



COAD General Membership Meeting: September 9th at 1:30 p.m. on Webex Only

Public health emergencies may involve disease outbreaks, natural disasters, or chemical spills that threaten community health. Some of the core tasks in public health emergencies include surveillance and detection, resource allocation, communication, and mitigation coordination. Emergency management provides this framework to assist public health agencies with containing threats, managing medical surges, and the restoration of community safety.

As we approach cold and flu season, standard cold weather upticks in illnesses are not uncommon. However, this cold and flu season, many communities are experiencing lower vaccine uptakes with some reporting double-digit drops in people seeking vaccinations. Some of this is in part because of public confusion regarding federal immunization guidance. The significant decline in vaccinations could increase preventable illnesses during the peak viral season. This can have devastating impacts on communities through loss of herd immunity, illness resurgences, higher risks for vulnerable groups, health care strains, and economic costs.

In response to this, the COAD's featured presentation will be from **John Ezell, Emergency Response Planner with the Jackson County Public Health Department**. Mr. Ezell's presentation will equip emergency managers, planners, and others invested in healthy communities with current best practices in prevention, response, and recovery. After the presentation, there will be report-outs from each of our 10 committees including the newest one, Spiritual Care. General updates on other COAD activities will further be provided.

The COAD is again a proud sponsor of the Kansas City 9-11 Memorial Stair Climb. For more information on this event please refer to: <https://www.kansascitystairclimb.com/>.

