Emergency Management is Project Management- Case Studies, Tools, and Lessons Learned

Presented by: Emily Dwyer, MSFES, PMP, CEM Emergency Management Consultant; Celeste Fournier, Emergency Management Coordinator, Lee County Emergency Management

Presentation Abstract: A project is something with a defined schedule: planning, initiation, execution, monitoring, and close out. This very schedule is no different than the daily operations that an emergency manager follows as day-to-day, whether it is in blue skies or gray. During this presentation, we will go over real-life events that benefited from actively utilizing project management methodology and how the tools used can be integrated into agencies and organizations.

Speaker Bios: Emily Dwyer is an all-hazards emergency management project manager with over 7 years of experience in both the public and private sectors. Ms. Dwyer started her emergency management profession through service in the Florida Army National Guard, in which she responded to Hurricanes Matthew, Irma, Michael, and Dorian in capacities that include debris removal, logistic staging area management, and liaison to the state of Florida. In addition, Ms. Dwyer's national guard service led her to being a COVID-19 testing site logistics lead and National Guard coordinator for Florida Region's 1, 2, and 3.
After 6 years of service, Ms. Dwyer left with honorable distinction and started in the public sector as an intern for Leon County Emergency Management, before moving on to being a project manager, supporting response, recovery, planning, and preparedness events throughout the country.

Ms. Dwyer holds a Project Management Professional (PMP) certificate, Certified Emergency Manager (CEM), is a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt, and holds a Masters Degree in Fire and Emergency Sciences (MSFES) from the University of Florida. She has been honored to speak on the topic of project management at the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association Annual Meeting, IAEM, and Georgetown University.