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News Release

IAEM and NEMA Release Annual Report Demonstrating the Value of a Critical Emergency Management Grant Program

Apr. 8, 2022 (Falls Church, Va.) – Today, the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) and the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) released the joint annual report entitled Emergency Management Performance Grant: An Evaluation of the Nation’s Return on Investment.

The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) allows state, local, territorial, and tribal governments to make key investments to build capacity and enhance the capability of states and localities to respond to disasters. As emergency managers grapple with intensifying and more frequent natural and man-made disasters, the commitment to investing in mitigation and resilience in advance continues to build greater capacity at the local level.

For EMPG in the fiscal year 2021, there is much to highlight.

- 123 state and approximately 350 local emergency operations centers helped officials coordinate efforts for 21,482 events using EMPG funds.
- State and local emergency managers developed, maintained, or updated 4,409 plans addressing all types of emergency response, recovery, and mitigation needs, many of which were related to issues driven by the COVID-19 pandemic response.
- More than 322,309 participants took part in 2,525 state and local workshops, drills, and functional full-scale exercises.
- 3,257 individual and community preparedness outreach campaigns impacted nearly 105 million residents across the nation.

The past year proved to be a challenging tightrope act for state and local emergency managers – working to manage a constantly evolving pandemic while continuing to mitigate and respond to ever-changing disaster events.

Without a robust emergency management ecosystem at the state, local, territorial, and tribal levels, the responses to many disasters would falter or require unplanned federal support. A whole-of-government approach will be vital as we continue to invest in our response and resilience resources. Capabilities

afforded through EMPG allow many of these events to be managed without additional federal expenditures. While disaster events remain unpredictable and no investment can fully eliminate risk, supporting the development of state, local, territorial, and tribal capabilities through EMPG is proven to minimize disaster effects on vulnerable populations and limit federal expenditures in the response and recovery phase.

EMPG funds often are used to support emergency operations centers which are the coordination hubs for disaster response. The program also provides public education and training, outreach, enhanced interoperable communications capabilities, support for mutual aid agreement development, and the ability to manage statewide alerts and warnings.

Few federal programs boast EMPG's 50-50 matching commitment from the state and local levels. EMPG stands as the beacon of congressional commitment to ensuring communities and states can prepare, mitigate, respond, and recover from any number of emergencies and disasters.

IAEM-USA, the nation's largest emergency management professional association, is a non-profit professional organization representing more than 5,000 emergency management and homeland security professionals for local communities, state and federal disaster officials, private sector, non-governmental organizations, and others involved in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from all types of disasters including acts of terrorism. IAEM provides access to the largest network of emergency management experts who can provide advice and assistance; the Certified Emergency Manager program; annual scholarships; a comprehensive monthly newsletter; and more.

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