



## Meta-Leadership Summit for Preparedness

### In the News...

#### **Mayor's Column: City prepared to deal with flu outbreak**

**Excerpt from the *Roslindale Transcript*, May 5, 2009**

By Mayor Thomas M. Menino

"Close to 200 leaders from a spectrum of government agencies, businesses and nonprofit organizations gathered in Boston last week for a summit to promote cross-sector communication around planning and response to unanticipated emergencies.

When my administration began meeting with leaders to plan this event, no one could have predicted that we would be grappling with an actual large-scale emergency in the midst of the summit. However, for guests at last week's conference, the swine flu crisis served as a perfect example of how important it is to establish effective partnerships and lines of communication in order to prepare and respond to crisis situations."

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#### **O'Malley Seeks Private Help With Disasters**

**Excerpt from *The Washington Post*, July 16, 2009**

By John Wagner

Gov. Martin O'Malley (D) today announced the creation of Maryland's "Civic Guard," an initiative to tap private and nonprofit organizations for assistance during a major emergency – and one that should have minimal cost to the state during tight budget times.

During an appearance at the Meta-Leadership Summit for Preparedness in Baltimore this morning, O'Malley urged businesses and nonprofit organizations to visit the Web site of the Maryland Emergency Management Agency and submit information on what they might be able to offer in the aftermath of natural disasters and other emergencies.

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#### **Planning, not just reacting, is vital in health crises, local officials say**

**Excerpt from *The Dallas Morning News*, May 8, 2009**

By Eric Assen

A swift response to a public health crisis like the swine flu threat can't just happen on the spot.

It starts at meetings like the one held today in downtown Dallas, where officials from government, business and nonprofit agencies gathered to hone leadership skills and foster better communication and collaboration.

About 150 people were at the Fairmont Hotel this morning for the Meta-Leadership Summit for Preparedness, part of a national effort to foster preparation for public health and safety emergencies.

"The middle of an emergency is not the time to exchange business cards," said Charles Stokes, president and CEO of the CDC Foundation, which helped launch the summits. The foundation is a nonprofit group that works to form partnerships between the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other agencies.