#### **Expanding Community Engagement** Through Environmental Health Fairs

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 2011 Community Involvement Training Conference

> July 19 – 21, 2011 Arlington, Virginia

#### Introductions

- Bill Little, U.S. EPA Region 6 Community Involvement Coordinator/SEE
- Darcie Olexia, Environmental Health Scientist, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
- Lorraine Jameson, CH2M HILL, Community Involvement Specialist

#### This training will provide:

- Tools to determine if an Environmental Health Fair will benefit your community
- Step-by-step instructions, tips and lessons learned for planning and conducting the event
- Examples of outreach materials
- Sources for additional information

#### What is an Environmental Health III Fair?

- Fair serves a community near an industrial complex, Superfund or Removal Site.
- Health impacts are a leading concern of stakeholders who live near hazardous waste sites, especially those in medically underserved communities.
- More emphasis on environmental health and sponsorship by federal, state and/or local environmental agencies than most traditional health fairs.

#### **Benefits to the Community**

- Information about local clinics and services
- Information about chemicals of concern
- Increase personal health awareness
- Free screenings by health professionals
- Demonstrations of CPR or first aid
- Encourages positive changes to their lifestyles and behavior

#### **Benefits to Agency Partners**

- Expand contacts within the community
- Meet agency outreach goals
- Educate the public on chemicals of concern, reduce potential future exposure.
- Effective venue for updating the community on site issues

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### Don't forget the kids!

Fingerprinting

Fire safety











#### Six months before the Fair

- Establish a leader
- Choose a Theme
- Establish your goals
- Find a Location
- Set a date



#### **Environmental Health Fair Goals**

- Community specific
- Promote health awareness
- Increase understanding of local health care and health promotion resources
- Promote use of local, community resources
- Encourage collaboration among private, voluntary and government sectors

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#### **Five Months before the Fair**

- Engage community leaders
- Invite participants
  - Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
  - Local Emergency Planning Committee
  - Kidney Foundation, Heart Association
  - Red Cross
  - State Dental Association, State Ophthalmology Association
  - Agency for Aging
  - Medical Colleges & Nursing Schools
  - Y.M.C.A.

#### **Identify participants needs**

- Tables, table coverings
- Chairs
- Electrical outlets, extension cords
- Privacy screens
- biohazardous waste disposal
- waste baskets
- special lighting (eye exams)
- Placards to identify vendor table
- Provide your vendors with a form to complete that documents what they will need

#### **Participants documentation form**

lth Eair nk you for agreeing to participate 110/220\_\_\_ J sign provided for each participant organization. end your response to me by November 1, 2009. If I do not receive a requert 1, 2009, I will assume that you have no equipment needs. Fax or e-main formation is listed below. Your timely response to this request will enable ul event for the Alsen community. We will do our best to accommodate yo anneciate wure nationation.

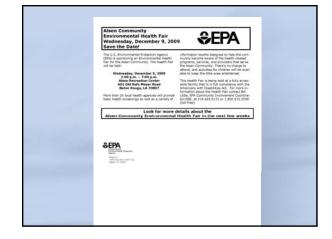
Bill Little Community Involvement O USEPA Region 6 Bill Little/R6/USEPA/US Office 214-665-8131 Fax 214-665-6660 little.bill @epa.gov ment Co

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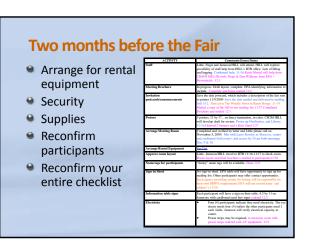


#### Three Months before the Fair

- Establish a promotions strategy
- Confirm commitments
- Solicit gifts for drawings at the Fair
- Refreshments?







#### One month before the Fair

- Distribute promotional material
- Confirm advertising
- Contact local news media
- Order, purchase supplies

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#### **Important Considerations**

- HIPAA
- Photographing children

#### **How to Order Publications**

- To order Publications you may write to:
- FEMA
- PO Box 2012, Jessup, MD 20794-2012
- Or you may call 1-800-480-2520, Monday -Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., EASTERN TIME.
- Or you may Fax your request to 301-362-5335.
- Please include the title, item number, short title, and quantity of each publication.

#### **Other Sources**

- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)
- Department of Defense (DOD) <u>www.defense.gov</u>
- Center for Disease Control (CDC) <u>www.cdc.gov</u>
- Navy & Marine Corps Public Health Center. (NMCPHC) www.nmcphc
- American Academy of Family Physicians <u>www.aafd.org</u>
- American Academy of Pediatrics <u>www.aap.org</u>
- Healthy Children.org





















