



## Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for January 7, 2021

### Law enforcement officials across the U.S. shocked by police failure to stop Capitol invasion

(NBC) Law enforcement officials across the country expressed shock over the chaos at the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, with some saying police were "entirely unprepared" and others calling the response "embarrassing."



Many said it was the failure of the Capitol Police to prevent [the physical invasion of the building](#) by [pro-Trump rioters](#) that concerned them most.

A senior law enforcement official with decades of experience handling high-profile security events at a major-city police department raised national security concerns in light of the breaches of senior congressional leaders' offices. The official wondered what documents were exposed, what computers were unlocked and what phone numbers were out in the open when rioters entered the offices. The official was also concerned that

foreign intelligence officers could have been mixed in with the crowd.

Officials questioned the lack of physical barricades and security surrounding the Capitol, particularly in light of the coming inaugural of President-elect Joe Biden. They wondered why natural targets like the spectator stands and speaker towers erected for the inaugural were not secured.

And some wondered why it took so long for law enforcement reinforcements to be called in to take control of the situation. Police officers were assaulted and tear gas and sprays were used against them, and yet few arrests were made. It took hours for buses of officers to arrive and make arrests, and most of the front-line officers initially had no riot or protective gear.

Read full story: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/crime-courts/law-enforcement-officials-across-u-s-shocked-police-failure-stop-n1253193>

#### **Related story - Multiple police officers were seen being evacuated with injuries after clashes with pro-Trump rioters on Capitol Hill**

Read more: <https://www.businessinsider.com/injured-police-officers-were-evacuated-from-capitol-hill-protests-2021-1>

### MedPage Today COVID-19 Roundup Extract for January 7th

Rep. Susan Wild (D-Pa.) told *CBS News* that 300-400 lawmakers hid in a secure room during the violence and some refused to wear masks even when offered them. "It's what I would call a [COVID super-spreader event](#)," she said. As if to confirm her fear, [Rep. Jake LaTurner \(R-Kan.\) tested positive](#) hours after casting votes Wednesday in the House. (*CNN*)

As of Thursday at 8:00 a.m. EST, the [unofficial U.S. COVID-19 toll](#) was 21,306,424 cases and 361,297 -- up 253,735 and a record 3,912, respectively, from Wednesday at the same time.

The U.S. lacks a large-scale, national system of [genome sequencing for new coronavirus mutations](#) that would help communities take special precautions against new variants, such as the extra-contagious U.K. strain. (*New York Times*)

Meanwhile, COVID vaccines are still expected to [protect against the new South African variant](#), to some extent at least. (*Wall Street Journal*)

A Florida obstetrician/gynecologist reportedly died from [severe thrombocytopenia](#) weeks after receiving the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine. Pfizer said the two events were not likely to be related, but Miami's medical examiner is investigating. (*LocalNews8*)

Full MedPage Today Roundup: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/infectiousdisease/covid19/90568>

### [U.S. Records its Deadliest Day of the Pandemic while Eyes Fixed on Mob Storming Capitol](#)

(*Washington Post*) As angry rioters and supporters of President Trump stormed the U.S. Capitol in a last stand for the outgoing president on Wednesday, the violence overshadowed a deadly day across the nation as the coronavirus pandemic continued its surge. A record 3,915 people died of covid-19 in the United States, as a record 251,646 new coronavirus cases were reported, about 16,000 more cases than the Wednesday before, according to a *Washington Post* analysis. More than 132,000 are battling the coronavirus in hospital beds. One

Congressman who was on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives as Congress convened on Wednesday hours later announced he had tested positive.

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**HHS Announces \$22 Billion in Funding to Support Expanded Testing, Vaccination Distribution**

(HHS) The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced two upcoming actions by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide more than \$22 billion in funding to states, localities, and territories in support of the nation's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, as directed by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act.

Funding will provide critical support for testing and vaccination-related activities to jurisdictions before January 19, 2021:

- More than \$19 billion will be allocated to jurisdictions through the existing CDC Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) cooperative agreement. These awards will support testing, contract tracing, surveillance, containment, and mitigation to monitor and suppress the spread of COVID-19. Award recipients will include 64 jurisdictions including all 50 states, the District of Columbia, five major cities, and U.S. territories/islands. Consistent with Congressional direction, funds will be allocated by a population-based formula.
- Over \$3 billion will be made available in an initial award to jurisdictions through the existing CDC Immunization and Vaccines for Children cooperative agreement. These awards will support a range of COVID-19 vaccination activities across jurisdictions. Award recipients will include 64 jurisdictions including all 50 states, the District of Columbia, five major cities, and U.S. territories/islands. Consistent with Congressional direction, funds will be allocated by a population-based formula.

