

THE HOOSIER RESPONDER

OCTOBER 2019



TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT SCHOOL SAFETY

IN THIS ISSUE:

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- Social Media in Emergency Management
- IERC Conference Winners
- Indiana "Radiates" Success at State Level Exercise
- Stop the Bleed in Schools



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2019 MEMORIAL CEREMONY HONORS THE SACRIFICES OF FIREFIGHTERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Firefighters from across Indiana gathered to pay respect to their fallen comrades on Friday, Sept. 6, at the Indiana Law Enforcement and Firefighters Memorial. The families of some of the firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty were given flowers during the ceremony. This year, three firefighters who responded to Ground Zero on Sept. 11, 2001, and have since passed away, also were honored.



“In my 50 years of fire service either as a firefighter, a fire chief in Indianapolis or as the State Fire Marshal, I have attended many of these line of duty deaths,” said former State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson. “It’s these firefighters that we honor, not just the firefighters, but their families. We have to keep their families in our thoughts, honor those families as we go forward and support the fire service, who every day are putting their lives on the line in the State of Indiana and throughout the country.”

INDIANA’S FALLEN HEROES

- Jacqueline Phillips, Pike Township Fire Department, Indiana Task Force One (2013)
- Sam Scott, Lawrence Fire Department, Indiana Task Force One (2015)
- Barry Green, Indianapolis Fire Department, Indiana Task Force One (2017)
- Eric Balliet, Fort Wayne Fire Department (2017)
- Jeffrey Holt, Lawrence Fire Department (2018)
- John Butler, Lafayette Fire Department (2018)

FORGOTTEN NO MORE

Firefighters added from the past:

- Albert Van Camp, Indianapolis Fire Department (1902)
- John Mountain, Indianapolis Fire Department (1903)
- Oscar Stehlin, Indianapolis Fire Department (1904)
- George Conduitt, New Castle Fire Department (1916)



Left to right: Ann Parker (KKC), Indiana Sen. Jon Ford (R-Terre Haute), Shin Gwi-cheol, Chairman for KKC, Brian Langley, Director of IDHS, Jeff Groh (IDHS) ByungJu Yoo (KKC), Lillian Hardy (IDHS).

IDHS AND KOREAN KENNEL CLUB PARTNERSHIP GROWS

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and Korean Kennel Club (KKC) have formed a partnership that will strengthen the K-9 Search and Rescue teams for both agencies.

The agreement states South Korean K-9 search and rescue teams will begin training at the IDHS Search and Rescue Center in Brazil, Ind. It also builds upon the partnership Lillian Hardy, IDHS search and rescue specialist, has developed with the kennel club during multiple personal trips to South Korea for training sessions.

“We had instructors from other organizations conduct training sessions, but none of them were nearly as thorough as her,” said Ann Parker, secretary general of the KKC. “Due to Lillian’s training, for the first time

ever our K-9 search and rescue teams found two bodies that were submerged in water.”



Shin Gwi-cheol, chairman for KKC, described the benefits he has observed since Hardy began her trainings: “For a long time, the Korean Kennel Club only recognized bomb sniffing K-9 search teams. With all of

Ms. Hardy’s help and training, we have been able to learn new techniques and the association of our organizations will continue to strengthen these skills for everyone involved.”

During a signing ceremony at the IDHS Search and Rescue Center, the two kennel club representatives toured the grounds for ideas on what could be implemented in a facility being built by the South Korean government. The IDHS site has a kennel for the dog, a temperature controlled indoor training room and a lake for water training.

“I hope they will view our Search and Rescue Center as their home, and I’m looking forward to seeing the benefits this will have for both parties,” said Bryan Langley, executive director of IDHS.

PREPAREDNESS MONTH HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Social media continues to evolve and expand, changing the way emergency management agencies (EMA) and other public safety agencies communicate with the public. It is widely seen as the best way to get important, timely information to the public in an emergency.

Social media can also be utilized in non-emergency situations to educate followers on general safety and preparedness information before a disaster strikes. During National Preparedness Month in September, several EMAs across the state utilized social media to share important preparedness information.

Whether it was a post from [Clark County EMA](#) about creating a preparedness kit with everything a family would need for the adults, kids and pets or a post from [Wayne County EMA](#) detailing a step by step process to create a family emergency plan, social media successfully disseminated crucial preparedness information with Hoosiers all over the state.

As much as social media can be a vital tool for communication, it can also be time consuming and difficult to keep up with, especially for agencies with fewer staff and resources to manage it regularly.

Recognizing the importance



SOCIAL MEDIA IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



[View the Presentation](#)

of social media in emergency management, IDHS created a short presentation that highlights different uses of social media in emergency management, a quick starter guide on setting up social media accounts and best practices to reach more people in the community.

The “Social Media in Emergency Management” presentation can be found on the IDHS [emergency management page](#). Any EMA or public safety agency that would like to learn more about developing a plan for their social media can contact the [IDHS Office of Public Affairs](#) for assistance.





UPDATE ON THE GET ALARMED CAMPAIGN

As of Oct. 1, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) has received 6,650 requests for 10-year alarms and 705 requests for deaf/hard of hearing (HOH) alarms. Nearly all have been

distributed across the state to local fire departments for installation. Of those, 526 10-year alarms and 34 HOH alarms have been installed by 75 fire departments across Indiana. Additionally, the Get

Alarmed campaign has had one documented save due to an installed alarm! Applications for free smoke alarms are still being accepted and can be found at GetAlarmed.in.gov.



