



Health Service Region 1

POD OVERVIEW

Point of Dispensing (POD)
Overview for Communities

Version 1.0

What is a POD?

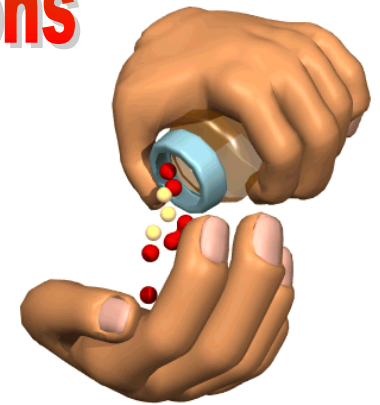
A POD (POINT OF DISPENSING) is a community based dispensing point for vaccinations or medications.



Vaccinations

OR

Medications



A POD is also referred to as a dispensing site, dispensing clinic, medication clinic, or Community Emergency Medication Clinic.

Primary Goal of a POD



Decrease the number of individuals within your community who may become ill.

When does a POD open?

The county judge or mayor (depending upon jurisdiction), in coordination with local emergency management, is notified by the public health authority that a public health threat exists and requests that a POD be activated.



3 Types of Events



There are three (3) types of events that could require the activation of a POD:

Natural Disaster

1



Natural disasters can provide the conditions for the development and spread of disease among the affected population.

Disease Outbreak

2

Natural disease outbreaks occasionally occur that require activation of a POD.



Disease outbreaks may require response in a timeframe as limited as 48 hours.



Terrorism

3



Biological agents have been intentionally released in the past to cause harm as well as to spread fear and panic.

A Public Health Threat is Identified



In order to respond effectively to a disease outbreak, a specific disease needs to be identified.

Local Government Responds

A local jurisdiction will attempt to manage a disease outbreak utilizing local resources.



If local resources are or are believed to become insufficient to manage the disease outbreak, then a request is made for the deployment of state assets.

State Government Responds

State government will respond by providing additional resources to assist in the management of the disease outbreak. These resources may include antibiotics, equipment, medical supplies, and other resources as requested.

If state assets are or are believed to become insufficient to manage the disease outbreak, then a request is made for the deployment of federal assets.



Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)

