines who can share best practices and provide critical support during emergencies.
- Connect with formal emergency management structures at the local, regional, state and federal levels.
- Access training and exercise opportunities for their staff

“This county only has two ambulances... and because of the network that eventually got notified, we ended up with four plus ambulances that either responded into the area or were on standby if needed...”

**– MO HCC EMS member
recounting the response to a
train derailment**

Why Attend Our Meetings?

The MO HCC is one of the few forums that brings together hospitals, EMS providers, emergency management, public health agencies, FQHCs and other health care partners from across rural and suburban Missouri. Members gain access to perspectives, relationships and real-time operational insights they often can't get anywhere else.

HCC meetings are designed to be practical, timely and worth your time; helping you stay informed, strengthen regional partnerships and learn directly from peers navigating many of the same challenges. Members participate to:

- Hear real-world lessons learned from incidents, exercises and emerging threats
- Build relationships with the people and organizations you may need to coordinate with tomorrow
- Help identify concerns, resource gaps and emerging operational challenges
- Share situational awareness and compare approaches with peers across disciplines
- Strengthen coordination through systems like EMResource and EICS
- Access trainings and professional development opportunities
- Stay connected to a trusted regional network that supports both day-to-day coordination and emergency response