Wade Walling, Get Alarmed Program Manager for IDHS, hands Smoke Alarm materials to an Indianapolis home owner.

Specific areas across the state are also being targeted with smoke alarm blitzes. The Indianapolis Fire Department, in conjunction with IDHS, the State Fire Marshal and the American Red Cross, installed both 10-year alarms and HOH alarms in nearly 40 homes across Marion County on, Aug. 9. A 160-home blitz is planned for Crown Point in the coming weeks.

The Get Alarmed program is funded by a grant through 2020. IDHS is committed to installing 10,000 smoke alarms across Indiana over the next two years, and has applied for another grant to continue the initiative.



TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT SCHOOL SAFETY

The Indiana Secured School Board approved more than \$19 million in matching state grant funds in August, marking the largest ever single-year investment in safety initiatives at Hoosier schools.

The \$19 million in awards allowed the Board to partially or fully fund all top-priority projects identified by 429 schools in their applications to the Secured School Safety Grant program (SSSG). In addition, the Board fully funded all eligible projects geared toward implementing health and wellness support services for parents and students, a newly eligible category passed in April by the Indiana General Assembly. More than \$23.8 million was requested by 429 schools across six eligible categories.

Eligible items in the grant include funding for school resource officers (SROs) and law

enforcement officers in schools; equipment and technology; active event warning systems (no matching requirement); firearms training for teachers and staff that choose to allow guns on school property; threat assessments and to implement a student and parent support services program.

“Indiana remains fully committed to ensuring the safety of Hoosier schools,” said Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb. “I’m proud this critical grant program can meet the top safety needs of school districts across the state. This is the latest evolution of how our state partners with local schools to address this issue and help parents, students and staff feel safe and secure each day.”

The SSSG issues matching grants for eligible items and then schools match those funds at a certain level, either

25 percent, 50 percent or 100 percent. The match requirement is based on average daily membership (ADM) of the school district, the total amount of the project or what the request covers.

The SSSG fund is administered by the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. Including the funds committed this year, the SSSG program will have distributed more than \$72 million in state matching grants to schools since the program became law in 2013. All of these funds focus specifically on school safety. Visit the [IDHS website](#) for a full breakdown of SSSG awards.

On the next few pages are a selection of schools – public, private and charter – and how they are addressing their unique needs regarding school safety.

(continued on next page)

SEVEN OAKS CLASSICAL SCHOOL

Charter School in Ellettsville, Ind. (Monroe County)

ADM: 359

Category: Equipment

As a charter school in Monroe County, Seven Oaks Classical School has needed to be creative with security initiatives. Even though considered a public school, charter schools don't have access to the same tax dollars. In this case, the Secured School Safety Grant has been immeasurably valuable. Seven Oaks is located in a Cold War-era building that had originally been a public school, but it ceased operations in 2002. "We have a building that was built well but built when the breadth of security technology wasn't yet available. To bring the facility into the 21st century is a huge benefit to our school community," said Stephen Shipp, headmaster of the school.



A major gap that was identified was a lack of cohesive communication options throughout the school. Text messages and a phone paging system have been utilized, but "during an emergency you can't depend on someone to dial a number or draft a coherent text," he added. The school applied for grant funding to purchase a zoned communication system for the school, allowing for targeted, two-way communication within the facility.

Shipp stressed the school's gratitude for the program, "We were able to take our single top priority for security and receive a fully funded grant to help keep the students, staff and first responders as safe as possible. To be able to act promptly is an incredible peace of mind."

MADISON-GRANT UNITED

Public School System in Fairmount, Ind. (Grant County)

ADM: 1,098

Category: Active Event Warning

Madison-Grant United is accustomed to coordination. This district covers six townships between Madison and Grant Counties and works regularly with both sheriff departments, as well as two local police forces. "Any time there is an alarm, there is usually coordination between three agencies, if not all four," said Superintendent Scott Deetz. This was highlighted in March 2019, when multiple teachers reported the sound of gunshots to their school's office. The system was activated, and within 10 minutes more than 100 first responders from 12 different agencies were on scene. Deetz worked to simultaneously communicate with media, parents and teachers. While the noise was ultimately from construction activities nearby, the response was comforting to the school staff.



Through the SSSG, Madison-Grant United's goal is to set up and initiate an active event warning system. The district will be using the same program as sister school Mississinewa, so he continues to promote efficiency of communication between all stakeholders. With so many agencies to coordinate, Deetz is hoping to standardize the system: "The next piece is creating a unified network between the two counties."

NORTH CENTRAL PARKE

Public School in Marshall, Ind. (Parke County)

ADM: 1,146

Category: Threat Assessment

Superintendent Mike Schimpf joined the North Central Park school district at the beginning of July and was impressed with the initiatives already in place. “We have a great collaboration with the Rockville Police and Park County Sheriff. It really shows the community’s focus on safety,” said Schimpf. This year, the schools top priority was threat assessment.

