

# 2026 NEBRASKA PREPAREDNESS SYMPOSIUM

JUNE 2 & 3, 2026

YOUNES CONFERENCE CENTER NORTH, KEARNEY

The 2026 Nebraska Preparedness Symposium brings together two days of impactful learning and networking through back-to-back educational offerings.

Day one features an Incident Command for Healthcare workshop designed to help participants build practical ICS knowledge and become champions of the system within their hospitals, long-term care, clinics, and other healthcare facilities, equipping them to support and educate others in their organizations.

Day two is the traditional Preparedness Symposia, an engaging day of education for professionals involved in healthcare, public health, EMS, emergency management, and related sectors. This full-day program provides key updates and practical sessions focused on current issues, best practices, and strategies to strengthen healthcare and public health emergency preparedness and response.

\*Please note - Each session will require a separate registration

## June 2, 2026

10:00am - 4:00pm, COST \$100

### Incident Command for Healthcare - REGISTER HERE

This workshop is designed to build a deeper understanding of how the Incident Command System (ICS) can be effectively integrated into a healthcare setting. This is not simply an ICS overview (participants are strongly encouraged to complete IS-100 and IS-200 prior to attending). Instead, this program prepares participants to serve as champions for ICS within their own facilities and with executive leadership. Attendees will gain the tools and strategies needed to help their incident command teams establish, implement, and utilize ICS more effectively and efficiently during healthcare emergencies. Workshop facilitated by TransendX.

## June 3, 2026

9:00am - 5:00pm, COST \$100

### 2026 Preparedness Symposia - REGISTER HERE

This year's Symposia will include an update from the State Emergency Preparedness and Response Unit (EPRU), and sessions covering topics such as Behavioral Health, Artificial Intelligence, Current and Emerging Infectious Diseases, Supply Chain Resilience and late-breaking topics.

## Lodging

CPERS has negotiated a rate of \$170/night at the Crowne Plaza hotel, which is connected to the Younes Conference Center North. Additionally, there are many hotels in close proximity to the Conference Center, should you wish to stay elsewhere.

Booking information is supplied in your confirmation email.



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EMERGENCY RESPONSE SOLUTIONS



# 2026 PREPAREDNESS SYMPOSIA

JUNE 3, 2026 - YOUNES CONFERENCE CENTER NORTH, KEARNEY, NE

## AGENDA

- 8:30am **Check-In and Networking**
- 9:00am **Welcome Remarks**
- 9:05am **Nebraska Preparedness: State of the State**  
Emergency Preparedness Response Unit - NE DHHS
- 9:20am **Leveraging AI in Preparedness Planning**  
Brian Smith, EdD, MS, CHEP, MBCP - Director of Emergency Management, Nebraska Methodist Health System
- 10:30am **Break**
- 10:45am **HPAI: Avian Influenza Update**  
James Lawler, MD, MPH, FIDSA - Global Center for Health Security, University of Nebraska Medical Center
- 11:45am **Lunch**
- 12:30pm **Post-Lunch Recharge**
- 12:45pm **Public Health Applications of Disaster Psychological First Aid (PFA)**  
Denise Bulling, PhD, LIMHP, CTM - Senior Research Director, University of Nebraska Public Policy Center
- 1:45pm **Supply Chain Resilience: 3M**  
Caroline Johnson MSN, RN, PHN - Global Health & Safety Application Professional, 3M Personal Safety Division
- 2:45pm **Break**
- 3:00pm **Nebraska Response Stories - Panel Presentation**  
Speakers TBA
- 4:30pm **Closing Remarks and Dismissal**



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