

RIHCA Hosts 2024 Emergency Preparedness Workshop

On Wednesday, March 13, 2024, staff from all eight Federally Qualified Health Centers in Rhode Island, Blackstone Valley Community Health Care, Comprehensive Community Action Program, East Bay Community Action Program, Providence Community Health Centers, Thundermist Health Center, Tri-County Community Action Agency, WellOne Primary Medical & Dental Care & Wood River Health, along with staff from the Narragansett Indian Health Center and other partner organizations participated in a full-day Emergency Preparedness Workshop hosted by the Rhode Island Health Center Association.

Participants were provided with an overview of Emergency Management Programs, informed of the latest workplace safety standards and compliance measures and participated in knowledge sharing and collaboration through promising practices sharing and roundtable discussions among peers.

Co-facilitators Marsha D. Williams (NYU School of Global Public Health) and Joseph Reppucci (Jensen Hughes Associates) delivered a table-top exercise which provided a hands-on opportunity for participants to apply their knowledge, evaluate and test current policies and procedures, and identify areas for improvement related to safety requirements, site security, and employee/workplace safety.

The agenda included the following presentations:

- **Welcome & Overview: [Emergency Management for Community Health Centers](#) - [Marsha D. Williams](#)**, Dr.PH(c), MPH, CBCP, New York University School of Global Public Health
- **[Navigating Workplace Violence Laws and Standards](#) - [Kenneth Montville](#)**, BPA, CHSP, Safety & Emergency Preparedness Manager, Enterprise Risk Management, Kent Hospital
- **[Modeling a Proactive and Patient Centered Security System](#) - [Scott King](#)**, Chief Safety Officer, New Bedford Community Health Center
- **[Table-top and Facilitated Discussion: Workplace Safety](#) - [Joseph Reppucci](#)**, MSEM, CEM, RI-CEM, EMT-AC, Lead Fire and Emergency Management Consultant, Jensen Hughes & Marsha D. Williams, Dr.PH(c), MPH, CBCP, New York University School of Global Public Health