“Just like in first aid, you need to assess the situation before you take action,” he said. His plan is to work with a multi-discipline team of stakeholders, as well as reach out to local officers and the school safety team, to evaluate the school system’s current capability and needs. They also will rely on consultants to provide a fresh set of eyes. “Sometimes you overlook things that someone from outside the situation would notice,” added Schimpf. “Evaluating the current state will place us in an even better position when other opportunities arise, and allow us to follow through on recommendations.”



MACONAQUAH SCHOOL

Public School in Bunker Hill, Ind. (Miami County)

ADM: 2,363

Category: School Resource Officer

Deputy Linda Sutton has served Miami County for 23 years. Over the past seven years, she’s walked the halls in Maconaquah’s four buildings, verifying safety and security, looking for anything out of the ordinary. This year, she has an upgraded camera system and visitor management software in her toolbox – purchased with 2018 SSSG funds – to help her keep an eye on where she might be needed. “The community sees the SRO position as someone to protect the school, what they don’t understand is that she is there as encouragement for the students and someone they can look up to for safety,” said Baily Ropes, Maconaquah grant coordination and public relations officer.



Deputy Linda Sutton visits with a class of Maconaquah kindergarteners.

The results she’s seen have been positive. “Some of the issues involving student conflict have reduced,” Sutton says. “They know I’m always around, and that I’m approachable.” She sees students reach out regularly when they need an ear but don’t want to go to the counselor or another member of staff. And students who have already graduated will occasionally keep in touch. “It’s nice to know that they all remember me and that I made a positive impact,” said Sutton. “I may have been the only officer who has been a positive influence in their life and show them that not all officers are bad. To me, that’s huge.”

EVANSVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Private School in Evansville, Ind. (Vanderburgh County)

ADM: 685

Category: Student and Parent Support Services

In the last several years, Evansville Christian School has seen an uptick in the amount of assistance children needed to cope with everything going on in their lives. “When I heard that the Secured Schools Grant was going to open up for mental health and support, I thought that this is just as important as cameras and SROs,” said Mike Allan, head of Evansville Christian Schools. “So many children don’t even realize that they’re dealing with something. They assume that this is the way things are supposed to be, and these counselors help them make sense of the world in a healthy way.”



Students encouraged with positive sidewalk chalk on World Suicide Prevention Day, observed Sept. 10.

Evansville Christian Schools is partnering with [Youth First](#), an Evansville based nonprofit dedicated to strengthening youth and families through evidence-based programs that prevent substance abuse, to promote healthy behaviors and maximize student success. Youth First currently has 59 counselors serving 80 schools in 10 counties, according to Parri Black, president and CEO. The partnership with Evansville Christian schools will allow a counselor to be assigned part time at the middle school to begin offering proactive services. “The social workers are not just resources for the students, but also for the

teachers and parents,” explained Ali Langen, Youth First development director. “While the students are the primary focus, teachers and parents who need additional support can reach out to learn techniques and tactics for communication, interaction and support.”

EDUCATION AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES AT 2019 EMAI CONFERENCE

The Emergency Management Alliance of Indiana (EMAI) Conference provides emergency management professionals the opportunity to learn new career techniques and network with individuals from across the state.

The conference’s theme “Leading the Way Back” will highlight four key areas of emergency management: long-term recovery, mitigation, post-emergency events and resiliency. In addition to workshops, speakers

are scheduled to discuss a variety of topics.

Indiana Department of Homeland Security Executive Director Bryan Langley will provide agency and project updates. A representative from FEMA Region V will discuss aspects of resiliency. Keynote speaker and attitude expert Matt Booth will discuss the importance of communication and an individual’s attitude.

The conference will be held on Oct. 22-25.

Interested individuals can find a complete event schedule and register at <http://indianaema.org/2019-conference>.



INDIANA EMERGENCY RESPONSE CONFERENCE ANNOUNCES 2019 AWARD WINNERS

The Indiana Emergency Response Conference (IERC) recently presented its annual awards, honoring the best and brightest among Indiana first responders and public safety officials. Award recipients may be nominated by other emergency responders, as well as individuals they may have assisted.

“Many deserving individuals were nominated from across the state, and the conference is humbled to honor even a small number of them,” said Douglas Randell, division chief of emergency medical services with Plainfield Fire Department and coordinator of the 2019

awards. “Peers understand the difficult work that these responders face every day, and while these awards are an important way for individuals to be recognized, the sheer number of nominees show that colleagues are noticing and honoring the blood, sweat and tears that responders pour into their work every day.”

The IERC serves as the annual gathering for firefighters, emergency medical services (EMS), law enforcement, emergency management agencies, hazardous materials professionals, special operations personnel and telecommunicators. It

includes educational sessions, innovative presentations and discussions about some of the most pressing issues facing the emergency response community in Indiana.

The IERC was planned by the Indiana Fire Chiefs Association, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security and Public Safety Medical. For more information visit indianaerc.org.

On the following page is a list of the award recipients. More information on each award recipient can be found online at dhs.in.gov/4295.htm.





