

## Emergency Preparedness



Across the world and in the Longwood Medical and Academic area (LMA), emergency preparedness has become increasingly important. LMA institutions are collaborating on emergency preparedness plans and programs to strengthen area-wide preparedness and security. We established the LMA Joint Operations Center (JOC), an area-wide command center that is activated to coordinate communications and resources during emergencies. Staffed by LMA emergency management personnel who have incident command system (ICS) training, the JOC streamlines communications between MASCO members and city, state, and federal emergency management agencies. The JOC can also deploy resources to the areas of greatest need.

MASCO facilitates LMA-wide emergency preparedness activities and issues LMA Emergency Alerts via this website, email, phone, and text messaging. To improve the ability to respond and minimize disruption, emergency preparedness staff members work with member institutions to assess preparedness and develop training and improvement programs. LMA activities are coordinated with city and state efforts and include participating in city and regional emergency exercises along with first responder agency partners.

Together with members, MASCO conducts an annual review of area hazards and vulnerabilities, maintains a database of facility resources and equipment, develops guidelines for sharing resources in the event of an emergency and secured a collaborative contract with a disaster restoration company to provide priority disaster recovery response in order to reduce business interruption in the event of a disaster. MASCO emergency preparedness staff members have advanced training and experience in emergency planning and management.

To learn more about LMA emergency preparedness programs, contact [Richard Portillo](#) at 617-632-2739.