

organizations; other Federal, state, and local government agencies; and other public and private organizations, as appropriate; (11) provides public health guidance and resources based on scientific evidence to state, local and international public health departments so that they may prepare and respond to the environmental public health impact caused by intentional or unintentional events; (12) develops capacity within the states to integrate new and existing epidemiologic and scientific principles into operational and programmatic expertise in emergency preparedness; (13) identifies and shares best practices from all academic and operational fields to develop appropriate technical assistance for state and local departments of health for all-hazards preparedness and response; (14) works in collaboration with other NCEH Divisions and CIOs throughout CDC to respond to, and, where designated, provide technical assistance on PHS activities associated with emergency response to technological and environmental disasters; (15) provides technical assistance, as appropriate, on health consultations and assistance in the medical care and testing of exposed individuals to private or public health care providers in cases of public health emergencies; (16) serves as the focal point for technical assistance related to the development of contingency plans, training, and operational liaison activities with other agencies and response teams engaged in emergency responses; and (17) develops, implements, and manages programs to enhance the emergency response readiness of CDC and other national, regional, state, local, and international public health organizations.

Environmental Health Services Branch (CN93). (1) Develops methods and conducts activities to ensure the translation of new technology and prevention research findings into prevention and control programs and activities at the state and local levels; (2) develops, implements, and evaluates training programs and workshops, and develops model performance standards to strengthen professional competency among environmental health practitioners at the state and local levels; (3) develops technical guidelines and model standards for environmental health program areas addressed at the state and local levels; (4) supports state and local environmental health programs through information exchange, direct technical assistance, and evaluation of existing programs; (5) supports the professional development of environmental health practitioners

through collaboration with undergraduate and graduate schools of public and environmental health, state and local health agencies, and others; and (6) promotes and assists in the determination and investigation of environmental antecedents and solutions to disease problems.

International Emergency and Refugee Health Branch (CN94). (1) Coordinates, supervises, and monitors, as appropriate, CDC responses to international complex humanitarian emergencies as requested by other U.S. government agencies, United Nations agencies, and non-governmental organizations; (2) provides direct technical assistance to emergency-affected populations in the field, focusing on rapid health and nutrition assessments, public health surveillance, epidemic investigations, communicable disease prevention and control, and program evaluation; (3) develops and implements operational research projects aimed at developing more effective public health and nutrition interventions in emergency-affected populations; (4) plans, implements, and evaluates training courses and workshops to help strengthen CDC technical capacity in emergency public health of CDC, as well as that of other U.S. government agencies, international and private voluntary organizations, and schools of public health; (5) develops technical guidelines on public health issues associated with international complex humanitarian emergencies; and (6) serves as a WHO collaborating center and provides technical liaison with other international, bilateral, and non-governmental relief organizations involved with international complex humanitarian emergencies.

Vessel Sanitation Branch (CN95). (1) Conducts comprehensive sanitation inspections on vessels that have a foreign itinerary, call on U.S. ports, and carry 13 or more passengers; (2) ensures and coordinates epidemiologic investigations of diarrheal disease outbreaks occurring aboard vessels within the Branch's jurisdiction; (3) conducts ongoing surveillance of diarrheal diseases reported on vessels under the Branch's jurisdiction; (4) plans, implements, and evaluates sanitation training courses and workshops to help strengthen the technical capacity of shipboard management personnel; (5) reviews plans for vessel renovations and new vessel construction, and conducts construction inspections; (6) disseminates information on vessel sanitation inspections and other related information to the traveling public; and (7) provides direct technical assistance

to cruise lines, other U.S. government agencies, foreign governments, and others on the development and maintenance of vessel sanitation standards and policies.

Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch (CN96). (1) Establishes goals and objectives for a national lead poisoning prevention program for CDC, with emphasis on childhood lead poisoning prevention; (2) works with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and other Federal agencies to develop and implement an integrated national program to eliminate childhood lead poisoning; (3) provides consultation and assistance to Federal agencies, State and community health agencies, and others, in planning, developing, and evaluating childhood lead poisoning prevention programs; (4) develops, conducts, and evaluates epidemiologic research on childhood lead poisoning, its causes, geographic distribution, trends and risk factors; (5) assists State and local government agencies as well as the international community, by providing epidemiologic assistance for special studies and investigations; (6) develops and maintains a system for the collection and dissemination of information on program issues, research findings and health communications related to program activities; (7) develops and helps implement, in concert with other Federal agencies, national organizations, and other appropriate groups, a training agenda for health professionals and workers in childhood lead poisoning prevention activities; (8) serves as the lead agency for coordinating efforts designed to achieve national program objectives and performance standards related to the prevention of childhood lead poisoning; (9) coordinates Branch activities through the Division with other components of CDC, other Federal, State, and local government agencies; and other public and private organizations, as appropriate; and (10) provides support to the Advisory Committee on Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention in planning meetings, staffing members, drafting policy statements, and developing an agenda of issues to be addressed by the Committee.

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