Legislator of the Year
Senator Jon Ford



Fire Instructor of the Year (Individual)
Steve Jordan, Instructor, Evansville Fire Department



Fire Instructor of the Year (Division)
Ohio Township Volunteer Fire Department, Training Division



Dispatcher of the Year
Julie Kroger-Toby, St. Joseph County Public Safety Comm. Consortium



EMS for Children Award
Cynthia Brown, EMT, Harrison County Hospital EMS



David J. Edwards Memorial Award, Primary (EMS) Instructor of the Year
Eric Kraft, Captain, Clay Fire Territory



Specialty Care Award
Kevin Speer, President and CEO, Hendricks Regional Health



EMT-Basic of the Year
Michael Dilly, EMT-B, Crawford County EMS



Advanced EMT of the Year
Robert Swoboda, Advanced EMT, Delaware County EMS



Paramedic of the Year
Abdullakh Abamislomov, Firefighter/Paramedic, Zionsville Fire Department



EMS Advanced Life Support Provider of the Year (Non-Fire Department)
Three Rivers Ambulance Authority, Operations Division (Fort Wayne)



EMS Basic Life Support Provider of the Year (Fire Department-based)
Evansville Fire Department, EMS



EMS Officer of the Year
Andrew Hall, Lieutenant, Putnam County Operation Life



Firefighter of the Year
Mike Carr, Firefighter/Paramedic, Noblesville Fire Department



Co-medical Director of the Year
James Nossett, Medical Director, Hendricks Regional Health



Fire Chief of the Year (Volunteer)
Chad Hanson, Fire Chief, Harrison Township Volunteer Fire Department



Co-fire Chief of the Year (Career)
Greg Wyant, Chief, City of Noblesville



Co-fire Chief of the Year (Career)
James VanGorder, Fire Chief, Town of Zionsville

Heroic Rescue of the Year
Cory Potts, Lieutenant, Clarksville Fire Department

EMS Advanced Life Support Provider of the Year (Fire Department-based)
John Crawford, Assistant Chief of EMS, Fort Wayne Fire Department

Co-medical Director of the Year
Stephanie Gardner, Hancock County EMS Medical Director, Hancock Regional Hospital

Fire Officer of the Year
Nick Mager, Assistant Chief, Cedar Lake Fire Department

REDEFINING THE EMS HERO AT IERC 2019

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is a system that provides emergency medical care to Hoosiers more than 2,000 times per day. And yet, most Hoosiers only recognize EMS when emergency vehicles or helicopters are seen responding to emergency incidents. This year's Indiana Emergency Response Conference (IERC) discussed how EMS is more than just a ride to the hospital and identified several strategies that can push Indiana EMS services toward more proactive roles in healthcare, public health and public safety.

Dr. Michael Kaufmann, EMS medical director for the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS), presented "Remaking of a Hero" at IERC 2019, comparing the work of EMS to that of super heroes. He also called on his audience to reimagine their roles and responsibilities as EMS personnel.

"How can we change from being regarded as transport providers to healthcare providers?" Kaufmann asked the audience. "Or, how do we make the journey from technician to clinician?"

According to Kaufmann, having EMS educate the public about chronic disease management is a good place to start. According to



[HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov), chronic disease management is described as an "integrated care approach to managing illness which includes screenings, check-ups, monitoring and coordinating treatment and patient education." The [Center for Disease Control \(CDC\)](https://www.cdc.gov) reports six in 10 adults in the U.S. have a chronic disease, while four in 10 have two or more chronic diseases.

"You don't have to rush into the burning building to save a life," Kaufmann said. "Simply teaching someone how to better care for their diabetes can also do that."

Mobile Integrated Healthcare-Community Paramedicine (MIH-CP) was another prominent talking point during the presentation. According to the [National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians \(NAEMT\)](https://www.naemt.org), MIH-CP is a "provision of healthcare using patient-centered, mobile resources in the out-of-hospital environment." MIH-CP is

designed to allow EMS to be more proactive in their job role by providing higher quality, patient-centered care and helping to prevent emergencies before they begin.

"Mobile integrated healthcare gives EMS the opportunity to engage with the community and effectively reimagine their role from reactive to proactive," Kaufmann said. "It moves us closer to being recognized as the health care providers that we are."

In April of 2019, a MIH-CP bill was signed into law that amends the definition of "emergency medical services" to include transportation services, acute care, chronic condition services or disease management services. The bill also provides Indiana EMS agencies reimbursement for services given to Medicaid recipients.

Indiana EMS also can expect to see improvements in gathering and record healthcare data.

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IDHS is collaborating with Biospatial, a health and safety data company, with the intent of giving Indiana EMS real-time, syndromic surveillance capabilities.



“Biospatial’s services will allow us the ability to see things like where accidents are happening, where flu outbreaks are occurring or even track how we are doing getting aspirin to chest pain patients,” Kaufmann explained.

Other technological EMS projects include establishing a state AED registry, as well as an EMS field app that allows Indiana EMS personnel to quickly locate hospitals in the area.

“We are making tremendous strides in EMS, but we can go even further if we all start to think about what type of role we should fulfill in EMS,” Kaufmann said. “Because in the end, when we do this, we will be become an everyday healthcare hero.”



NEW WEBEOC APP COMING SOON

Field productivity is becoming more convenient with the new WebEOC mobile app. The app combines notification functionality and forms capability in a new single app. New features include the ability to view and edit mobile-friendly boards as well as biometric authentication for faster login.