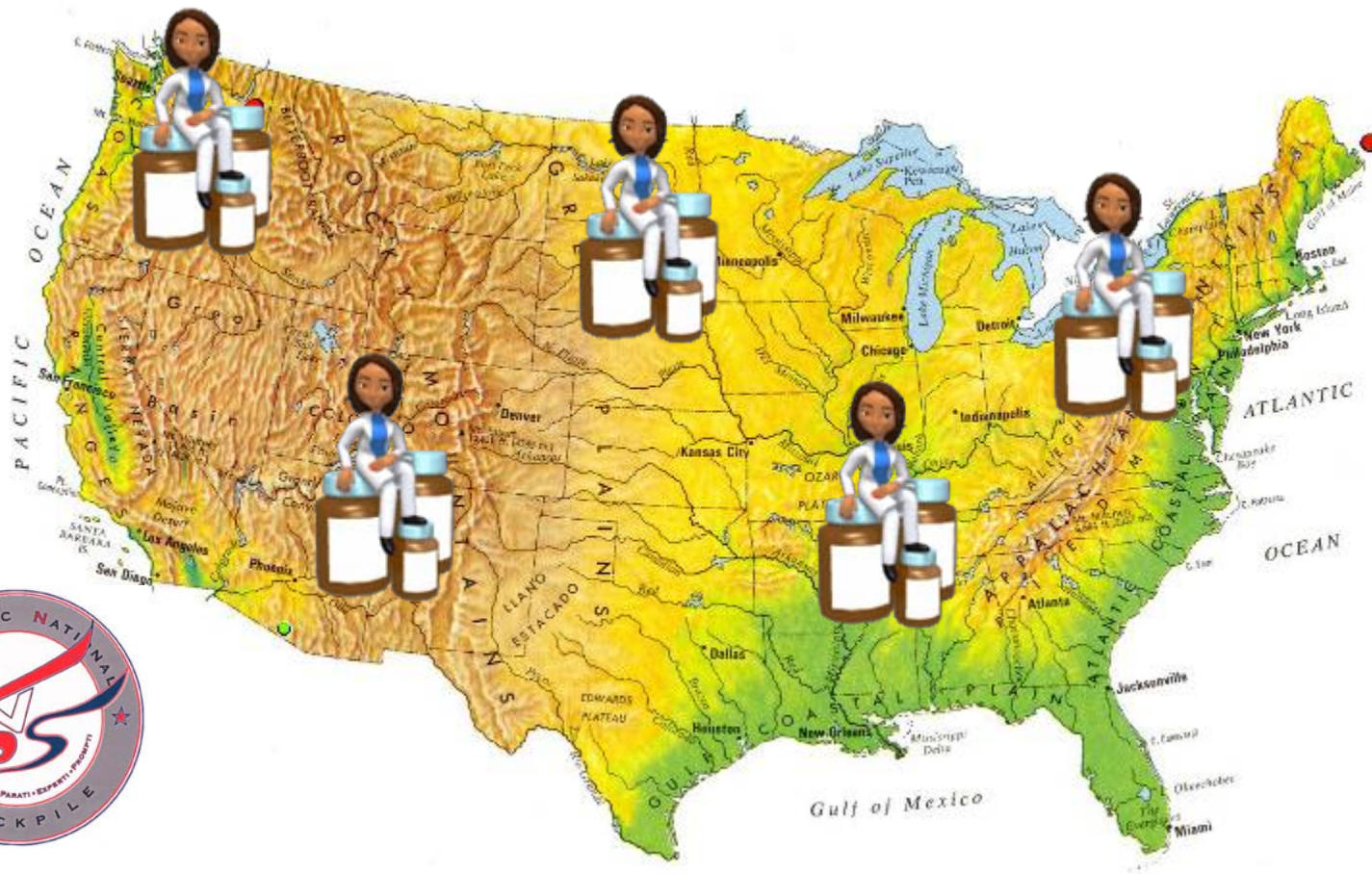
Federal assets to manage a disease outbreak are coordinated through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



The Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) program is managed by the CDC and is the primary federal asset to address a disease outbreak.

Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)

There are pre-positioned pharmaceutical stockpiles located throughout the United States.



Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)



These pharmaceutical stockpiles can reach any location in the United States or its territories within **12 hours of the order to deploy.**

Strategic National Stockpile



Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)



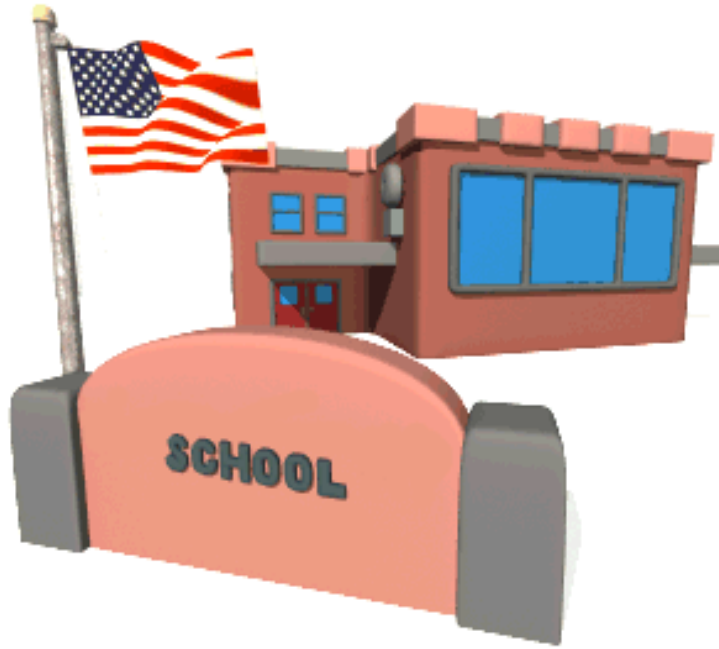
The Strategic National Stockpile is shipped to a Receiving, Staging, and Storage (RSS) facility for distribution.

Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)



The pharmaceutical stockpile is broken down at the RSS for distribution to the individual PODs.

Where do you open a POD?



Your POD location should be opened at a pre-identified location readily accessible to your community.

You Receive "The Call"

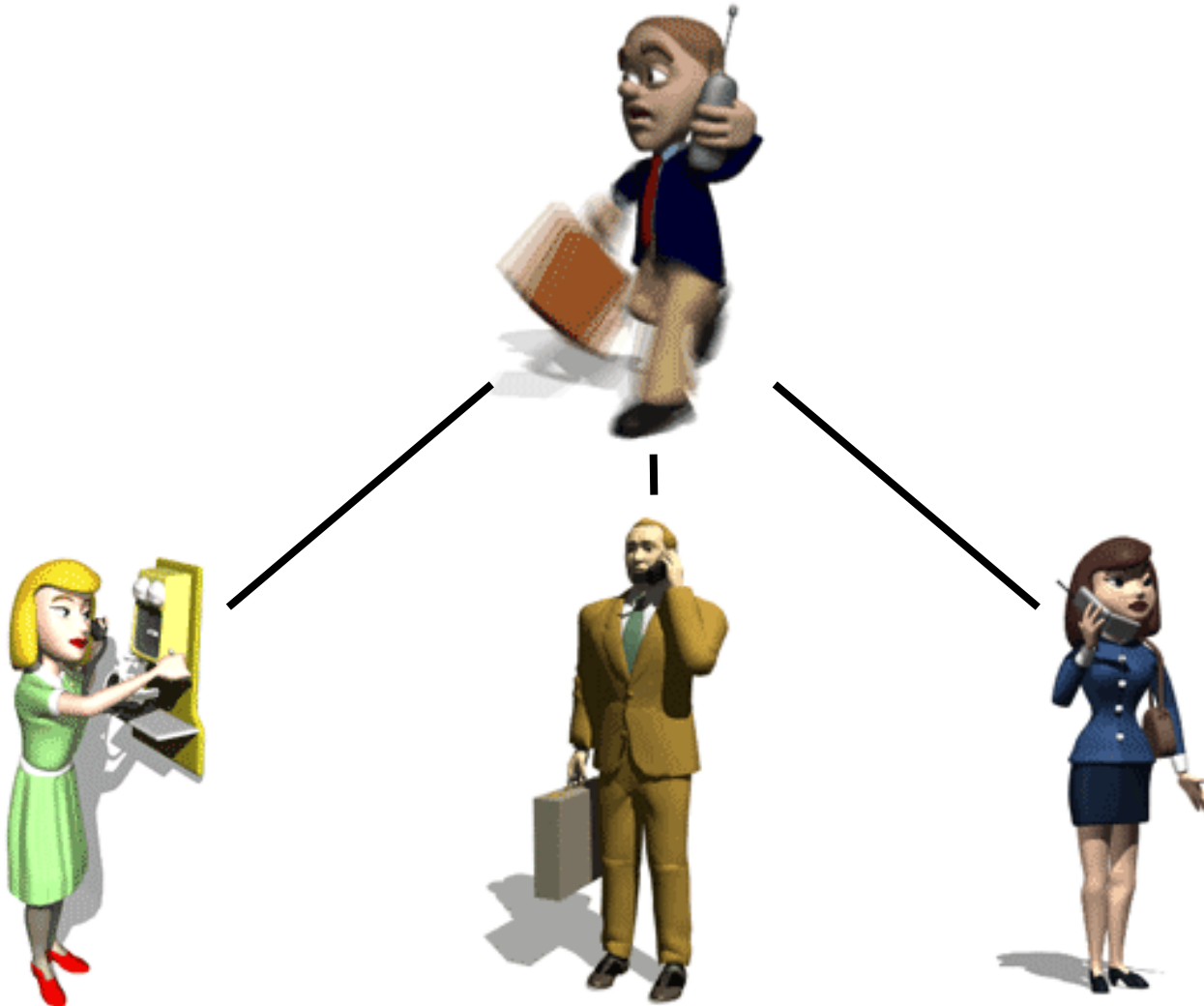
The local or state public health authority has just notified your county or community officials to open your POD.



