Hello all,

At our last CLHO PHEP meeting, we had a fairly lengthy discussion about the existing CLHO PHEP budget. There was a Budget subcommittee that had met, and made the recommendation to leave the existing formula in place, as well as leave the current county definitions of Small = 10,000 population or less, and Large = all others. For more details, please go to the [CLHO PHEP webpage](http://oregonclho.org/preparedness/).

We had also agreed to further discuss the current impact of regionalization on funding, based on the discussion outlined below:

***Background on discussion around counties regionalizing and receiving multiple bases:***

* It was agreed upon by all that equity is a core value.
* Approximately 10 years ago, when North Central District decided to regionalize, it was determined that they would receive the base awards for all counties, partially in the hopes that more counties would follow this path. This has not happened.
* Because a prominent feature of having a relatively high base was to support infrastructure in the county, awarding two or three bases (or more) to one entity did not follow through on this premise. More basic infrastructure is not required.
* Under the current funding formula, North Central (with a total of 30,475 people, or 0.748% of the population) receives $143,662, which is the roughly the same award as Marion County ($146,599) which has a population of 333,950. Malheur County, at a population (pop. 31,705) similar to that of the combined North Central region, receives about half of that award, at $72,196.

Equity and supporting all counties is at the core of the CLHO PHEP budget discussions. We do not wish to single out one regional program, and do support counties coming together to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of their programs, especially in this climate of uncertain and dwindling funding for PHEP. However, the situation outlined above does not support the value of equity, and as the CLHO PHEP subcommittee we will be discussing this in future meetings.

If you have any thoughts or feedback on the above, please don’t hesitate to get in touch with me.

Thank you,