February 6, 2011
Kaiser Permanente San Francisco
Half Marathon and 5K Fun Run

After Action Report

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ADMINISTRATIVE HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

1. The title of this document is the Kaiser Permanente San Francisco Half Marathon and 5K Fun Run After Action Report.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On February 6, 2011, Kaiser Permanente sponsored its 28th Annual San Francisco Half Marathon and 5K Fun Run at Golden Gate Park and along the Great Highway. At approximately 0959 that morning, a runner collapsed near the finish line and was reportedly unconscious. Several runners in the area, including one Medical Doctor (MD), began to administer CPR on the runner. Due to the lack of an available ambulance at the event and confusion about the patient’s location, paramedics were not able to arrive at the collapsed runner until twenty-two minutes after being dispatched.

The purpose of this After Action Report (AAR) is to analyze the event response efforts, identify strengths to be maintained and built upon, identify potential areas for further improvement, and support development of corrective actions.

This report was developed using a capabilities and performance-based approach, organized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Target Capabilities List (TCL). The TCL supports the National Preparedness Goal by defining the capabilities needed to achieve national preparedness for major all-hazards events. In addition, the TCL defines and provides the basis for assessing preparedness. The Kaiser Permanente San Francisco Half Marathon and 5K Fun Run primarily tested the following capabilities:

- Planning
- Communications
- Intelligence and Information Sharing and Dissemination
- Emergency Triage and Pre-Hospital Treatment

This report will provide a synopsis of the event and will examine the response, highlighting strengths and areas for improvement. The major strengths identified during the response are as follows:

- Two RhodyCo Productions event staff members responded within six minutes to the collapsed runner and took immediate action to communicate with 911 dispatch.
- Two Department of Emergency Management (DEM), Division of Emergency Communications (DEC) dispatchers and one dispatch supervisor responded immediately to find available San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD) and private ambulances to respond to the collapsed runner.
- SFFD responded in full force with as many resources as they could gather to search for the patient.
- The first responder to the collapsed runner was an MD who was running approximately nine seconds behind the patient.

Throughout the response, several opportunities for improvement were identified. The primary areas for improvement are as follows:
There were insufficient communication resources at the event, which resulted in poor information sharing among event and medical staff. In addition, Palmer College of Chiropractic West (PCCW) staff utilizing radios had not received proper radio training, which hampered effective communications.

There were several items listed in the EMS Plan for this event that were not adhered to by the permit holder for the event, RhodyCo Productions. For example, the number of EMTs at the starting and finish lines was insufficient, pursuant to EMSA Policy 7010. Additionally, chiropractic students were used as medical staff rather than EMTs or emergency medical personnel. The EMS Plan also stated that one MD would be stationed at the Medical Tent or at the event, which did not occur. Rather, a chiropractor from PCCW was provided.

Though one standby ALS ambulance was contracted and assigned to the event, there was no backup ambulance contracted or assigned in case emergency transport was needed in the absence of the primary ambulance.

Please Note: This AAR is intended to be used as a tool for the City and County of San Francisco’s departments/agencies/organizations. This document provides analysis for lessons learned, best practices and recommendations for future planning, training, and exercise development. As the City and County of San Francisco works toward addressing these improvement actions, it is important that any relevant plans, policies and procedures are updated accordingly.
EVENT OVERVIEW

EVENT DETAILS

Event Name
Kaiser Permanente San Francisco Half Marathon and 5K Fun Run

Date and Time
February 6, 2011; 6:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

CCSF Response Duration
Seven hours

Location
Golden Gate Park and the Great Highway

Mission Areas
Response and Recovery

Capabilities
- Planning
- Communications
- Intelligence and Information Sharing and Dissemination
- Emergency Triage and Pre-Hospital Treatment

RESPONSE ORGANIZATIONS

CCSF Departments and Agencies
- Interdepartmental Staff Committee on Traffic and Transportation (ISCOTT)
- San Francisco Department of Emergency Management (DEM)
  - Division of Emergency Communications (DEC)
  - Division of Emergency Services (DES)
  - Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMSA)
- San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD)
- San Francisco Police Department (SFPD)
- San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department (RPD)

Other Agencies/Organizations
- American Medical Response (AMR)
- Kaiser Permanente
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- King American Ambulance
- Palmer College of Chiropractic West (PCCW)
- Pamakid Runners
- RhodyCo Productions

For the full version of this After Action Report, please send a request via email to dem.webmaster@sfgov.org.