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Learnings from past emergencies such as Hurricanes Katrina and Rita have demonstrated that current emergency preparedness plans often fail at addressing the needs of diverse populations, specifically non-English speaking ones, according to the RAND Public Health Initiative.



To address this, RAND recently released a toolkit that is meant to help state agencies, local health agencies, community-based and/or nongovernmental organizations improve their current emergency preparedness plans and activities by reviewing case studies and picking out some organizations as examples.

Emergency, Community, and Health Outreach (ECHO) was chosen as an example organization and received special recognition in this toolkit for the unique resources and services that ECHO provides limited English proficiency populations. ECHO's communications tools include television, radio, web, public service announcements, e-alerts, and more. Read More.

Meet Xiong My Ly: Breast Cancer Survivor

Meet Xiong and her granddaughter, Grace, Xiong is a breast cancer survivor and will be appearing as a special guest on ECHO's Hmong version of the October program titled, "Breast Cancer: Detection, Prevention, and Treatment." She will be on the show side-by-side with local doctors, cancer experts, and health care organization representatives.

The subject matter experts will provide culturally competent information and facts regarding breast cancer. However, Xiong will bring something entirely different to the table - her experience as a survivor. She will be there to provide inspiration and hope to viewers who have been touched by breast cancer.

Similar to the Hmong program, the Spanish, Somali, and English versions of the program will also have subject matter experts and survivors to tell their stories. "Breast Cancer: Detection, Prevention, and Treatment" airs Sundays in October and will be available online.

Is Your Child Ready for School? Watch Child and Teen Checkups and Learn More.

To help children get a healthy start in life and in school, it's important that they see a doctor to verify that they are in good health. These examinations by a doctor are commonly called "Child & Teen Checkups". Airing August 8 and throughout the month check your tptMN channel and PBS listings or watch on ECHO Web here in six languages.

GET HOOKED ON ECHO TV AND WEB!

This month on ECHO TV and Web: Check the tptMN channel, PBS listings, or watch online.

Child and Teen Checkups

Calling 9-1-1 in an Emergency

Early Childhood Screening

Folic Acid and Prenatal Care

Severe Weather Warnings

Understanding Vaccines

This Month on ECHO Phone (1.888.883.8831)

Affordable Housing

&

Family Emergency Preparedness Plan

- Calling All Talent!
- ECHO Out and About At...

Learn What to Do in an Emergency - Calling 9-1-1 In An Emergency Program

Call 9-1-1 only when you see or are involved in an emergency. When calling 9-1-1, stay calm, be ready to tell the dispatcher the type of emergency and your location, and do not hang up. Airing August 7 and throughout the month, check your tptMN channel and PBS listings or watch on ECHO Web here in seven languages.

Checkups Are Important, Watch *Early Childhood* Screening Program and Learn More

From birth on, bring your child to your clinic regularly to make sure that he/she is developing and learning in healthy ways. Airing August 14 and throughout the month, check your tptMN channel and PBS listings or watch here on ECHO Web in seven languages.

Learn Why We Need Vaccines, Watch Understanding Vaccines

Vaccines have been around for a long time. They don't cure disease or illness, but they do keep people from getting sick in the first place. This show provides the basics on why we need vaccines, how they work and where we can get them. Airing August 15 and throughout the month, check your tptMN channel and PBS listings or watch here on ECHO Web in seven languages.

Calling All Talent!

Bi-lingual (native and English language) individuals are needed as television and voice talent in the following languages: Hmong, Khmer, Lao, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

If you speak any of these languages and English, can devote up to 10 hours a month for one year, and have a sincere interest in providing health, safety, and civic education information to the community in cooperation with ECHO (Emergency, Community, and Health Outreach) please apply.

A stipend and parking is provided as appreciation of service. Experience in broadcasting or voice-overs a plus, but not required. Interested persons should send a resume to Danushka Wanduragala 651.789.4326, email at wanduragala@echominnesota.org, or through the mail: Danushka Wanduragala, Outreach Coordinator, ECHO, c/o Association of Minnesota Counties, 125 Charles Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55103.

ECHO Out and About At...

Emergency Preparedness Conference for Healthcare Systems Partners, August 5 in Saint Cloud.

Karen Organization of Minnesota (KOM) Open House on August 5 in Saint Paul. Learn more.

Community Showcase - Medica, August 12 in Minnetonka (Medica employees only).

Way to Grow: Health, Early Literacy, and Resource Fair on August 26 in Powderhorn Park. Learn more.