With the WebEOC app, emergency managers can capture data, conduct assessments and complete reports in the field to automatically update WebEOC boards. Notifications provide valuable information about incidents, statuses, resources, locations and announcements. The WebEOC app keeps organizations informed and allows field staff to play an integral role in emergency response events unfolding within the county, district or agency.

Information entered in the app is immediately available in WebEOC to keep everyone connected to the command or emergency operations center. In certain circumstances, offline data capture is available, allowing data to be captured in the app and immediately synced when connectivity is restored. This offline capability is currently only available with certain standard forms, but the User Advisory Board meets with the Juvare development

team on a quarterly basis and will continue to advocate for increased offline capability and functionality.

The new app will be entering wide release in the coming weeks with a new version that brings multiple account management, a new design and enhancements based on early adopter feedback. The new WebEOC app will be available for Android and iOS and is compatible with WebEOC 8.6.1.1 or higher. The Mobi 2 and IMXConnect apps will no longer be supported and will be fully retired by the end of the year.

Indiana was chosen as a beta tester for this new mobile app, and has developed a mobile board which will allow a county EMA to change their travel advisory and/or county EOC statuses from a mobile device. If a travel advisory change requires a declaration document, the app will also allow users to take a snapshot of the signed document and attach it as the status is changed.





INDIANA 'RADIATES' SUCCESS AT STATE LEVEL EXERCISE

The mid-sized, close-knit community of Roseland, Indiana has a special “glow” that sets it apart from other towns found across Indiana.

A special radiological “glow,” that is.

Imagine these radiation hotspots detected in Roseland have become dangerous to human health. The St. Joseph County Emergency Operations Center is activated and booming with discussion. There is an urgent hustle coming from the inflatable military tents of the incident management team. Working together, these two groups are tasked with safely relocating the Roseland citizens and protecting them from exposure.

Thankfully, this is all part of the Radiological Integrated State Exercise (RISE) 2019 State Level Exercise (SLE), coordinated by the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. Eleven

northern Indiana counties are within proximity of four different nuclear power plants, and as a result, FEMA-graded radiation emergency exercises occur every eight years in Indiana. This year’s SLE was the first time a state practiced recovery from a radiological disaster.

The Aug. 29 exercise was held at the Fulton County Airport, located in Rochester, Indiana. While the emergency

operations center functioned inside the nearby Rochester Fire Department, the incident management team established their area in the nearby grassy field adjacent to both the airport and fire department.

Jenn Tobey, director of Elkhart County Emergency Management, played the role of incident commander for the exercise. Prior to the 2019 SLE, Tobey had never participated

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There are 9 Indiana counties that are in the DC Cook Ingestion Pathway Zone:

- Elkhart
- Lake
- Porter
- Kosciusko
- LaPorte
- St. Joseph
- LaGrange
- Marshall
- Starke

in a radiation exercise as a member of the incident management team.

“I had the pleasure of overseeing and managing 46 colleagues acting as a ‘recovery’ incident management team,” Tobey said. “This exercise showed me that Districts 1-4 can pull together a highly educated IMT to face any all-hazard type response.”

Jeff Wiatrowski, executive assistant for the LaPorte County EMA, worked in the EOC during the 2019 SLE as a deputy in operations and EOC security officer, which he described as challenging.

“Operations came second nature to me due to my previous training,” Wiatrowski said. “But being a security officer made me more aware of who was in the EOC at all times and keeping track of people.”

Having never participated in a SLE, Wiatrowski said he learned and experienced a lot during the 2019 SLE.

“This was probably the most well-run exercise that I have ever participated in,” Wiatrowski said. “The people who were assigned to the positions I worked around were all

professional and worked well together.”

This year’s SLE also uniquely connected with a separate FEMA-graded exercise conducted by IDHS.

The scenario began three weeks prior to the announcement to relocate the town of Roseland, with the D.C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant in Bridgman, MI, experiencing a malfunction that released radiation into the atmosphere. Nine Indiana counties fall within the D.C. Cook ingestion pathway zone, and the Hoosiers living in these counties were now potentially at risk for ingesting radiation.

This exercise occurred on Aug. 27-28 and included activities in LaPorte County, the Indiana Government Center, Indiana State Department of Health Radiochemistry Laboratory and was held simultaneously with the D.C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant and Michigan emergency response agencies. Exercise evaluations included soil sampling in LaPorte County and simulated activations of the State Emergency Operations Center and the State Joint Information Center. In the end, Indiana met all compliance requirements for an ingestion



pathway zone radiological emergency.

Angie Cloutier, the Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) coordinator for IDHS, expressed gratitude to all the agencies that collaborated to create the exercises.

“I am extremely satisfied with the outcome of all three exercises,” Cloutier said. “Our local, county and state participants all pulled together and went above and beyond what their jobs normally expect of them.”

Cloutier said FEMA’s involvement assisted IDHS in identifying ways of strengthening the REP program even further.

“FEMA has provided IDHS with helpful feedback on areas where we can improve,” Cloutier said. “These exercises have also sparked an interest with other agencies to want to learn more about radiological preparedness, and that interest will help improve our REP program even further.”