What needs to be done now?

Activate the POD Call Down List(s)

1



Treat first responders

2

All POD staff, volunteers, and other first responders should be notified of where to report in order for them to receive their vaccination and/or medication.

Vaccinate and/or medicate all people *critical* to the response infrastructure first!



Set up the POD

3



Set up the Point of Dispensing and prepare to receive clients.

Notify the Public

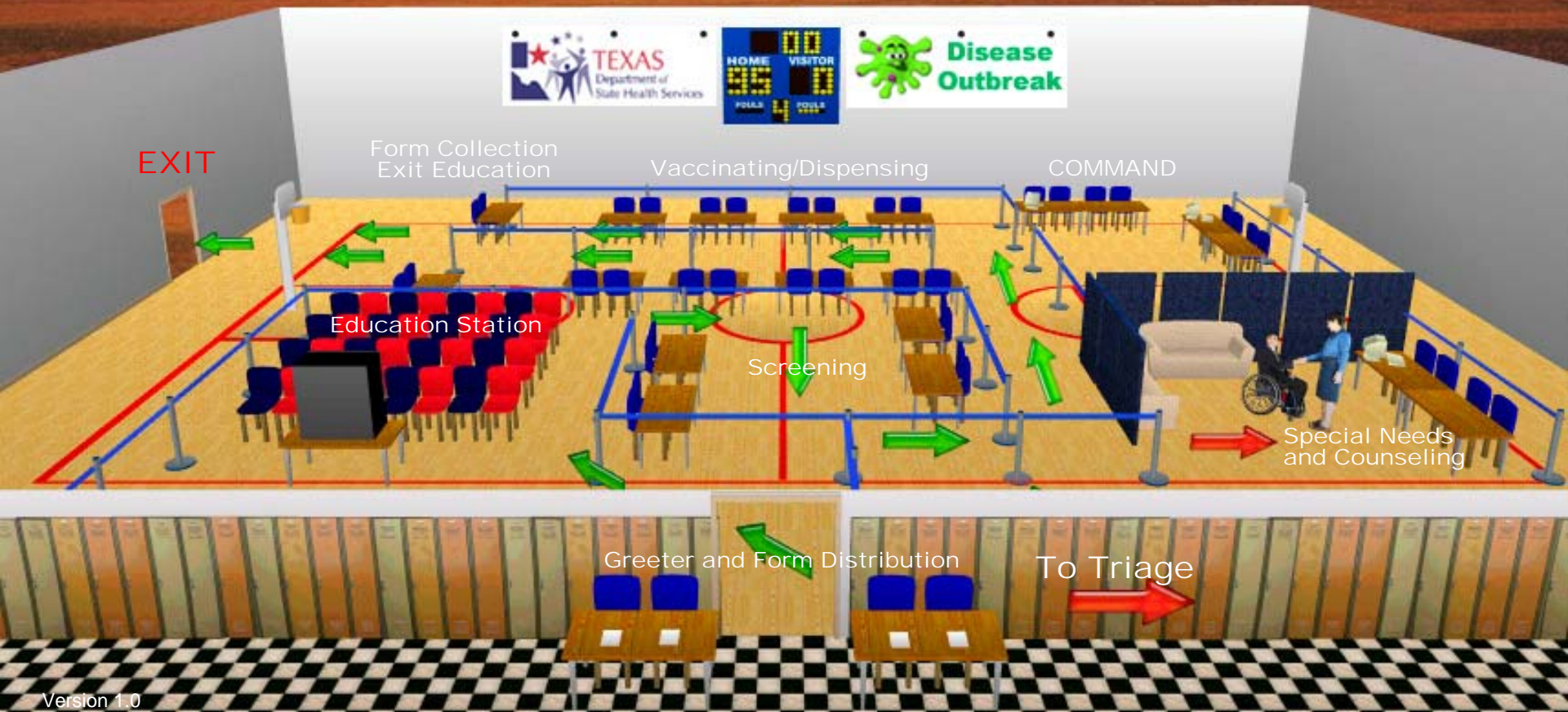
4



County Public Health Officials will use available media outlets to inform the public of all of the relevant information pertaining to the disease outbreak and location of POD site(s).

Open your POD

5



3 Types of Clients



There are three (3) types of clients that could present at a POD:

3 Types of Clients

1

**Healthy
or
No Complications**



Quickly get them the needed vaccine or antibiotics.

3 Types of Clients

2

Pre-existing Conditions or Complications

- Assess medical condition
- Determine contraindications and/or dosage adjustments
- Quickly get them the needed vaccine or medication



3 Types of Clients

3

Acute Illness
or
Life-threatening Illness



- Identify prior to entering the POD.
- Transport to a health care facility where they can quickly receive advanced care.

Client Flow: The Front Door

POD Entrance



A Greeter is found at the front entrance to a POD.

Client Flow: The Front Door

Healthy



POD Entrance



Sick



The primary responsibility of the Greeter is to keep clients who are sick separated from the clients that are healthy.

Client Flow: The Front Door

Healthy



POD Entrance



Sick



Due to the potential risk of exposure to others, no one is allowed into the POD until they have either been cleared through initial screening or the Triage station.

Client Flow: The Front Door



Every effort should be made to keep families together throughout the POD process.

Client Flow: Triage

POD Entrance



