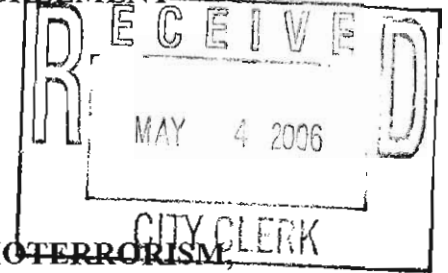


INTERLOCAL HEALTH SERVICES PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

**BETWEEN THE
County of Union
AND THE
City of Rahway
FOR**

**PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO BIOTERRORISM,
OUTBREAKS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, AND OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH
THREATS AND EMERGENCIES**



AN AGREEMENT, entered into between the County of Union, having its principal office at 1 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth, NJ, hereinafter referred to as Union and the City of Rahway, having its principal office at 1 City Hall Plaza, Rahway, NJ, hereinafter referred to as the "Municipality," in the County of Union, New Jersey, to ensure an adequate and appropriate level of countywide participation and collaboration for public health preparedness and response to bioterrorism, outbreaks of infectious disease and other public health threats and emergencies, and in accordance with the requirements of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services' Local Core Capacity Infrastructure for Bioterrorism Preparedness Grant.

WHEREAS, Union has created the Union County Bureau of Environmental Enforcement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:3A2-21 et seq., to provide an array of public health and environmental health services; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services has designated the Union County Bureau of Environmental Health as the Local Information Network and Communication System – LINCS – agency for Union County; and

WHEREAS, the LINCS Agency has applied for a Local Core Capacity Infrastructure for Bioterrorism Preparedness Grant with the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS); and

WHEREAS, in the interest of homeland security, effective and coordinated countywide public health systems must be created utilizing the valuable assets, talent and experience residing in local health departments throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, the Local Core Capacity Infrastructure for Bioterrorism Preparedness Grant requires interlocal health services agreements between Union and local health departments to cooperatively work to plan and implement approved activities and work plan for Union County; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality is desirous of having its local health department, the Rahway Division of Health, herein after known as the "Local Health Department," cooperatively work with the LINCS Agency for the planning and implementation of State approved services/activities for bioterrorism, infectious disease outbreaks, and other public health threats and emergencies preparedness and response for Union County; and

WHEREAS, the parties to this agreement are authorized to contract for said services pursuant to N. J. S.A. 40:8A-1 et seq.;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants, agreements and other considerations between the parties, the parties do hereby mutually agree as follows:

1. General Provisions

The LINCS Agency Health Officer, his/her Local Core Capacity Infrastructure personnel and other designated staff, the DHSS Planner/Coordinator, and the Local Health Department's Health Officer and his/her designated staff shall work in collaboration with each other and in partnership with other the key public health care partners in Union County, including but not limited to offices of emergency management, emergency medical services, local first responders, physicians and health care providers, hospitals and health care facilities, local health departments, academic institutions, and with the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, the New Jersey Division of State Police, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, and other State and local public health system members in assessing, planning, implementing, and evaluating plans, activities and services for public health care system preparedness and response, and for protecting the population of Union County from bioterrorism, infectious disease outbreaks, and other public health threats and emergencies.

2. LINCS Agency Activities

The LINCS Agency has agreed with the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services to build a public health infrastructure unit within its organization by hiring qualified personnel and supporting a DHSS Planner/Coordinator to assist in implementing State approved activities in its Local Core Capacity Infrastructure for Bioterrorism grant, including, STATE BIOTERRORISM PLANNER, EPIDEMIOLOGIST, LINCS COORDINATOR, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST, HEALTH EDUCATOR/RISK COMMUNICATOR, ETC and shall perform the following, in cooperation with the DHSS and Local Health Department, for the benefit of all local health department jurisdictions, their municipalities and residents:

a. Preparedness Planning and Readiness Assessment: Establish and ensure countywide strategic leadership, direction, assessment, and planning/response coordination to ensure readiness, interagency collaboration, local and regional preparedness for bioterrorism, other outbreaks of infectious disease, and other public health threats and emergencies within the county.

b. Surveillance and Epidemiology Capacity: Enhance, develop, and ensure the use of statewide, integrated surveillance systems and epidemiologic capacity for the rapid detection and control of unusual outbreaks of illness that may be the result of bioterrorism, other outbreaks of infectious disease, and other public health threats and emergencies.