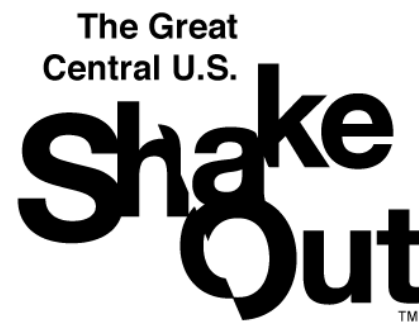
EARTHQUAKE SAFETY AND PREPAREDNESS TIPS

With the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut taking place in October, IDHS reminds all Hoosier public safety agencies and public entities to take precautions ahead of time to mitigate potential damages.

Near two different seismic zones, Indiana is at a far greater risk of earthquake damage than what many realize. Indiana's soil composition also makes for the possibility of more widespread damage to buildings and infrastructure.

Below is safety information that public entities should take into consideration, as well as some hazard mitigation tips:

- Potential [Public Assistance](#) disaster applicants, such as municipal highway departments, EMAs or school corporations, should get registered in the FEMA Grants Portal System before a disaster occurs. Registering prior to a disaster event saves time for local applicants as well as state and federal personnel assisting in the long-term recovery efforts.
- Keep important organizational documentation, such as insurance information and employee payroll records, backed up electronically and easily accessible. Keeping this material where it can be easily located will help expedite the reimbursement process if an organization is found to be eligible for assistance following a disaster.
- Public facility managers should be mindful of shelving or other heavy furniture within structures. Ensuring that tall or heavy shelves are anchored to a wall will help to prevent damage and injuries to occupants during an earthquake.
- While earthquake events pose various risks to all Hoosiers during the event itself, first responders also face considerable risk during response activities. Earthquakes can lead to widespread issues such as gas line ruptures, downed power lines and water main breaks that could delay response time and capabilities. Knowing and planning for what to expect can help mitigate response issues ahead of time.



Great Central U.S. ShakeOut

Oct. 11 at 10:11 a.m.

Here's how it works: at 10:11 a.m. on Oct. 11, participants should drop to the ground, take cover under a sturdy table or desk and hold on as if a major earthquake were happening.

Register today for the ShakeOut at shakeout.org/centralus.

It is important to note that Indiana is participating in the ShakeOut on a different date than what is on the website. However, participants can choose to practice their earthquake drill on whichever date works best for them

LOCAL AND TRIBAL PARTNERSHIP KEEPS COMMUNITY SAFE

Floods, tornadoes and winter storms are just a few of the emergencies that impact individuals. When local, state, tribal and federal governments work together to plan and respond to these situations, the entire community becomes a little bit more safe.

In the four areas of emergency management - response, recovery, mitigation and planning - the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians work with the St. Joseph County Emergency Management Agency, Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Michael Bradley, emergency manager and deputy chief of the Tribal Police Department, shared that the tribe follows the same planning and response protocols followed by municipal and state governments.



“Large emergencies and disasters often happen without warning,” Bradley said. “Planning together and sharing resources during these events is



the best path to the protection of citizens in every community. In order to be successful, we plan and train together to become familiar with each other’s capabilities and needs.”

Additionally, if hazards identified by FEMA are unique to the area, the tribe will make a plan for those emergencies.

The Pokagon Band became the first federally recognized tribe in Indiana when their application for land in South Bend was approved by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 2016. To become a sovereign nation, a tribe has to successfully petition the U.S. government through federal courts, which provides evidence that the tribe existed. Tribal and state governments have many similar functions including being responsible for the safety and welfare of citizens.

“Tribal nations offer so many enhancements to their surrounding communities. One of the first things the Pokagon

Band established in Indiana was a tribal police force,” said John Antonucci, director of St. Joseph Emergency Management Agency. “The St. Joseph County Police and the South Bend Police Department helped them by granting arrest powers and now they assist us by patrolling and answering calls for help in the county and the city.”

Since the sovereign land was established, a major disaster has not impacted the tribe. Bradley explained everyone in the Pokagon Band is grateful, but remaining vigilant is key.

“Weather patterns and human activity is always changing,” Bradley said. “Planning and responding to situations that arise from these activities is ever changing and affects us all.”

**November is American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month, which celebrates the history, traditions and contributions of Native Americans.*

STOP THE BLEED PROGRAM IN SCHOOLS

As a state-sanctioned program to supply Indiana schools with Stop the Bleed trauma kits continues to get off the ground, more Hoosiers are requesting the lifesaving training to be held in their communities.

According to a May 2019 report from BleedingControl.org (the national Stop the Bleed-STB site), more than 20,000 residents have been trained how to use the STB kits, which includes a tourniquet, bandages and other first-aid items. The kits allow the general public to be first responders by allowing them to stabilize uncontrolled bleeding, the leading cause of preventable death among trauma patients.

Indiana is among the top 10 states in the number of certified instructors of the program, at more than 1,000 registered.

“There is absolutely no downside to getting this training,” said Dr. Michael Kaufmann, State EMS medical director. “Bystanders are always the first on the scene of a tragedy. A couple of hours of training may allow them initiate lifesaving measures until additional medical help can arrive.”

In April, the Indiana General Assembly approved a program (HEA 1063), to be coordinated by the Indiana Department

of Homeland Security (IDHS), which would distribute STB kits to all Indiana schools that request them. The Indiana Hospital Association agreed to supply the kits for free to schools upon request. This law did not supply free kits for the general public, however.