The triage staff will ask questions and gather information from incoming clients to determine whether they have been exposed and could present a risk to others.

Client Flow: Triage

POD Entrance



Clients that are not in need of immediate medical services *and* are not contagious to others are allowed to enter the POD to receive vaccination and/or medication.

Client Flow: Triage



Clients that are in need of immediate medical services or are contagious to others, are not allowed to enter the POD and *may* require medical transport.

Client Flow: Forms Distribution



Upon entering the POD, clients will receive the Medical History and Consent Form.

While waiting in line, clients will fill out this form for all individuals receiving medication.

Client Flow: Education

Clients then stop at the Education Station. The Education Station may include videos or handouts designed to educate the client about the POD process.

The Education Station will also educate the client regarding the public health threat that created the need for the POD to be activated.



Client Flow: Screening

Counseling



Special Needs



Clients go through the Screening station after leaving the Education Station where they can be assessed for any special needs that they may have.

Client Flow: Forms Review

Clients without special needs leave the Screening Station and go to Forms Review. In Forms Review, the paperwork necessary to determine if a client should be vaccinated and/or medicated is reviewed.

Any potential contraindications are double checked and consent forms are checked to see if they have been signed.



Client Flow: **Dispensing**



Clients leave Forms Review and go to Dispensing. The Dispensing Station is where the clients receive their vaccinations and/or medications.

Client Flow: Exit Education



Exit Education and Form Collection is where the client is provided additional information in regard to the vaccine or medication that they have just received. This will include directions on taking medication and other relevant information.

