

TOGETHER. HELPING IOWANS.

## Safeguard Iowa Partners Answer the Call After Creston Tornado



On April 15, 2012, a tornado tore a 14-mile path through southwestern Iowa. In its wake, the Creston hospital was damaged and much of the city's health care infrastructure was affected.

In response, the Iowa Department of Public Health Emergency Coordination Center sent nine Mobile Health Care Facility modules, which comprise a series of interconnected shelters that can be deployed to any area of the state within a matter of hours. Each shelter can operate as a fully self-contained unit, with its own electrical generator, heating and air conditioning system, showers and restroom facilities.

Iowa's Logistical Support Response Team (LSRT) was deployed to assemble the shelters; the LSRT also ensures the operation, safety, and security of the facility once in place. The LSRT was developed in 2007 through partnerships with private sector businesses, professionals, and state and local governments across Iowa. The team members are volunteers from diverse backgrounds, with many possessing expertise in electrical systems, heating and air conditioning, plumbing and power generation. Aside from individual specialties, members also have a high degree of mechanical aptitude and ability.

Hospital Administrator Monte Nietzel said volunteers from the community and around the state have been generous, noting, "We're grateful for the concern and willingness to help at a moment's notice."

For more information on the LSRT, go to [www.idph.state.ia.us/CDOR/PHRT.aspx](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/CDOR/PHRT.aspx).

---

The Safeguard Iowa Partnership is a 501c3 nonprofit involving government, private-sector, higher education and nonprofit organizations. Our mission is to strengthen the capacity of Iowa to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters through public-private collaboration.

TOGETHER. HELPING IOWANS.

100 E. GRAND  
SUITE 165  
DES MOINES, IOWA 50309

515-246-1707 OFFICE  
515-770-4637 MOBILE  
515-246-1701 FAX

SIP@SAFEGUARDIOWA.ORG  
WWW.SAFEGUARDIOWA.ORG  
WWW.TWITTER.COM/SAFEGUARDIOWA