

Calhoun County Joint Operations Center

Joint Information Center

Wednesday, April 1, 2020



Agenda

- Welcome-Dave Morgan
- Unified Command Team-Kelli Scott, Rebecca Fleury and Eric Pessell
- Current Situation-Eric Pessell, Director, Calhoun County Dept of Public Health
- Purpose of the Joint Operations Center and the Joint Information Center-Kelli Scott
- Lines of Effort and Priorities-Rebecca Fleury
- Joint Operations Center-Jim Blocker
 - Liaisons and work groups-jb
 - Work group Example- Lucy
- Additional Participants and Resources-Jim Blocker
- Current Challenges and Recommendations-Eric Pessell
- Helpful info for local governments-Jim Blocker
- Law Enforcement Function Team-Sheriff Hinkley
- Business/Corporate Function Team-Kara Beer, Joe Sobieralski
- Comments from Representatives-Open to Elected Officials or their representatives

Unified Command Team

- Kelli Scott, Calhoun County Administrator/Controller
- Rebecca Fleury, Battle Creek City Manager
- Eric Pessell, Health Officer for Calhoun County Public Health Department



Current situation

As of 11 a.m., Wednesday, April 1:

There are 23 positive cases of COVID-19 in Calhoun County

There are 60 tests pending

There are 0 deaths

This information is updated twice daily by the Public Health Department at calhouncountymi.gov.

Purpose of Joint Operations and Information Center (JOC) (JIC)

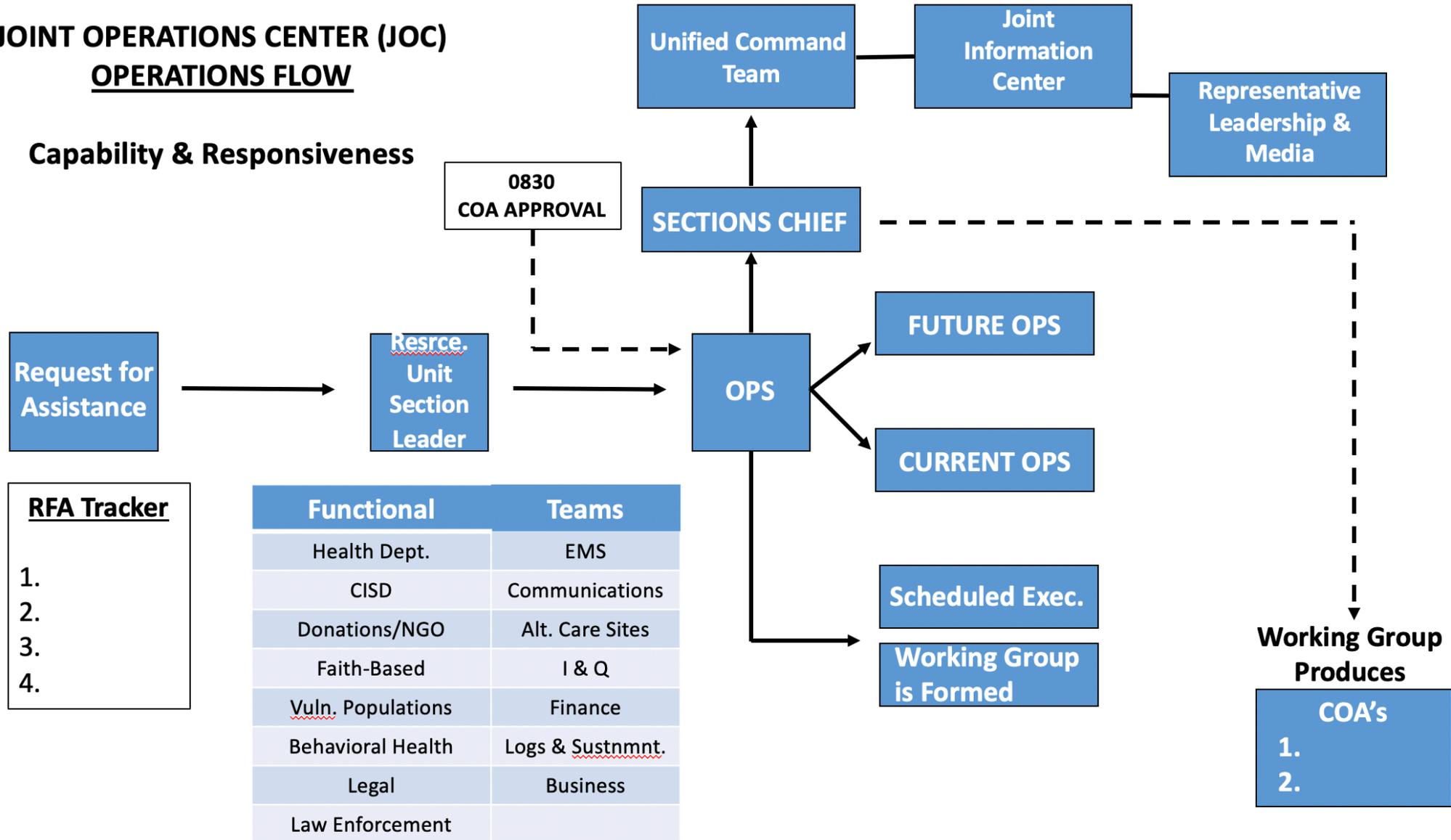
- To provide current and relevant information regarding actions, activities and resources in the EOC in a combined format for community and elected leadership, as well as the media
- To listen to and determine the needs of all jurisdictions in Calhoun County

