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Mid-Michigan District Health Department Public Information Officer attends Homeland Security training

Stanton~ Mid-Michigan District Health Department Public Information Officer Leslie Kinnee recently completed Homeland Security training for health care and public health professionals at the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) in Anniston, Alabama.

Kinnee's week-long training took place at the CDP's Noble Training Facility, the nation's only facility dedicated to training hospital and healthcare professionals in disaster preparedness and response.

Course topics included risk and crisis communication, legal issues, policies, interpersonal skills, media relations and emergency information systems, with an emphasis on applying knowledge and skill to manage a health-related emergency situation.

Students attending CDP training are specially selected to attend the course. Training at the CDP ensures that responders gain critical skills and confidence to be better prepared to effectively respond to local emergencies.

"Attending the Homeland Security training was a wonderful learning experience," said Kinnee. "The knowledge gained from the instructors and fellow students was very beneficial and will no doubt allow me to better serve the public."

The CDP is operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency and is the only federally-chartered Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) training facility in the nation.

The CDP provides federally-funded training in Emergency Management, Emergency Medical Services, Fire Service, Governmental Administrative, Hazardous Materials, Healthcare, Law Enforcement, Public Health, Public Safety Communications and Public Works. Additional information about CDP training programs can be found at <http://cdp.dhs.gov>.

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Mid-Michigan District Health Department serves the residents of Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm Counties.

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