



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Local Emergency Responder Attends Homeland Security Training**

MaryEllen Szafranski, RN, Emergency Preparedness Committee Chairman for Livingston HealthCare, recently completed Homeland Security training at the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP), located in Anniston, Alabama. The CDP is operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

"This course was just for Montana hospitals, and it was a wonderful educational experience for us," said Szafranski. "We spent a day and a half doing a disaster drill that involved an explosion, a chemical spill, food poisoning at a large picnic, and a smallpox outbreak. It was just phenomenal, and I was able to bring back knowledge and training that I can share so we can better serve our community in the event of an emergency."

The CDP provides federally-funded, interdisciplinary training for emergency responders from across the United States and U.S. Territories. Healthcare and Public Health training is conducted at the CDPs' Noble Training Facility, the nation's only hospital facility dedicated to training hospital and healthcare professionals in disaster preparedness and response.

Responders attending CDP training are specially selected from the nation's 11 million emergency responders. Training at the CDP ensures that responders gain critical skills and confidence to be better prepared to effectively respond to a variety of disasters.

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