IDHS is in the process of hiring a coordinator of the STB initiative, and the IHA is working with the Indiana Department of Education to determine how many kits would be necessary to meet schools' demand. The legislation calls for at least five people at each school be trained in how to use the kits, which can help slip-and-fall and minor bone breaks as well as mass casualty incidents.

Georgia supports a state-mandated Stop the Bleed program for all schools, funded by a \$1.5 million budget allocation. The program was designed to supply 29,000

kits and training to Georgia schools. So far, the Georgia Trauma Commission has trained more than 62,000 educators, although nearly half the eligible schools have yet to adopt the program.

Indiana's program has no fiscal support to implement STB statewide. However, Kaufmann plans one day to create a registry of Stop the Bleed kits in Indiana to locate them (and an AED) quickly when an incident occurs.

“These items are intended to help when an emergency situation arises. They also provide day-to-day piece of mind, just knowing they are on hand,” Kaufmann said.

In the meantime, first responder agencies across the state continue to get requests from the public for kits and to host trainings. The kits can cost nearly \$40, and the new legislation did not provide free kits.

“I get calls weekly from schools interested in getting their staff

(continued on next page)



trained,” said Lori Postma, a nurse and Planning Section Chief at Indiana District 1 Task Force. Postma regularly teaches Stop the Bleed in public settings, businesses and healthcare facilities, but she is unable to meet the demands of schools until the kits are received and participants identified.

“To teach it without giving them a kit is like showing them how to handcuff but not giving them the handcuffs,” she added.

Julie Halbig, vice president of legislative relations for IHA, said DOE is “working with key stakeholders on the availability of kits and training options.”

“DOE will continue to update all public school corporations as implementation of HEA 1063 moves forward in the coming months for those schools interested in implementing a STB program,” she added.

All trauma centers across Indiana offer trainings, and many fire departments host trainings as well. IDHS also connects people with trainings in their local communities.

[Find a class](#)

The developing STB program in Indiana schools will supplement an extensive school safety grant program administered by IDHS. In September 2019, more than \$19 million was allocated for safety projects at 429 school districts.

WELCOME NEW FIRE MARSHAL!

On Oct. 1, Gov. Eric J. Holcomb announced he has appointed South Bend Fire Chief Stephen Cox to serve as the Indiana state fire marshal.

“Chief Cox brings great experience, leadership and vision to the Indiana Department of Homeland Security,” Gov. Holcomb said. “I know that as the state’s fire marshal he will enhance public safety in the state of Indiana and continue to build partnerships with first responders and all Hoosiers.”

Cox has served with the South Bend Fire Department for 26 years, with 12 years in executive leadership. With the South Bend Fire Department, he served as a paramedic, firefighter, EMS instructor, and EMS chief of the fire department, before being promoted to fire chief in 2012.

As fire chief, Cox created a fire training center which has enabled the department to build a robust training program to support the South Bend department as well as other departments in the state. He also collaborated with the Indiana National Guard and IDHS to form a Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team, an important asset for Indiana’s disaster preparedness.



Cox served in the U.S. Army as a combat medic during Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Indiana University and has also earned numerous FEMA certifications related to the National Incident Management System.

Former Indiana State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson retired last month after 11 years of service. The fire marshal leads the Indiana Department of Homeland Security Division of Fire and Building Safety. The division investigates suspicious fires, promotes fire prevention and enforces fire and building safety codes in all public buildings, among other duties. Cox will begin his new position Oct. 21.

HERO'S HONOR OPEN ENROLLMENT BEGINS NOV. 1

The Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS) is kicking off open enrollment for Hero's Honor, its line-of-duty special death coverage, beginning Nov. 1.

Certain emergency medical service providers have the opportunity to provide their employees with \$150,000 of line-of-duty death coverage for just \$100 per year for each employee, through INPRS's program Hero's Honor.

THIS BENEFIT APPLIES TO:

- EMS workers employed by a person that has contracted with a political subdivision;
- Emergency medical service providers performing air ambulance services employed by a health care system affiliated with a state educational institution;
- Police officers and firefighters* who work for non-state post-secondary educational institutions;
- Police officers employed by an operator**; and
- Firefighters who work for a public-use airport that maintains a fire department.

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***under IC 8-22-3-34(b)*

If you elect to cover your police, firefighters, or emergency medical service staff, **you must include your entire staff** of police, firefighters, or emergency medical service workers. **The open enrollment period is from Nov. 1 through Nov. 30.**

For more information about Hero's Honor or to download an enrollment form, please visit www.in.gov/INPRS/heroshonormain.htm. If you have questions, please contact the Employer Pension Plan Administration (EPPA) team at (888) 876-2707 or at eppa@inprs.in.gov.



