

Washington SECURES

SECURES (Secure Electronic Communication, Urgent Response and Exchange System) is a web-based service hosted by the Washington State Department of Health allowing public health and emergency response partners to communicate and collaborate with each other quickly and securely.

SECURES Features:

- SECURES provides a secure communication channel, via single-level authentication, for sensitive public health information.
- SECURES is a Role-based system which utilizes multiple and redundant methods of communication to send health alerts including voice, email, and text messaging.
- Public health colleagues can contact each other on a secure web site, receive accurate and up-to-date information, and communicate during a public health emergency.
- The system provides a contact directory for emergency preparedness and public health personnel which is maintained and administered by the individual account holders.

Current Status:

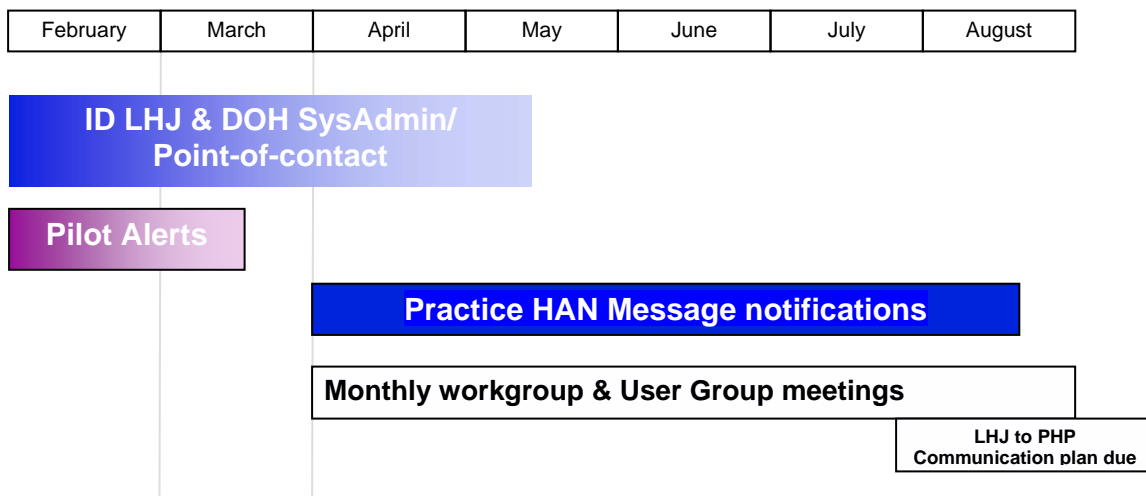
- 33 LHJs have sent account information in
- 23 LHJs have participated in Pilot testing
- 6 LHJs have completed Pilot testing
- SECURES User Group
 - The first User Group meeting is March 30th and the group will meet monthly, either directly or via conference call.
 - Develop standard system protocols. These business rules will guide:
 - Role definition
 - System access
 - Upstream, downstream and lateral communications
 - Document sharing
 - Training requirements
 - Remote administration
 - Alert testing exercise configuration and scheduling
 - Review SECURES implementation plans and progress. Make recommendations regarding timing and resources.
 - Review licensing issues and provide recommendations regarding acquisition of additional licenses as needed.
 - Members include:
 - 12 LHJ Staff (voting)
 - 2 Regional Emergency Response Coordinators
 - Mark Rowe / Region 6
 - Chuck Johnson / Region 8

- 1 Regional Focus Area B Coordinator
 - Bill Edstrom / Spokane
- 3 Local Emergency Response Coordinators/HAN Coordinators
 - John VanSant / Spokane
 - Open
 - Open
- 1-2 LHJ Directors/Administrators
 - Sherri McDonald / Thurston
 - Torney Smith / Spokane
- 1-2 Nursing/Personal Health Directors
 - Bonnie Corns / Kittitas
 - Deborah Aherns / Thurston
- 1-2 Environmental Health Directors
 - Ed Dzedzy / Lincoln
 - Open

- 6 DOH Staff (voting)
 - DOH PHEPR Manager – Rick Buell
 - DOH HAN Coordinator – Cindy Gleason
 - 1 DOH SERC – Johnny Clark
 - 1 DOH Communications staff – Greg Nordlund
 - DOH Epidemiology Response Coordinator – Sara Dreitzler
 - DOH OAS LHJ Liaison – Marie Flake

- SECURES Project Manager (non-voting) – Robert Scheel
- Facilitator – DOH WEDSS User Coordinator (non-voting) – Chris Halsell
- Scribe – DOH WEDSS support staff (non-voting) – Shelby Minchau

Project timeline through current funding cycle:



Impending Issues

- Preparation for upcoming grant guidance
 - Transition current HAN distribution from Listservs to SECURES
 - Further deployment to LHJs and their Public Health partners
 - Implement regular test schedule
 - SysAdmin training for LHJ staff
 - Recommend standards for communication devices
 - User Group to define system use protocols

- Potential policy impacts
 - HAN message distribution changes
 - Standardize LHJ 24/7 Contact procedures
 - Technology standards for emergency communications