

Date

Point of Contact  
Organization Agency  
Street Address  
City, State Zip Code

### Emergency Community Response Agreement

Dear Mr./Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_

In the spirit of preparedness, the Miami-Dade County Health Department (“MDCHD”), with federal, state, and local emergency response agencies, has developed a plan to respond to a chemical event, biological incident, terrorist attack, or other major disaster that may impact the health and well being of our community and potentially will require the dispensing of medications to a large segment of the population in a short period of time. Given the potential scope and magnitude of such events, MDCHD recognizes the need to engage our community partners in order to mount any successful response campaign. We are therefore reaching out to organizations such as yours to partner with us and enter into an agreement to become a Closed Point of Dispensing or “POD”.

The source of medications and related supplies, commonly known as medical countermeasures, could come from local or state resources but, most likely, will be the Strategic National Stockpile. The Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) has large quantities of medical countermeasures ready to protect the American public if there is a public health emergency severe enough to cause local supplies to run out. Once authorities agree that the SNS is needed, medications and supplies will be delivered to our state within 12 hours. Once supplies are received locally, the challenge lies in getting the countermeasures to the people who need it quickly and efficiently. While the majority of the population will be directed to large public

PODs to receive medications, individuals included in a Closed POD will receive their and their family's doses at a location chosen by their organization.

Becoming a Closed POD organization yields numerous benefits to your population, your operations, the MDCHD, and the community at large. For example:

- Your employees, residents, and their families do not have to travel to public PODs and wait in what are expected to be long lines to receive countermeasures.
- Continuity of operations is more likely when essential personnel are available more quickly to report and carry out their duties.
- Your populations will know they are involved with an organization that cares for their well being.
- Fewer individuals must report to public PODs therefore reducing the traffic and improving efficiency allowing everyone to get assistance more quickly.

Information regarding the Cities Readiness Initiative, the Strategic National Stockpile, and frequently asked questions and answers are included in this packet. Should your organization choose to partner with us in this important endeavor, you will receive guidance and technical assistance from the Cities Readiness Initiative team in creating and implementing your internal response plan. The brief questionnaire on the next page can help your organization determine if becoming a Closed POD dispensing site is right for you. Your local public health preparedness professionals are ready to work with you!