The Role of Public Health

**Public Health supports
POD preparation, and
implementation.**

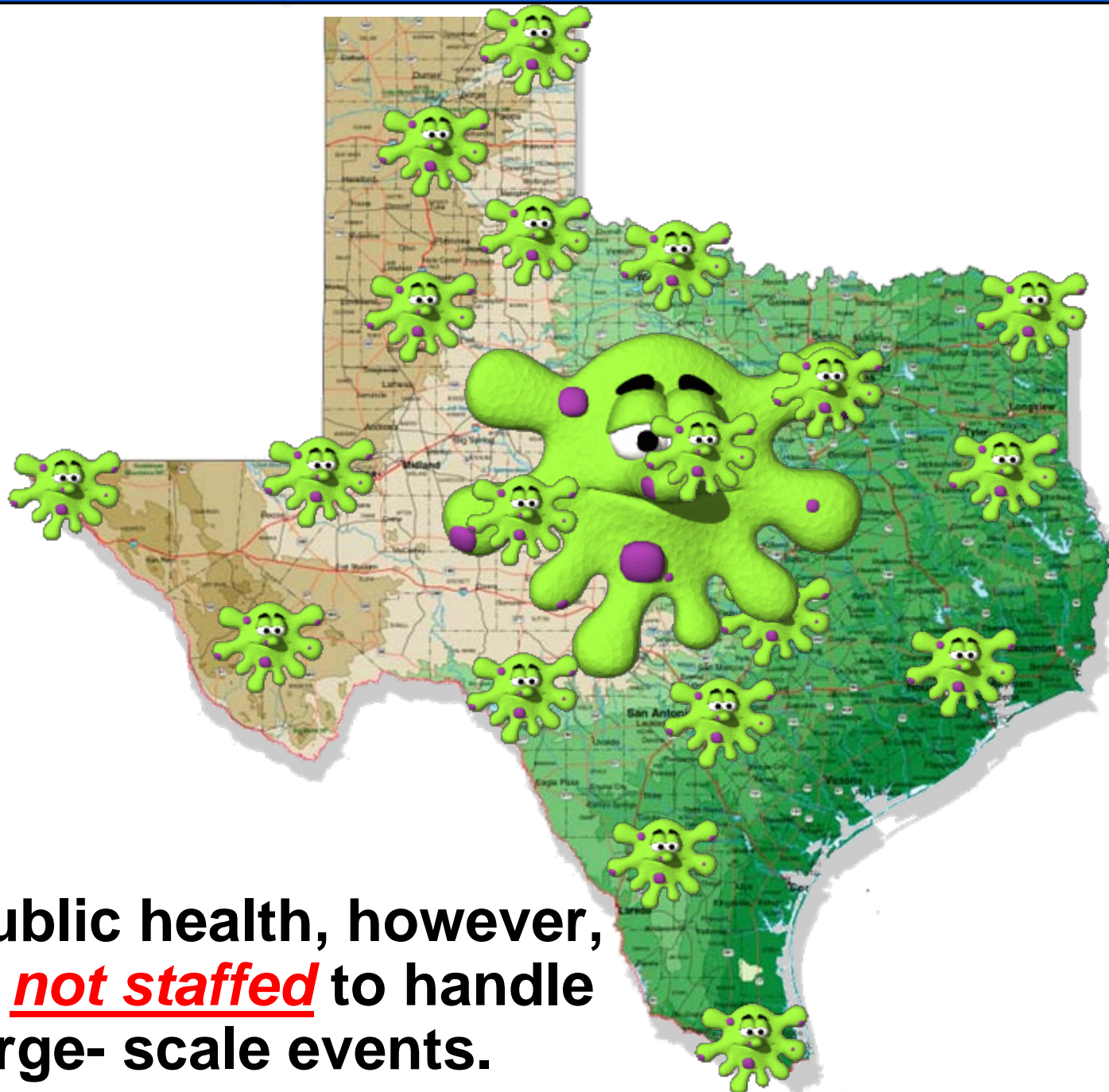
**This includes assisting
in the development of
your POD plan and
providing training.**



