

## Ohio Hospitals Prevail During Power Outages

(COLUMBUS, OH)— Despite the power outages in many communities around Ohio caused by the severe thunderstorms on Friday, June 29 and Sunday, July 1, Ohio hospitals were able to continue providing vital health care services to their communities during this state of emergency. Eleven hospitals functioned with generators during the power outage and were able to continue their health care services to patients.

The major issue for Ohio hospitals over the weekend was the loss of power. Hospitals in the northwest and southeast were utilizing diesel-powered generators to maintain their equipment and services during the power outage. Hospitals responded to the needs of the community by providing facility space to people in need of electricity to power their oxygen condensers until shelters or cooling stations were available. “We worked with public health organizations and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) to open functional needs shelters that would be used for two purposes: to provide people with a cool place to sleep and live, and electricity to operate their condensers,” said Carol Jacobson, OHA Director of Emergency Preparedness.

“OHA is actively involved with our membership during these emergency situations by coordinating with the appropriate organizations and authorities to ensure resources are delivered and their needs are met,” said Jacobson. Over the weekend, OHA coordinated efforts with ODH and Ohio’s Emergency Management Agency (OhioEMA). Hospitals also coordinated efforts with their county emergency management agency to secure resources and supplies to maintain patient care.