

DHSS EOC Activation Level	2
Event Location	Statewide
Communities	Statewide

- Participating Agencies**
- Alaska Court System
 - Alaska Mental Health Board
 - Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
 - Alaska Office of the Ombudsman
 - Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association
 - Dept. of Administration
 - Dept. of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
 - Dept. of Corrections
 - Dept. of Health & Social Services
 - Dept. of Law
 - Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs
 - Dept. of Public Safety
 - Governor's Office
 - Municipality of Anchorage, Dept. of Health and Human Services, Anchorage Fire Dept. and Anchorage Police Dept.

Situation Highlights

9/5/2018
 Evans Report released on the safety issues associated with Alaska Psychiatric Institute (API).

9/14/2018
 DHSS appoints a new administrator to API.

10/1/18
 DHSS contracted Joint Commission Resources to advise API leadership on how to come into compliance with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) plan of corrections. One of the compliance issues was creating the Capacity and External Notification Policy.

10/6/2018
 API used the Capacity and External Notification Policy and notified external partners it was at capacity and no longer accepting psychiatric patients. API initiated the notification policy because of high patient acuity, workforce shortage and increased staff injury rates. Dept. of Corrections issued an internal memo advising mental health technicians that psychiatric patients would be sent to DOC instead of API.

10/13/2018
 In response to API capacity issues, hospital emergency rooms holding psychiatric patients, and public safety concerns, DHSS Commissioner Davidson activated the DHSS Emergency Operations Center. The DHSS EOC contacted hospitals statewide and compiled current information regarding the number of patients currently admitted to the hospitals for psychiatric care, as well as the number of patients awaiting transfer.

10/14/2018
 DHSS Commissioner, Dr. Jay Butler and Incident Management Team brief Governor Walker and staff.
 Incident Management Team contacted outside stakeholders and briefed EOC activation.

- State of Alaska DHSS EOC Activities and Resources**
- 10/13/18
 - DHSS Emergency Operations Center activated in response to the psychiatric care capability issue.
 - Incident Objectives:
 - Maintain health and safety of staff, patients and public
 - Reduce the pressure on the point of entry system
 - 10/15/2018
 - Agencies Public Information Officers meeting, (morning timeframe)
 - Command and General Staff meeting, 3-4pm
 - Media interviews 4-5pm

- DHSS EOC Future Activities**
- Facilitate stakeholder meeting with participating agencies
 - Identify additional Incident Objectives to guide the response
 - Create Communication Plan
 - Implement Operational Tactics

- DHSS Public Health and Medical Contacts**
- 24/7 DHSS EOC Public Health and Medical Duty Officer:
 - 1-907-903-3721
 - DHSS EOC email address
 - dhsseoc@alaska.gov