Lines of Effort and Priorities

- Save Lives
- Mitigate suffering
- Protect the Vulnerable
 - Develop Community wide approach
 - Create a virtual Joint Operations Center
 - Respond to impacts and effect of the Shelter in Place Order
 - Anticipate and prepare for COVID increase and surge capability
 - Develop plan to reset and stabilize

JOINT OPERATIONS CENTER (JOC) OPERATIONS FLOW

Capability & Responsiveness



- RFA Tracker**
- 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.

| Functional | Teams |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Health Dept. | EMS |
| CISD | Communications |
| Donations/NGO | Alt. Care Sites |
| Faith-Based | I & Q |
| Vuln. Populations | Finance |
| Behavioral Health | Logs & Sustnmnt. |
| Legal | Business |
| Law Enforcement | |

- Working Group Produces**
- COA's**
- 1.
 - 2.



Joint Operations Center Workgroups and Liaisons

- Faith-based community
- Non-profits, volunteers, and donations
- Vulnerable populations
- Behavioral health
- Alternate Care Sites
- Isolation & Quarantine
- Finance
- Emergency Medical Services
- Logistics and Sustainment
- Legal
- Hospital needs
- Communications
- Business/Corporate Leaders



Workgroup example: Communications

- Our goals are transparency and easy access to information
- Workgroup is made up of Public Information Officers from the county, city, and Public Health Department
- All official communications from the EOC can be found on the COVID-19 Alert page at calhouncountymi.gov or at battlecreekmi.gov/coronavirus



Additional Participants and Resources

A community-wide approach

- Calhoun County
- Cities of Battle Creek, Springfield, Albion, Marshall
- Township and village leadership
- All local school districts
- Local MDHHS office
- State representatives
- Local hospitals
- Countywide chamber leadership
- United Way, and other non-profits



Current challenges

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - Requests are made through the EOC
 - Recognizing there is need countywide, the EOC is triaging supplies
 - Hospitals report PPE as biggest need
- Quarantine & Isolation Workgroup
 - Sites are being identified and leases are being negotiated with local hotels

Current challenges

- Patient privacy vs Public Health awareness
 - Community spread is apparent in Calhoun County
 - State Law prohibits the disclosure of any information obtained by the Calhoun County Health Department during the course of an infectious disease investigation, unless there is a public health reason for disclosure
 - Federal HIPAA Privacy Rule prohibits the release of Protected Health Information that directly, or indirectly, identifies a specific patient's identity or diagnosis
 - The scope of any release must directly serve a public health purpose as determined by the Calhoun County Health Officer, who is the only person authorized by federal law to decide what information needs to be released. It should be the least amount of information necessary to serve that purpose.

Recommendations for us all

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Clean and disinfect frequently-touched objects and surfaces
- Practice social distancing in public
- Stay home when you are sick, and call your primary care provider



Helpful info for local governments

- From the Finance workgroup:
 - The FEMA Public Assistance Program is open to all non-profit organizations as it relates to COVID19
 - In order to start the application process you need to get set-up in the grants portal
 - The best way to think about it is: "Is this cost above and beyond our normal operating/duties AND is it directly related to COVID19?"
 - Track it! Including donations and volunteer hours



Law Enforcement—Sheriff Steve Hinkley

- Why Joint Operations?
- Corrections Update
- Law Enforcement Staffing
- Business Investigation
- Countywide Law Enforcement Chiefs communications



Business and Corporate—Kara Beer

- Partners include, Albion Chamber of Commerce, Battle Creek Chamber of Commerce, Battle Creek Unlimited, MAEDA, and Small Business Development-Battle Creek
- Providing assistance and guidance to local businesses to ensure access to relief funding and provide awareness and resources as necessary
- Reaching out to businesses regarding countywide requests
- Collecting information and getting a pulse about who is “open for business”
- Essential vs Non-Essential Businesses/Workers

Comments from Representative Leadership

- Senator Bizon-
- Representative Haadsma-
- Representative Hall-
- County Elected Officials-
- Tribal Elected Officials-
- City Elected Officials-
- Township Elected Officials-
- Village Elected Officials-



Best Information Sources

- Calhoun County Government and Public Health Department
 - calhouncountymi.gov
- City of Battle Creek, COVID-19 page
 - battlecreekmi.gov/coronavirus
- State of Michigan, COVID-19 page
 - michigan.gov/coronavirus
- CDC
 - cdc.gov/coronavirus



**PIOs are available to answer
media questions/inquiries**



Contact Us

Calhoun County EOC Public Information Officers:

- Lucy Blair, Communications Manager for Calhoun County
 - lblair@calhouncountymi.gov
- Jessica Vanderkolk, Communications Manager for City of Battle Creek
 - JLVanderkolk@battlecreekmi.gov

