



**The City of York
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Honorable C. Kim Bracey, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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<"HEALTH_DEPARTMENT"> EARNS PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS RECOGNITION

York City Bureau of Health is Honored as "Public Health Ready"

York, PA – As local health departments nationwide strive to protect the public from new and infectious diseases, bioterrorism, natural disasters, and other public health threats, the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) has recognized the York City Bureau of Health for its ability to respond to public health emergencies.

The York City Bureau of Health met the comprehensive preparedness benchmarks required by Project Public Health Ready (PPHR), a unique partnership between NACCHO and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

“We are proud to have been recognized by Project Public Health Ready for our high level of preparedness,” said Barbara Kovacs, Director, of the York City Bureau of Health. “This recognition by NACCHO and CDC is exceedingly well-deserved because it reflects tremendous effort, dedication, creativity, and cooperation on the part of our entire team. We will continue to improve our ability to quickly and effectively respond to any public health crisis the city might face.”

“NACCHO commends the York City Bureau of Health for being a model of public health emergency preparedness,” said Robert Pestronk, Executive Director of NACCHO. “The public health system is making great strides thanks to the good work of leaders in local public health preparedness such as the York City Bureau of Health.”

Local health departments recognized by PPHR undergo a thorough evaluation process by peer review. PPHR required the York City Bureau of Health to meet expectations in public health preparedness in three key areas: preparedness planning; workforce competency; and demonstration of all-hazards readiness through exercises or a response to a real event. The recognition confirms that the York City Bureau of Health has an emergency response plan in place, the plan is connected to other jurisdictional emergency response plans, agency staff members are trained, and the plan is exercised and used during public health emergencies.

The mission of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is to be a leader, partner, catalyst, and voice for local health departments in order to ensure the conditions that promote health and equity, combat disease, and improve the quality and length of all lives.

For more information on all Project Public Health Ready recognized sites and project tools and resources, go to <http://www.naccho.org/topics/emergency/pphr.cfm>.

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