

Next Steps

- ✓ Request more information and learn if your organization qualifies to become a Closed POD dispensing site by contacting the CRI Program Coordinator
- ✓ Submit completed enrollment form to the Program Coordinator



Becoming a Closed POD partner is a significant step in helping protect the health and safety of your organization, your family, and our community.

4210 Riverwalk Parkway
Riverside, CA 92505
Office: (951) 358-7100
Fax: (951) 358-7105
www.rivcoeri.org



**PROTECTING YOUR
ORGANIZATION DURING
PUBLIC HEALTH
EMERGENCIES**



**Are you ready to become a
Closed POD Partner?**

PREPARING FOR THE NEXT PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY



During a public health emergency, such as a large scale disease outbreak or

bioterrorism event, wide parts of the population may need medications or vaccines quickly. In heavily populated areas, this can become a difficult task that must be executed with great efficiency. To address this vulnerability, the Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) provides direct assistance to large metropolitan areas throughout the nation to build the response capacity needed to provide preventative medications to 100% of their population within 48 hours.

WHAT'S THE PLAN?

The Riverside County Emergency Management Department (EMD) will be establishing "Point of Dispensing" (POD) sites to distribute medications or vaccines to protect healthy individuals within the general population from biological threats or epidemics.

In addition to PODs managed by the EMD, other areas of the population can receive medications through Closed PODs, which are operated by businesses and organizations. Closed PODs would receive medication from the EMD to distribute to employees, clientele, and their immediate families.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

With the help of schools, universities, military installations, businesses and faith and community based organizations the burden on the public PODs can be greatly reduced. Closed PODs will help to decrease the number of people served in public PODs and can reach community members who may have a difficult time moving through public PODs.

Partnering with the EMD will empower your organization to care for employees and their family members. Additionally, Closed PODs reduce long lines and public anxiety, allow resources to be used more efficiently, and protect vulnerable populations.

As with all preparedness activities, the more time we have to communicate and exercise our response plans, the better we will be able to react when an emergency occurs.

BENEFITS YOUR ORGANIZATION AND OUR COMMUNITY

- ✓ Helps achieve the community dispensing goal more rapidly
- ✓ Decreases the number of people going to public dispensing sites
- ✓ Reaches populations unable to attend public dispensing sites
- ✓ Protects your organization and your families
- ✓ Helps to ensure your organization's continuity of operations
- ✓ Exhibits commitment to your community

PROTECT WHAT MEANS MOST TO YOU

EMD ROLE

- ✓ Pre-event planning and technical assistance
- ✓ Provide medications during an emergency
- ✓ Communicate the need to activate the Closed POD site
- ✓ Maintain communication throughout POD operations and demobilization.

YOUR ROLE

- ✓ Develop a Closed POD dispensing plan
- ✓ Participate in trainings and exercises
- ✓ Maintain the necessary supplies and equipment needed to operate a Closed POD
- ✓ Dispense medications following guidance provided by EMD

IT'S A WIN-WIN SITUATION FOR BOTH PARTIES!

Your employees expediently receive emergency medication on site without having to go to a public POD, increasing the health departments' capacity to protect and secure the health of our community and various vulnerable populations.