Funding tables with jurisdictions specific award amounts can be found below. Jurisdictions will be required to comply with terms and conditions of the awards when issued.

[Funding for COVID-19 testing - PDF\\*](#) [KY getting \$257,152,034]

[Funding for vaccination-related activities - PDF\\*](#) [KY getting \$40,360,236]

For more information about CDC's ongoing support to States, please visit this CDC website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/budget/fact-sheets/covid-19/index.html>

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**KY Legislature Starts Moving Bills to Limit Beshear's Powers**

(From KY Health News) As high-priority bills to limit his emergency powers flew out of Republican-controlled legislative committees, Democratic Gov. Andy Beshear announced the state's highest number of new coronavirus cases in a single day and the highest rate since May 5 of Kentuckians testing positive for the virus.

On the second day of the 30-day legislative session, five of the eight bills that got out of committees were either directly or indirectly related to the governor's pandemic response. Each could pass within the week. **They are:**

- ✓ House Bill 1, which would allow businesses and schools to stay open during the pandemic if they follow guidelines, and provide guidelines for visitation at long-term care facilities.
- ✓ HB 4, to remove required ending dates of legislative sessions from the state Constitution if voters in November 2022 approve; and allow the legislature to extend sessions by 10 days repeatedly, but not past Dec. 31.
- ✓ Senate Bill 1, which would limit governors' executive orders and administrative regulations to 30 days unless approved by the legislature.
- ✓ SB 2, to require contagious-disease rules issued by the **Cabinet for Health and Family Services** to be in the form of administrative regulations, which must be reviewed by legislators before taking effect.
- ✓ SB 5, to provide liability protection for owners of premises during an emergency, retroactive to March 6.

Full story: <http://kyhealthnews.blogspot.com/2021/01/state-has-highest-single-day-for.html>

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**Save the Date: KHA 92nd Annual Convention**

Join KHA for its 92nd Annual Convention in May, entitled "***Pandemic Effect: Human Connections in a Virtual World***," with keynote speaker Alden Mills.

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**Miami medical examiners investigate death of doctor who got coronavirus vaccine**

(CNN) The Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner is investigating the death of a doctor weeks after he received a Covid-19 vaccine, according to Darren Caprara, director of operations at the medical examiner's office. Caprara said his office is working with the Florida Department of Health and the US Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention to investigate the death of Dr. Gregory Michael. His death has not definitively been linked to the vaccine, but that is among the possibilities being explored, Caprara added.

The CDC confirmed it "is aware of a reported death in Florida of an individual who received the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine about two weeks before passing away," a spokeswoman said by email Wednesday night.

Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/01/06/health/coronavirus-vaccine-doctor-death/index.html>

**Related story - [Allergic Reactions Including Anaphylaxis After Receipt of the First Dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine — United States, December 14–23, 2020](#)**

(MMWR) During December 14–23, 2020, monitoring by the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System detected 21 cases of anaphylaxis after administration of a reported 1,893,360 first doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (11.1 cases per million doses); 71% of these occurred within 15 minutes of vaccination.

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**U.S. to send COVID-19 vaccine to pharmacies in hopes of speeding shots**

(Reuters) The United States plans to start distributing COVID-19 vaccines through pharmacies around the country earlier than expected this week as states have struggled to use the supply they have been allocated, top health officials said on Wednesday.

The partnership with 19 pharmacy chains will eventually let the Operation Warp Speed vaccination program deliver to as many as 40,000 locations around the country, Warp Speed officials said at a news conference on Wednesday. Pharmacies could provide a more efficient platform for distributing the vaccines than hospitals, they said.

As of Tuesday morning, more than 70 percent of the more than 17 million vaccine doses that have been delivered around the country since December were still sitting in freezers, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Protection (CDC).

Read full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-vaccines/u-s-to-send-covid-19-vaccine-to-pharmacies-in-hopes-of-speeding-shots-idUSKBN29B2G1>

**Related story - CVS says it expects to finish first round of Covid vaccines in nursing homes by Jan. 25**

Read more: <https://www.cnbc.com/2021/01/06/cvs-says-it-expects-to-finish-first-round-of-covid-vaccines-in-nursing-homes-by-jan-25.html>

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**After a freezer filled with Covid-19 vaccines broke, a California hospital scrambled to administer more than 800 doses in about 2 hours**

(CNN) When a freezer that was used to store the Moderna Covid-19 vaccine at a Northern California hospital broke, officials soon realized they only had about two hours to administer the more than 800 doses that were inside. And they took on the challenge.

