The Prepare for, Respond to, and Recover from Public Health Emergencies standards were designed to:

- Improve the ability of the state public health system to respond to disasters by making sure they are prepared through staff education and proper planning.
- Improve the state’s readiness to respond by making sure the public health emergency response plan is annually reviewed and shared with local, regional, and state partners.
- Recognize public health as a valuable state response partner that can provide input and help to emergency management and recovery efforts.
- Make sure exercises are conducted that assure staff members understand their roles in a disaster.

What are the benefits and outcomes for Iowans?

- Iowans will be served by a state public health system that is ready to respond in local, regional, state, and national emergencies and in recovery efforts.
- Physical and emotional illness and death from public health emergencies will be reduced.

How will the state public health system change?

- The state public health system will need to conduct readiness activities annually as part of their mission, along with improvement plans.
- The standards seek to formalize a process to integrate emergency preparedness into daily operations for the state public health system.
- The state’s efforts will be supported by the coordination of emergency response and the provision of adequate infrastructure to provide technical assistance, consultation, and referral to partners for successful emergency response efforts throughout the state.

For more information about the Prepare for, Respond to, and Recover from Public Health Emergencies standards, contact committee co-chairs:

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