

# Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response

## Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Centers (PERLC)

### South Central Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Center (SCPERLC) University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL

The South Central Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Center (SCPERLC) is housed in the School of Public Health at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). The SCPERLC is a collaborative partnership between UAB and the School of Public Health Tropical Medicine at Tulane University (TU), New Orleans, LA.

#### **Key Leadership:**

##### ***Principal Investigator:***

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#### **Funding:**

The PERLC were initiated in 2010 as a 5-year cooperative agreement funded by the CDC.

FY 10 (Year 1) funding: \$937,657.

Budget Period: 9/30/2010 – 9/29/2011.

#### **Mission:**

The PERLC mission is to improve the nation's public health preparedness and response capabilities for emergencies, whether deliberate, accidental or natural. The PERLC network will collaborate, develop and deliver core competency-based training and education that respond to the public health preparedness and response needs of state, local, territorial and tribal public health authorities. Activities are comprised of three components: Core Competency-based Training for the Workforce; Partner Requested Education and Training; and Program Core and Network Activities.

#### **Customers:**

The public health workforce of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians of Alabama and the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

#### **Program Approach:**

The Comprehensive Preparedness Training System Model and Training Development Guide, developed by SCPERLC, provides a common training philosophy and seamless integration of core competency-based and partner-requested education and training. This model will be used to train the preparedness and emergency response workforce because it ensures that training 1) is competency based and 2) relies on input from practiced-based partners.

#### **SCPERLC Year 1 Activities In-Brief:**

- Significantly increase participation in 96 existing SCCPHP trainings
- Create 3 new online courses and 4 new satellite trainings (to be archived for future automated open access)
- Convene a major conference to facilitate the continued development and communication of pediatric disaster surge capacity
- Conduct a national satellite broadcast focused on the gulf coast (partner States) on lessons learned from the environmental health response to the oil release in the Gulf of Mexico
- Conduct an inter-tribal public health emergency planning conference
- Conduct a series of continuity of operations planning workshops to support tribal partners
- Assist partner States in drills and exercises - ranging from tabletop tops to a national-level exercise

