

Emergency Management Newsletter

Colby-Sawyer College Campus Safety

November 5, 2018

Emergency Preparedness Happenings

The Colby-Sawyer Emergency Management Incident Response Team (IRT) is composed of CSC community members from disciplines throughout the college. We're active in all four phases of emergency management on our campus: preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation.

The Colby-Sawyer IRT is happy to share some of the preparedness initiatives which have taken place over the last few months. Creating a culture of preparedness is a team effort. It requires staff, faculty and most importantly, students working together to create a safe and secure community. Participating in some of the training opportunities found in this newsletter will help to ensure that you and the college are prepared.

We encourage all Colby-Sawyer employees and students to continue their efforts in emergency preparedness to enhance the college's capability to respond to and recover from emergency situations.

Closed POD Functional Exercise

Colby-Sawyer College and the Greater Sullivan County Public Health Network conducted a drill on Oct. 17 in conjunction with the college's flu clinic. The drill focused on the simulation of a large-scale influenza outbreak which created a need for Colby-Sawyer College, a closed **Point of Dispensing (POD)**, to open and provide medication to staff, students and faculty members.

Public health emergencies can result from hazards including natural disasters like hurricanes and tornados, disease outbreaks like pandemic flu, and deliberate acts such as aerosolized release of anthrax. If a public health emergency did occur, residents in the Greater Sullivan County region, which includes Colby-Sawyer College, would be directed to an open POD to receive medication. "Following the Meningitis outbreak at UMASS Amherst last November, we immediately began working with the college to support planning and preparedness efforts," County Director of Community Health Preparedness Kirsten Vigneault said. "We were welcomed with open arms."

Closed PODs are not open to the community members at large; instead they serve a specific type of place/person. With Colby-Sawyer College agreeing to be a closed POD, the college is not only better prepared for public health emergencies on campus, but it can also help the community by decreasing the number of people accessing the open POD which would allow lifesaving medications to be dispensed more rapidly. Between the college's students, faculty/family members, and Windy Hill, the college could provide medications to more than 2,200 people.

Evacuation Drills

Campus Safety, in collaboration with the New London Fire Department, has been conducting evacuation drills for each residence hall. Drills are typically scheduled during the early start of the fall and spring semesters.

The purpose of evacuation drills is to prepare building occupants for an organized evacuation in case of an emergency.

A+ to BEST HALL!

Students evacuated a fairly full building in 2 minutes flat and gathered in front of Sawyer, away from the building and out of the way for EMS responders.

At Colby-Sawyer, evacuation drills are used as a way to educate and train students, faculty and staff. During the drill, community members 'practice' drill procedures and familiarize themselves with the location of exits and the sound of the fire alarm. In addition to education, the process also provides the college with the opportunity to test the operation of fire alarm system components.

Campus Safety Officer Jim Meachen planned and performed the evacuation drills. In addition to his duties as an officer, he is a volunteer fire fighter with the Sunapee Fire Department.

IRT Members

Pete Berthiaume
Jen Deasy
Liz LaBelle
Mary McLaughlin
Meg Miller
Kate Seamans
Pam Spear
Cally White
Heather Zahn



Test of the CSCAlert System



The IRT used **Mountain Day** as an opportunity to test the CSCAlert system. The test was successful in that we were able to identify several technological issues which have since been addressed. If you haven't signed up for CSCAlert, we strongly encourage you do so by visiting <http://colby-sawyer.edu/emergency/>. If you are signed up but didn't receive a text announcing it was Mountain Day, please contact the Colby-Sawyer Helpdesk at helpdesk@colby-sawyer.edu.

Free Training Opportunity!

A.L.I.C.E.

Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate

A.L.I.C.E. is a program designed to supplement current "lockdown" procedures used frequently in our schools and workplaces as a stand-alone defensive strategy for an Active Shooter event. It is recognized across the country as an additional component to the traditional "lockdown" response to an "Active Shooter on Campus" emergency.

A.L.I.C.E. is an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. The main objective of the program is to provide students, faculty and staff with options to increase their chance of survival during an "Active Shooter on Campus" emergency. Where the traditional lockdown response is passive (lock doors, turn out lights and wait for help), the A.L.I.C.E. program is considered a more aggressive response.

Colleges, high schools and elementary schools are adopting this program and numerous campuses across the country are sending their public safety personnel to be trained in the program. The events on school campuses over the past 20 years have shown us that the "lockdown" system is insufficient in protecting our youth and the concept of "it could never happen here" is a myth. The true first responders are the students, faculty and staff who are first presented with the "active shooter" situation.

Alert: Danger Announcement

Lockdown: Excellent starting point from which to make safety decisions

Inform: Provide real-time information to those in danger

Counter: Use of simple, proactive techniques to counter aggressive actions if necessary

Evacuate: Remove as many from the danger zone as quickly as possible

Get A.L.I.C.E. Certified in 2 Steps

1. Complete the prerequisite online webinar (45 min)
2. Attend two-hour practical application on Thursday, November 29 (6 P.M. to 8 P.M.)

After you've completed the online training, join us for the practical portion of the course. The CSC Department of Campus Safety, in cooperation with the New London Police Department, is conducting the 2-hour session which will give participants insight and response options when encountering an active shooter.

Program topic areas:

- Policy and Procedures Survey and Review
- Infrastructure Design and Classroom Layout
- Proactive Use of Technology
- Community Resource Assistance
- Mass Evacuations
- Countering Directed Violence
- Law Enforcement Response
- Practical Scenario Training

A.L.I.C.E.

To register, contact
jen.deasy@colby-sawyer.edu
by Monday, Nov. 26