The executive team at Mendocino County's Adventist Health Ukiah Valley Medical Center was notified during a safety inspection Monday morning that a freezer was found to be at room temperature, Judson Howe, of Adventist Health, told CNN. And the alarm that was supposed to alert staff of the temperature change had also malfunctioned.

[Unlike the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine](#), Moderna's vaccine can be stored in normal freezers and does not require ultra-cold transportation. But at room temperature, the vaccine has a shelf life of about 12 hours, Howe said.

Hospital officials contacted Moderna but did not hear back. So, the hospital decided to race the clock and administer the vaccines.

"It was our main focus to make sure that we got every single vaccine into every arm. We reached out to the county public health officer and informed them of the situation and with a collaborative approach, we were able to administer all 830 vaccines in a matter of two hours," Howe said.

Full CNN story: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/01/06/us/california-broken-freezer-vaccines-trnd/index.html>

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**mAB - Vaccination Clarification**

(ASPR) CDC has updated their clinical guidance to address this specific situation. The latest update includes a section on "Persons who previously received passive antibody therapy" (Dated 12/31) Ref:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html> Persons who previously received passive antibody therapy Currently, there are no data on the safety and efficacy of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines in **persons who received monoclonal antibodies** or convalescent plasma as part of COVID-19 treatment. Based on the estimated half-life of such therapies as well as evidence suggesting that reinfection is uncommon in the 90 days after initial infection, **vaccination should be deferred for at least 90 days, as a precautionary measure until additional information becomes available**, to avoid interference of the antibody treatment with vaccine-induced immune responses.

For persons receiving antibody therapies not specific to COVID-19 treatment (e.g., intravenous immunoglobulin, RhoGAM), administration of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines either simultaneously with or at any interval before or after receipt of an antibody-containing product is unlikely to substantially impair development of a protective antibody response. Thus, there is no recommended minimum interval between other antibody therapies (i.e., those that are not specific to COVID-19 treatment) and mRNA COVID-19 vaccination.

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**You can buy an FDA-approved Covid-19 test on Amazon**

(CNN) Covid-19 tests are in high demand as cases surge, with some Americans waiting in long lines at medical centers and drive-through sites. But now an at-home coronavirus test is available on Amazon.

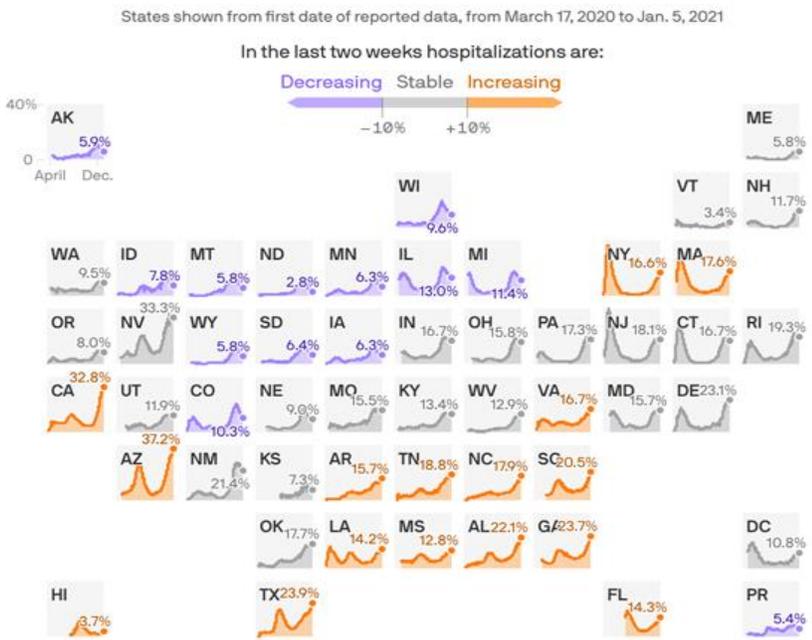
Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/01/05/business/covid-at-home-test-amazon/index.html>

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**CIDRAP COVID Vaccine Webinar Friday**  
**Challenges in COVID Vaccine Allocation & Distribution**  
**January 8, 1 PM ET/Noon CST**  
[Register now](#)

NETEC COVID-19 Webinar  
**Lessons Learned in Navigating Simultaneous Disaster Response Scenarios**  
 January 13, 1 PM ET/Noon CT  
 CNE and CME credits available  
[REGISTER HERE](#)

**Share of hospital beds occupied by COVID-19 hospitalizations**



Data: COVID Tracking Project, Harvard Global Health Institute. Cartogram: Andrew Witherspoon/Axios

**COVID-19 Hospitalizations**  
 (AXIOS) More than 130,000 Americans are in the hospital today with COVID-19 infections. That's straining several states' health care systems and will keep pushing the virus' death toll higher and higher. In 34 states, coronavirus patients are occupying at least 10% of all hospital beds.

