

Kendall Bobula Candidate Statement for IAEM Region 1 Communications Officer

I am eager, motivated and qualified to serve as IAEM Region 1 Communications Officer to advance regional initiatives and cooperation. I have been a member of IAEM since September 2021. During my decade of service to the State of Connecticut, I was the website administrator for the State of Connecticut's Office of Policy and Management Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division for nearly six years. In this role, I managed our website, digital communications and ensured timely dissemination of information including our *Monthly Indicators Report*. As the Community Preparedness, Strategic Planning, and Grants Manager for the Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, I introduced a Monthly Planning Newsletter to highlight our unit's efforts, showcase our team's accomplishments, foster interdepartmental collaboration, educate staff, and promote participation in events. I continue writing a newsletter in my current role as Director of Planning and Preparedness at the City of Boston's Office of Emergency Management. I am proficient on social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), and WhatsApp. I am learning American Sign Language (ASL) with the intention of being able to communicate with and learn from more community members. Recognizing the evolving nature of digital communication, I am eager to learn and adapt to new platforms to meet the diverse needs of our emergency managers.

During my term as Communications Officer I hope to enhance information sharing and collaboration as they are cornerstones of effective emergency management. In today's emergency management landscape regional collaboration, best practice sharing, rumor control, coordinated preparation, and strengthening inter-agency cooperation are more important than ever. I am eager to support Region 1 stakeholders in the communication of information in ways that resonate with how emergency managers best absorb and act on content—while also staying ahead of evolving communication trends. If given the opportunity, I am committed to strengthening our Region 1 emergency management community, ensuring we are fully prepared to meet the critical year ahead, together.

Kendall Bobula Biography

Kendall Bobula is an experienced emergency management professional. She currently serves as the Director of Planning and Preparedness for the City of Boston, where she oversees strategic planning and community preparedness grant management initiatives. Kendall holds a B.S. in Urban Studies from the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities, an M.S. in Emergency Management from the University of New Haven, and a Graduate Certificate in GIS from the University of Connecticut. Her public service career began as a Trainee at the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management, conducting criminal justice research and GIS mapping. She later joined the Connecticut Department of Public Health's Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response as a Planner during the COVID-19 Pandemic. She served as the Community Preparedness, Strategic Planning, and Grants Manager for the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, overseeing multiple units including Radiological Emergency Preparedness, Community Preparedness Grants, and Hazard Mitigation

for her final three years of a decade of public service in the State of Connecticut. Her incident management experience includes responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, Avian Influenza, Tropical Storm Henri, statewide 911 outage, and events such as the Boston Marathon and the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Kendall is an active EMAP assessor and has experience as an EMAP Accreditation Manager. She completed the National Emergency Management Advanced Academy, authoring her final research paper on state disaster assistance funds. She was selected for the State of Connecticut Emerging Leaders Program and has completed all courses for the FEMA Master Continuity Practitioner Level 1. Additionally, she participated in the National Guard Joint Planners Course and volunteered as an EMT for nearly five years. In her free time, Kendall enjoys playing the accordion, participating in VOLO softball, sewing, painting, learning American Sign Language, and spending time with her two cats.