**SAVE THE DATE** **\_\_April 24, 2019\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**LOCATION** **\_\_\_Calhoun County Health Department\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Alabama Healthcare Provider Mutual Aid Compact Workshop - Important Information**

The Center for Disaster Healthcare Preparedness (CDHP) is scheduling an Alabama Healthcare Provider Mutual Aid Compact Road Show/Workshop for each Healthcare Coalition (HCC). During this session there will be a review and discussion on the key elements of the revised compact, including the background, the purpose, changes, advantages to HCCs and HCC members, protocols and procedures, and the importance of healthcare facility CEO and/or Administrator participation in the process.

**Please invite every organization that is a member of your HCC to attend this workshop**. **The attendee should be an individual who can speak on behalf of, and make decisions for their respective agency. Additionally, the attendee will receive the critical information necessary to obtain the endorsement and a signature from their agency’s administration**. CDHP will work with the leadership of each HCC throughout the process of getting the compact signed by HCC members.

In 2008 the Alabama Healthcare Provider Mutual Aid Compact (commonly known as the Alabama Hospital Mutual Aid Compact) was developed to provide a means for hospitals and other healthcare entities to support community partners by sharing information and resources during disasters. In 2012 HCCs were established nation-wide, changing the way healthcare agencies are organized to assist each other during a response to an emergency or disaster. There are nine HCCs in Alabama, with well over 1,000 individual organization members. Due to the diversity of healthcare organizations that are now involved with a HCC, the Alabama Healthcare Provider Mutual Aid Compact needed to be updated to reflect current emergency preparedness and response activities.

The compact was revised to specifically broaden the scope of participating healthcare facility types beyond hospitals, thereby expanding the potential pool of available resources, which will strengthen coalitions and improve preparedness and response capabilities.

It is important to know that the compact is non-binding. Entering into this agreement does not commit facility or agency resources to exceed what each is willing or able to share. An organization should never cut themselves short of critical resources and create an unsafe environment for their own patients, staff, visitors and organization. As with the original 2008 version of the compact, this document provides assistance with several of the emergency preparedness regulatory requirements for participating agencies including Joint Commission, National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).