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NON-COMPETITIVE DIVISION

The Intersection of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion with the Incident Command System

On January 20, 2021 President Joe Biden signed Executive Order 13985 which required Advancing Racial Equality and Support for Underserved Communities Through Federal Government. This order required the rethinking of how we manage and respond to disasters and emergencies to make sure everyone in our community are provided for. The Sandwich Fire Department, Sandwich Office of Emergency Management and the Boston University School of Medicine's Graduate Program in Healthcare Emergency Management set out to integrate vulnerable populations into their response matrix utilizing the Incident Command System. The program enabled first responders to put DEI initiatives into action utilizing the language already understood by first responders, the Incident Command System.

The initiative proved valuable in response to several large-scale storms as well as busy voting election days and allowed for the integration of additional advocacy groups in to the Emergency Management structure as well as leveraging technological resources to be put to increased use, like Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

Presentation Theme: Integrated research with experience as well as field practice to enhance emergency management response for the Town of Sandwich (MA)

Collaborators, Advisor(s) and Department(s) that assisted with this research: Dr. Kevin Thomas, Program Director, Boston University Healthcare Emergency Graduate Program; Dr. Nina Kabiri, Assistant Program Director, Boston University Healthcare Emergency Management Graduate Program; Dr. David Cardona, Director, Global Center for Hispanic and Latino Affairs