



Jefferson County PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Public Health Facility, 531 Meade Street, Watertown, New York 13601

Media Release

For Immediate Release

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JCPHS Needs Jefferson County Residents to Participate in Drill

September 1, 2015-Watertown, NY—Jefferson County residents are invited to participate in a public health emergency preparedness Point of Distribution (POD) exercise on Friday, September 18th from 2:00-4pm. The Jefferson County Public Health Service will practice dispensing pretend medication to approximately 300 people that walk through this quick and easy drill. Participants at the drill will receive the chance to win an Ipad Mini2 donated by Fidelis Care, as well as, gift cards and other prizes.

The goal is to quickly provide the items (pretend medications in this case) to a large number of people in a short period of time. This POD exercise will help the health department to test, train, and improve the response to real-life emergencies. Jeffrey Leiendecker, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator states, “JCPHS creates plans to protect our community in times of health emergencies and tests them with drills like this’.

To take part in this exercise: simply go to www.health.ny.gov/go2clinic, select ‘Jefferson’, select your preferred time slot, and complete the registration. Demographic and medical screening questions will be asked in order to determine which pretend medication you will receive. You may then print your ticket for faster processing at the exercise. Then, on the day of the exercise come to the location specified on the website to receive your pretend medication and a chance to win prizes.

You must be one of the first 300 people to register and participate to be eligible for the prizes. Register today! “By coming to our drill”, Mr. Leiendecker states, “members of the public have the opportunity to directly be a part of enhancing the safety and health of the community they live in. The public can help us help them. It’s truly a win-win”

Information about preparedness is available at the JCPHS Preparedness webpage: www.bit.ly/JCPHS-PHPR. The webpage includes free information, checklists and guidelines about how to be informed, develop a family emergency plan, build an emergency kit, and get involved.

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