The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut
Spotlight: INTEGRIS Health

As the central United States is earthquake country, it is important for hospitals and medical facilities to know what to do before, during, and after an earthquake. The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut provides an opportunity for them to practice these important steps. By practicing now, they can learn how to better prepare themselves for earthquakes and other disasters, increasing their capabilities to continually provide critical and lifesaving services to the communities they serve.

Below is a ShakeOut Spotlight on INTEGRIS Health in Oklahoma. Integris is a health care system that is composed of fifteen hospitals that include tertiary, critical access and mental health facilities, as well as more than seventy-five physician clinics. In all, the organization employs approximately 10,000 people. According to James DeHaven, Disaster Response and Recovery Specialist with INTEGRIS,

“INTEGRIS Health has designed a flexible and comprehensive Emergency Management program for all of its facilities throughout Oklahoma. The Emergency Management committee meets on a regular basis and constantly reviews what issues may affect the delivery of health care in our region and conducts state wide exercises to identify areas in need of improvement in the event of a real emergency.

INTEGRIS Health will be participating in The Great Central U.S. Shakeout to better prepare for major earthquakes, and practice how to protect ourselves if and when they do happen. The objectives during the exercise will be to test the Emergency Notification System, activate the Hospital Command Center to monitor the incident and send out educational material to employees for response and recovery from an earthquake/structural collapse. Employees will be asked to use the ShakeOut website information and conduct the drill within their respective facilities. Each Incident Management team member should ensure their Emergency Operation Plans are reviewed and every employee of the organization receives information on how to Drop, Cover, and Hold On!!!

INTEGRIS Health has developed effective plans and procedures for maximizing the use of limited resources. In general, our greatest asset for responding to any incident will be the positive leadership that we enjoy in our system and our community.”

We would like to thank INTEGRIS Health for their participation in the ShakeOut and commitment to preparing themselves, their employees, and their community for disasters. For more information about INTEGRIS Health, visit www.integrisok.com.

If you would like to be featured in a ShakeOut Spotlight, email shakeout@cusec.org.

The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut is a multi-state partnership to increase earthquake awareness and preparedness at all levels in the central U.S. For more information, please visit www.shakeout.org/centralus