



KOIN Connection

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KOIN/KFNC ITV Workshop Recap—Oct. 28, 2015

The 2015 annual Kentucky Outreach and Information Network/Functional Needs Collaborative (KOIN/KFNC) Interactive Television (ITV) workshop was held on Oct. 28, 2015. There were 43 local health department ITV sites that participated with a total of 120 workshop participants. The ITV format allowed KOIN/KFNC members located throughout the state to meet regionally at their local health departments to utilize the ITV technology and reduce the need to travel long distances for the annual meeting. It also allowed them to become better acquainted and form working relation-

ships in the event they need to work together when disasters strike.

The workshop featured presentations on: Kentucky Center for School Safety; Protection Through Immunizations; Assisting Non-English Speaking Individuals During Emergencies and Disasters; Project CARAT: Coordinating and Assisting the Reuse of Assistive Technology; and an update on the KOIN and KFNC.

Workshop sites received a packet of KOIN/KFNC materi-

als. Workshop presentation tapings are available at <http://healthalerts.ky.gov/KOIN>.

Planning for this year's workshop will begin shortly. If there are any areas in emergency preparedness that you would like to see addressed for future workshops, please contact Barbara Fox at BarbaraJ.Fox@ky.gov, (502) 564-6786, ext. 3102 or Kenyetta.Pinkston@ky.gov, (502) 564-7243, ext. 4049.

Thanks to all that participated in the 2015 KOIN/KFNC workshop!

Kentucky Joins Lifesaving Yellow Dot Program

The Kentucky Office of Highway Safety has introduced the Yellow Dot Program. This program alerts first responders at crash scenes of critical medical information that could be lifesaving.

This is how the program works:

- The Yellow Dot decal is placed in the lower-left corner on the driver-side rear window.
- A Yellow Dot personal information folder is placed in the glove compartment of the vehicle. The completed form should include a clear, close-up face shot picture that can

be easily identified as the crash victim.

- Make sure it is on top of other papers and readily visible to first responders.
- If there is more than one person who uses the vehicle, or if you routinely carry children in the vehicle, consider including a separate Yellow Dot folder for

each regular occupant. Keep all Yellow Dot folders together to make retrieval in an emergency faster.

- The form itself includes basic medical and emergency contact information, personal physician's contact information, current medical conditions, allergies and medications and a

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Web Course Addresses Unique Needs of Children in Disasters

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers a free, interactive independent study course online, IS-366: Planning for the Needs of Children in Disasters. This four-hour course teaches emergency managers and program implementers how to help children mitigate, prepare, respond and recover from disasters. Participants will also learn how to create, update or revise an emergency operations plan for their community or organization to effectively address the unique needs of children in disasters.

For more information on this course visit <https://www.training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-366.a>.



Preparing Your Pets for Shelter

When you prepare for disasters, be sure to make arrangements for your pets too. In the event that you have to evacuate to a public shelter, keep in mind that for health reasons, some facilities cannot accept pets, so it is important to prepare them for an alternative shelter. However, service animals are allowed in general population shelters.

Here are a few tips you might want to consider:

- Call your local emergency management office, animal shelter or animal control office to get advice and information.
- If you're unable to return to your home right away, you may need to board your pet. Find out the location of boarding facilities and research some outside of your area in case local facilities are closed.

Once you've found an alternative shelter, follow these tips to keep your pet safe while they are away from you:

- Make sure microchips and identification tags are up-to-date and securely fastened to your pet's collar. If possible, attach the address and telephone number of your evacuation site.
- Take a current photo with your pet for identification purposes.
- Pack a Pet Survival Kit. The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has a checklist of emergency supplies to include in the kit available at <https://www.aspc.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/disaster-preparedness>.

For more information about pet preparedness visit <http://www.ready.gov/animals>.



Kentucky Joins Lifesaving Yellow Dot Program (*Continued*)

history of recent surgeries. To help protect your identity, don't include information like credit card or social security numbers.

Yellow Dot users are encouraged to periodically review and update their pamphlet(s).

Kentucky's Yellow Dot program is administered through the Kentucky Office of Highway Safety. The Yellow Dot program originated in Connecticut in 2002 and now has spread to 15 other states.

The program is a free service provided to all Kentucky citizens. Funding for the Yellow Dot program is provided by a grant through the Federal Highway Safety Administration.

Email yellowdotky@ky.gov to request a packet or pick up a packet at the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet central office, any KYTC district office or Kentucky State Police Post. Packets are also available at various hospitals throughout the state.

For more information on the Kentucky Yellow Dot program visit <http://transportation.ky.gov/TowardZeroDeaths/Pages/The-Yellow-Dot-Program.aspx>.

Free KOIN Materials Available

There are plenty of free KOIN materials available to members by simply requesting them. If you are interested in obtaining KOIN materials, please contact Barbara Fox, KOIN Coordinator, at BarbaraJ.Fox@ky.gov or call (502) 564-6786, ext. 3102. When requesting materials, please provide the name of the material(s), the quantity requested and a mailing address.

Free Materials Available:

- Folding Pandemic Flu Brochure (English and Spanish versions available)
- Be Safe. Be Prepared. Children's Emergency Preparedness Coloring Book
- Emergency Preparedness Refrigerator Magnet (English, Spanish and Braille versions available)
- Updated KOIN Training Video DVD with Accompanying User's Manual
- KOIN ID Badges
- Kentucky Emergency Guide Folding Pocket Card
- Updated Kentucky Department for Public Health Brochure with Pictograms (English and Spanish versions available)

All requests for materials are promptly mailed out so please request your KOIN materials today.

If you have any suggestions for future KOIN materials related to public health preparedness, please contact Barbara Fox.

HELPFUL EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO:

How to Get Help/Medical Emergency - Dial 911

Poison Control Hotline - 800-222-1222

Disease Reporting Hotline - 800-973-7678

**Division of Emergency Management -
800-255-2587 or 502-607-1611**

KY Dept. for Public Health - 502-564-3970

**Cabinet for Health and Family Services Office of
Communications - 502-564-6786**

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We're on the Web!
<http://healthalerts.ky.gov/KOIN>