See more:  
<https://www.axios.com/coronavirus-infections-hospitalization-death-13d4c4e9-0923-4ef6-93e8-904d5970bfc4.html>

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- International COVID news from Reuters:*
- ✓ [Japan calls for Tokyo state of emergency declaration as COVID-19 cases surge](#)
  - ✓ [Mexican Doctor with allergic reaction after Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine still hospitalized](#)
  - ✓ [Ireland tightens lockdown as COVID-19 'tsunami' threatens hospitals](#)

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**Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines**  
**Extracts from [January 7, 2021](#)**

**[CDC Foresees Spread in U.S. of Highly Contagious Coronavirus Variant](#)** (*Washington Post*) The mutant variant of the novel coronavirus first seen in Britain is likely to be present in much of the United States. Although the variant has so far been detected in a very small fraction of infections, it shows signs of spreading and may become significantly more common in coming weeks, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and infectious-disease experts.

**[Early High-Titer Plasma Therapy to Prevent Severe Covid-19 in Older Adults](#)** (*NEJM*) Early administration of high-titer convalescent plasma against SARS-CoV-2 to mildly ill infected older adults reduced the progression of Covid-19. In the intention-to-treat population, severe respiratory disease developed in 13 of 80 patients (16%) who received convalescent plasma and 25 of 80 patients (31%) who received placebo (relative risk, 0.52; 95%

confidence interval [CI], 0.29 to 0.94; P=0.03), with a relative risk reduction of 48%. A modified intention-to-treat analysis that excluded 6 patients who had a primary end-point event before infusion of convalescent plasma or placebo showed a larger effect size (relative risk, 0.40; 95% CI, 0.20 to 0.81).

**[NIAID Begins Phase 2/3 Clinical Trial of Two Antibody Therapies for Mild or Moderate COVID-19 Cases](#)** (*Homeland Preparedness News*) ACTIV-2, a study sponsored by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), has begun phase 2/3 trials to evaluate two monoclonal antibody therapies that could help those with mild or moderate cases of COVID-19. The twin antibodies are known as BR11-196 and BR11-198, both developed by Bria Biosciences. They utilize synthetic versions of the antibodies humans naturally produce to bind to viruses and prevent them from infecting cells. Participants are being enrolled worldwide

**[Exposure to Common Geographic COVID-19 Prevalence Maps and Public Knowledge, Risk Perceptions, and Behavioral Intentions](#)** (*JAMA*) Several organizations have produced maps showing the prevalence of confirmed coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases across the United States, but there is limited data on what map features are most effective at informing the public about infectious disease risk and motivating engagement with recommended health behaviors. We assessed the association of 6 different COVID-19 maps with knowledge, risk perceptions, and behavioral intentions.

**[New Strategy to Fight World's Most Potent Poison Passes First Tests in Animals](#)** (*Science*) A new strategy to fight the world's most potent poison has passed its first tests in animals. Two research teams have developed neutered forms of **botulinum toxin** that chase their deadly counterpart into nerves and disarm it. The treatment, if it works in people, would be the first to reverse the paralyzing effects of the toxin inside cells and might spare patients long periods on a ventilator.

**[The U.S. Paid a Texas Company Nearly \\$70 Million for Ventilators that Were Unfit for Covid-19 Patients. Why?](#)** (*Washington Post*) This spring, amid a panic over a shortage of ventilators to treat the anticipated surge in coronavirus cases, the Pentagon announced the purchase of \$84 million worth of breathing machines from four companies. One of the ventilators, the SAVE II+, made by a small Plano, Tex.-based company called AutoMedx, stood out from the rest. To start, the deal was for an upgraded version of the SAVE II that hadn't even been designed yet, according to the company's chairman. In addition, the existing \$6,000 SAVE II machine, developed with military backing as a lightweight ventilator to keep wounded soldiers alive while being transported from the battlefield, had specifications far below the other three ventilators the Pentagon purchased. In a research study conducted for the Pentagon years earlier, the SAVE II had been declared unfit for use in a respiratory pandemic.

### ----- **Big drugmakers just raised their prices on 500 prescription drugs**

(CBS) Drug companies are ringing in the new year with another round of hikes in prescription drug prices, which **[continue to climb](#)** year after year, according to 46brooklyn Research, a nonprofit company that seeks to improve public access to U.S. drug pricing data.