c. Health Alert Network, and Communications and Information Technology: Establish, maintain, and ensure the use of a network that will support exchange of key information and training over the Internet by linking public health and private partners on

a 24/7 basis; provide for rapid dissemination of public health alerts and advisories; ensure secure electronic data exchange between public health partners' computer systems; and ensure protection of data, information, and systems, with adequate backup, organizational, and surge capacity to respond to bioterrorism, other outbreaks of infectious disease, and other public health threats and emergencies.

d. **Communicating Health Risks and Health Information Dissemination:** Ensure effective risk communications capacity that provides for timely information dissemination within the county to citizens during a bioterrorist attack, outbreaks of infectious disease, or other public health threat or emergency; train key individuals in communication skills; identify key spokespersons (particularly those who can deal with infectious diseases); develop/disseminate/evaluate printed materials; ensure timely reporting of critical information; develop/implement/evaluate the effectiveness of health education strategies; and effectively interact with the public.

e. **Education and Training:** Ensure the assessment the training needs of key public health professionals, infectious disease specialists, emergency department personnel, and other public health care providers related to preparedness for and response to bioterrorism, other outbreaks of infectious disease, and other public health threats and emergencies, and ensure the effective coordination, marketing, facilitation and provision of needed education and training to key target audiences through multiple channels, including academic institutions, distance learning, and other sources.

3. Local Health Department Activities

The Local Health Department, pursuant to the terms and objectives of the Local Core Capacity Infrastructure for Bioterrorism Grant and this interlocal agreement, agrees to:

a. recognize the LINCS Agency, its Core Capacity Infrastructure staff and the DHSS Planner/Coordinator as the planning and coordinating entity for countywide public health preparedness/response, as designated by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, and will work jointly with the LINCS agency and DHSS staff in determining the delineation of responsibilities of the LINCS Agency, the Local Health Department and other key local public health system partners in addressing bioterrorism, outbreaks of infectious diseases, and other public health threats and emergencies.

b. with the knowledge and invited participation of the Local Health Department's Health Officer, allow the LINCS Agency Health Officer, Core Capacity Infrastructure personnel, DHSS Planner/Coordinator, and other designated staff to work within the municipality and directly with key public health partners and facilities to meet grant objectives and perform required activities.

c. assist in the identification of other local public health system partners within its jurisdiction for inclusion in preparedness planning, surveillance, education/training, communication, and response activities, and to facilitate linkages, communication and the

However, the Local Health Department will designate appropriate staff and provide for the fullest participation of the Health Officer and other key personnel to support and implement activities under this Agreement.

6. Term of Agreement

This Agreement shall take effect on January 1, 2006 and shall remain in effect unless terminated by either party in accordance with section 7, below.

7. Termination

This Agreement may be terminated by either party upon written notice by the party desiring to terminate said agreement. Such notice shall be given no later than sixty (60) days prior to the termination date.

8. Approval

This Agreement and any amendments hereto, shall be subject to the formal approval of the Health Officer of the LINCS Agency and the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, and the Health Officer of the Local Health Department, and the governing body of the respective Municipality under its jurisdiction. The Agreement shall be submitted for review and acceptance of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Division of Local Health and Emergency Services.

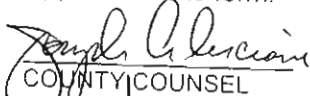
9. Statutory Authority

Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as a weakening or diminishing of the Municipality's, Local Health Department's, LINCS Agencies, and/or DHSS' statutory authority or responsibility to provide public health services.


WE, THE UNDERSIGNED consent to the contents, terms and conditions of this Agreement.

a: For the LINCS Agency:
COUNTY OF UNION

Approved as to form:

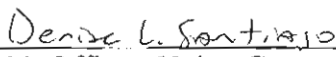

COUNTY COUNSEL

:d)


NICOLE L. TEDESCHI
CLERK OF THE BOARD


GEORGE W. DEVANNEY
COUNTY MANAGER

Date: 3-29-06


(Health Officer, Union County)

Signature: 

Date: 1/19/06

b. For the Local Health Department

RICHARD B. PRATOR
(Health Officer, AJ5)

Signature: 

Date: 1/13/06

c. For the Municipality:

JAMES KENNEDY
(Authorized Agent, MAYOR)

Signature: JAMES KENNEDY

Date: 1/13/06