UPCOMING TRAININGS

OCTOBER

10/05	Intro. to Disaster Search Tech for K-9s	EDINBURGH
10/08	HSEEP/Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation	GREENSBURG
10/09	Disaster Management for Public Services	VALPARAISO
10/10	Hazardous Weather and Flooding Preparedness	HANOVER
10/15	Instructor Development Workshop	BLOOMINGTON
10/22	Crisis Management for School-Based Incidents	ELKHART
10/22	Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents	SANTA CLAUS
10/23	Personal Protective Measures for Biological Events	PLYMOUTH
10/24	Int. Disaster Search Techniques for K-9s	EDINBURGH
10/26	Advanced Disaster Search Techniques for K-9s	EDINBURGH
10/28	Campus Emergencies Prevention, Response & Recovery	NOBLESVILLE

NOVEMBER

11/13	Pediatric Disaster Response & Emergency Preparedness	BLOOMINGTON
11/13	COOP for Program Managers	INDIANAPOLIS
11/14	Community Healthcare Planning & Response to Disasters	NASHVILLE
11/18	Active Shooter Incident Management with Complex Incidents	CRAWFORDSVILLE
11/19	Instructional Presentational & Evaluation Skills	PLAINFIELD
11/19	Disaster Recovery in Rural Communities	LAFAYETTE
11/19	Natural Disaster Awareness for Community Leaders	TBD
11/20	Natural Disaster Awareness for Community Leaders	COLUMBIA CITY
11/20	Jurisdictional Threat & Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment	CLARKSVILLE
11/20	Hazards Planning for Animal & Food Related Disasters	SCOTTSBURG
11/20	Advanced ICS Command & General Staff-Complex Incidents	SANTA CLAUS
11/21	Campus Emergencies Prevention, Response and Recovery	PORTLAND

Register for classes on the [ACADIS Portal](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

OBSERVED: OCTOBER, 2019

In 2017, the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center reported more than 800 Hoosiers suffered a personal data breach. During the annual National Cybersecurity Awareness Month individuals are being reminded that it is important to "Own IT. Secure IT. Protect IT." Everyone can follow a few tips to help make their electronic devices at home and work more secure.

For more information on how to get involved, visit dhs.gov/national-cyber-security-awareness-month. Visit in.gov/cybersecurity for tips on how you can keep yourself protected.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK/HOME FIRE DRILL DAY

OBSERVED: OCTOBER 6-12, 2019

The National Fire Protection Association sponsors Fire Prevention Week every year to emphasize the importance of fire safety. This year the organization is reminding everyone that "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!" and small preventative steps can be lifesaving. One way to participate in the event is to promote Home Fire Drill Day on Oct. 12.

Visit nfpa.org/fpw, for more information about Fire Prevention Week. For fire safety tips, visit GetPrepared.in.gov.

GREAT CENTRAL U.S. SHAKEOUT

OBSERVED: OCTOBER 11, 2019

Indiana is located near two major seismic zones that have the potential to cause significant damage. The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut and Indiana Department of Homeland Security invites Hoosiers on Oct. 11 to Drop, Cover and Hold On in a worldwide earthquake drill. The drill emphasizes the importance of learning about and practicing for earthquake emergencies.

For more information about the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut, visit shakeout.org/index.html.

SAFE SCHOOLS WEEK

OBSERVED: OCTOBER 21-27, 2019

America's Safe Schools Week provides public officials, school organizations and professional organizations the ability to develop and discuss best methods to implement school safety policies. Successes and progress in increased school safety will also be recognized during the week.

Visit schoolsafety.us/safe-schools-week for more information about Safe Schools Week. For information about Indiana's school safety measures, visit in.gov/schoolsafety/.

UPCOMING EVENTS

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ALLIANCE OF INDIANA CONFERENCE

OBSERVED: OCTOBER 23-25, 2019

The Emergency Management Alliance of Indiana (EMA) Conference provides emergency management professionals the opportunity to learn new techniques and network with individuals from across the state. The conference's theme of "Leading the Way Back" emphasizes the importance of emergency preparedness and resiliency.

Visit indianaema.org/2019-conference for information on conference registration.

HALLOWEEN

OBSERVED: OCTOBER 31, 2019

On Halloween, ghouls and goblins come in many shapes and sizes such as vehicles, low visibility conditions and dark costumes. Children are twice as likely to die from a vehicle accident as any other time of the year. Remind trick-or-treaters and their loved ones about safety precautions that should be followed before they go out for the night. Visit GetPrepared.in.gov for more Halloween safety tips.

NATIONAL CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AND RESILIENCE MONTH

OBSERVED: NOVEMBER, 2019

Citizens rely on the state's critical infrastructure – water supplies, food supplies, electricity, roads – to complete everyday tasks. Hoosiers should be encouraged to take proactive steps to help keep these physical and cyber resources secure.

WINTER PREPAREDNESS WEEK

OBSERVED: NOVEMBER 10-16, 2019

Winter weather will arrive soon and it is important Hoosiers are prepared before the icy cold blasts and precipitation occurs. Encouraging community members to check weather updates frequently and sharing information about the IDHS County Travel Advisory Map, which can be viewed on the IDHS website or the app. Remember to regularly update the county's status to help ensure travel safety. Visit GetPrepared.in.gov, to find more information about winter weather safety.

THANKSGIVING

OBSERVED: NOVEMBER 28, 2019

Thanksgiving is the leading day for cooking equipment related home fires and one of the busiest holidays for traveling. Share cooking and traveling safety tips with your community to help ensure the holiday is fun and safe for the entire party. For more Thanksgiving safety tips, visit GetPrepared.in.gov.

*The Indiana Department of Homeland Security works 24/7
to protect the people, property and prosperity of Indiana.*



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