AbbVie, Bristol Myers Squibb, GlaxoSmithKline, Pfizer and other major pharmaceutical companies are raising their prices by a median of 4.6%, according to the **[analysis](#)** from 46brooklyn. All told, over 500 drugs will cost more this year, the research firm's data shows.

Drug prices are higher in the U.S. than in other developed countries, where governments typically negotiate with manufacturers to control costs. In a post on its website, 46brooklyn said it created the analysis to fight "the lack of transparency" in drug pricing, particularly in drugmaker Wholesale Acquisition Costs (WACs), which it sees as the root cause of the "American-made drug pricing crisis."

Full CBS story: **<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/prescription-drug-prices-rise-2021/>**

### ----- **Massive 1-Year Rise in Homicide Rates Collided With The Pandemic In 2020**

(NPR) Last year, an alarming increase in homicides left communities — often in lockdown — reeling as officials searched for answers. That was evident at lots of news conferences as police officials and mayors in Chicago, Los Angeles and New York City rolled out dire news.

Final national murder update of 2020: Murder up 36.7% in 57 agencies with data through at least September (though most have data through November). Murder up in 51 of 57, 37 of 58 agencies reporting murder up more than 30%. [Louisville reported 139 in 2020, and 78 in 2019 as of October 31, 2020. That is a change of 0.78.

NPR podcast and story: **<https://www.npr.org/2021/01/06/953254623/massive-1-year-rise-in-homicide-rates-collided-with-the-pandemic-in-2020>**

**Related - [Ohio Governor Signs 'Stand Your Ground' Law After Suggesting He'd Veto It](#)**

### ----- **Bill Would Eliminate Residency Requirements for Tennessee First Responders**

(IACP News) **[WREG-TV](#)** Memphis, TN (1/6) reports from Nashville, Tennessee, "A bill filed in the state legislature would eliminate residency requirements for first responders in the state of Tennessee." According to

WREG-TV, "Filed by Senator Brian Kelsey on Wednesday, SB 0029 'prohibits a local government from having residency requirements as a condition for employment for a first responder.' Kelsey said the bill will allow departments across the state to recruit the best in a time when many, such as Memphis, are struggling to meet hiring goals. 'This is a public safety bill. It will enable us to hire more police officers, which will help us fight our rising crime rates,' said Kelsey. 'This bill will support our police and fire officers who keep us safe by allowing them to live where they choose.'"

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Global Resilience Commission Webinar 21-1  
**Nation State Electromagnetic Pulse Attack**  
**The Threat, Current Advances, and Resilience Solutions**  
Wednesday, 27 January @ 11 AM ET  
[Register for this Webinar!](#)

[Note: Everyone that registers for this session will receive a special link to a new networking opportunity – **The Resilience Forum**. The Forum will kick off shortly after the main session. The Resilience Forum offers an opportunity to pose questions, hear from session sponsors, and be part of the discussion on topics pulled directly from the webinar session.]  
**You must register for the webinar to gain access to the Forum.**

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FEMA EMI Educational Opportunities  
**(Virtual) Incident Command System (ICS) Curricula Train-the-Trainer**  
Goal: The course is designed to prepare instructors to deliver ICS-related training courses  
Learn more: [1628 - Training Opportunity - K449 ICS Curricula TtT Feb 2021](#)

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**REMINDER – KY Public Health COVID Webinar Update**  
January 12, 2021 @ 11:30 AM ET to 1 PM ET  
Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/905613162489223694>

Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Fires

**Did you know?** **As you stay cozy and warm this winter, stay fire smart!**

**DEC JAN FEB**

Half of all home heating fires occur in December, January and February.

Plug only **1 heat-producing appliance** (like a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.

Keep anything that can burn **at least 3 feet** from any heat source.

U.S. Fire Administration | Fire is Everyone's Fight | NFPA

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The KHREF Emergency Preparedness Update is assembled several times a week. When events make it necessary, the Update may be sent out several times a day to keep our hospital and the healthcare community advised on preparedness news and information. Most of this information is compiled from open sources, and where possible reference links will be provided.

There is an archive of [Emergency Preparedness Updates available here](#). If you would like to add or delete, or have something you would like to contribute to a future edition of the Emergency Preparedness Update, please contact [Preparedness@kyha.com](mailto:Preparedness@kyha.com) (include your current email address).

The preparedness program for the Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) and KHREF are supported by US DHHS ASPR HPP funds through a contract with Kentucky Public Health.