The Role of Public Health

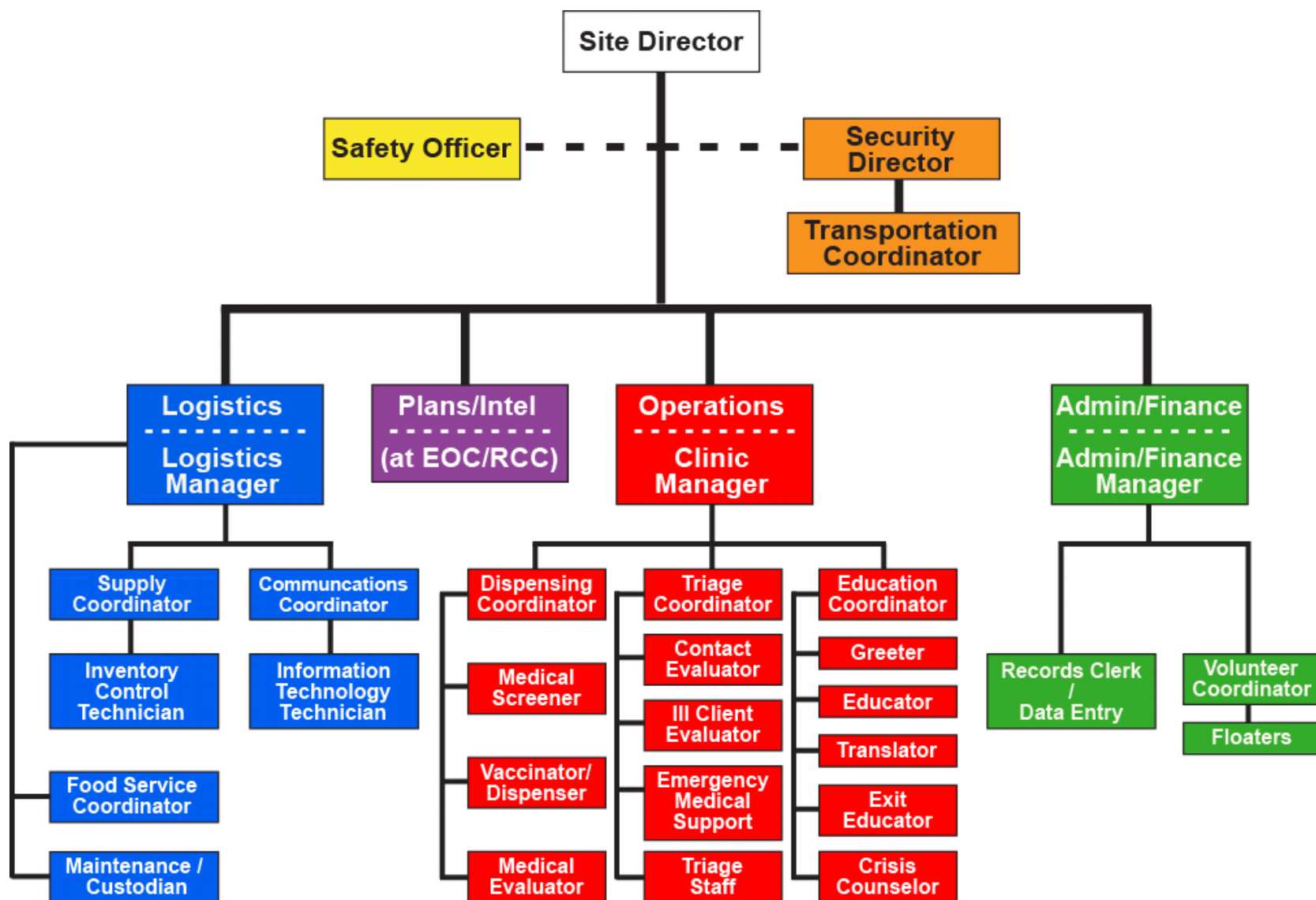


Public Health will provide the vaccine and/or medication resources.



Public health, however,
is **not staffed** to handle
large- scale events.

POD ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



We Need You



**Sign up as a
Volunteer today.**

**The lives of your
family and friends
could depend
upon it.**



Health Service Region 1

POD OVERVIEW

**For additional information,
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