



# Legislative Priorities

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EMERGENCY MANAGERS, U.S. COUNCIL  
SUMMER 2018

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT (EMPG)

### PRIORITIES

- ▶ Continue to build emergency management capability and infrastructure at the state, local, and tribal levels by **increasing funding for EMPG in FY 2019 by 5%**. EMPG funding has not been increased since FY 2014. A modest inflationary adjustment from \$350 million to \$368 million is both timely and justifiable
- ▶ Maintain EMPG as a separate account from homeland security-related grants
- ▶ Promote transparency by requiring FEMA to annually make public a list, by state, of each sub-grantee and amount of funding passed through

### WHY IT MATTERS

Through EMPG, the federal government supports ongoing local efforts to develop, evaluate, implement, and administer Emergency Operations Plans, trainings, and exercises in a manner that best suits the needs of each community and is conducive to **interagency collaboration**.

### STATE-FEDERAL PARTNERSHIPS

Since federal EMPG funds are always met with a **50-50 match** from state and local recipients, the program is truly a **partnership** between local, state, and federal governments. By fostering this partnership, EMPG not only helps us protect local communities, it also enables emergency management agencies to support and assist each other when disasters strain individual capacities.

### CROSSING STATE AND COUNTY LINES

EMPG also helps states coordinate support and assistance among counties, both within and across state lines, ultimately creating a **nationwide emergency management support structure** that helps to save lives and lessen the impact of disasters.

## PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION

### PRIORITIES

- ▶ Support **\$250 million for Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program** for FY 2019
- ▶ Amend the **Stafford Act** to modify the pre-disaster hazard mitigation grant program to ensure a percentage of assistance provided in the wake of disasters is invested in pre-disaster hazard mitigation

### WHY IT MATTERS

Mitigation spending pales in comparison to money spent to clean-up once the damage is done; in fact, the National Institute for Building Standards recently released a study suggesting **pre-disaster mitigation saves \$6 for every \$1 of investment**. Funding decisions at the federal level do not currently match with goals of proactively addressing risk.

### REDUCE POST-DISASTER EXPENSES

From 2004 to 2013, FEMA spent \$71.2 billion in Public Assistance and Individual Assistance in post-disaster costs, in addition to tens of billions of dollars spent by the Departments of Housing and Urban Development and Labor, the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Authority, the Small Business Administration, and the Army Corps of Engineers. During the same time, only \$5.2 billion was spent on Hazard Mitigation Grants (post-disaster) and another \$800 million on Pre-Disaster Mitigation to reduce the impact of future events.

## HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAMS

### PRIORITIES

- ▶ Fund the **State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP)** at \$507,000,000 and the **Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)** at \$630,000,000
- ▶ The President's budget request for FY 19 contains a 25% cut to both programs.

### WHY THEY MATTER

These funds provide critical support to the nation's preparedness for acts of terrorism and other threats. Cutting SHSGP and UASI would reduce capability and **set most programs back by several years** due to inability to maintain current levels of capability.

## HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM (HPP)

### PRIORITIES

- ▶ Appropriate **\$264,555,000 for HPP** for FY 19 through HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR)

### WHY IT MATTERS

HPP provides **leadership and funding** through grants and cooperative agreements to States, territories, and eligible



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municipalities to improve surge capacity and enhance **community and hospital preparedness** for public health emergencies. HPP funding supports healthcare system readiness and response through the development and diverse collaboration of **regional healthcare coalitions**.

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMS

### PRIORITIES

- ▶ Designate no less than \$21,569,000 in FY 19 for the **Emergency Management Institute (EMI)**
- ▶ Restore funding for the **Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS)** and the **National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC)**. Both programs were eliminated in the President's budget request for FY 2019

### WHY IT MATTERS

The emergency management profession is committed to the development and implementation of a system of preparedness that can only be achieved through a rigorous, systematic, and on-going focus on **education and training**.

#### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (EMI)

EMI provides vital training to state, local, and tribal government emergency managers through on-campus classes, a curriculum developed for field deployment, and **distance learning**. The training programs at EMI reach a combined total audience of more than **2 million** emergency management professionals each year.

#### CENTER FOR HOMELAND DEFENSE AND SECURITY (CHDS)

CHDS assists current and emerging leaders in Homeland Defense and Security in developing the **policies, strategies, programs, and organizational elements** needed to defeat terrorism and prepare for and respond to natural disasters and public safety threats across the United States. The programs are developed in partnership with and are sponsored by FEMA's National Preparedness Directorate.

#### NATIONAL DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS CONSORTIUM

NDPC is the principal means through which FEMA's National Preparedness Directorate identifies, develops, tests, and delivers **counter-terrorism preparedness training** to state and local emergency responders.

## THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

### PRIORITIES

- ▶ Provide adequate funding for the **National Weather Service (NWS)** to support the provision of **timely, life-saving information** and coordination supporting state, local, and tribal emergency managers at local NWS offices
- ▶ Monitor NWS plans for improved **decision support services** to ensure there is no degradation of service due to inadequate staffing and closure of field offices
- ▶ Oppose any budget cuts to NWS that would require closure of field offices and/or reductions in personnel or negatively impact their **infrastructure**

### WHY IT MATTERS

The National Weather Service is **critically important to the daily mission** of local emergency managers and is a trusted and respected partner in protecting lives and property when man-made and natural disasters strike.

#### CRUCIAL TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Local emergency managers depend on timely and relevant weather **forecasts, watches, and warnings** to protect lives and property in every community in the continental United States and territories.

#### IMPACT-BASED DECISION SUPPORT SERVICES

Over the course of the past two years, IAEM has been working in close coordination with NWS to conceptualize, develop, implement, and continually improve Impact-Based Decision Support Services (IDSS). IDSS are **forecast advice and interpretative services** the NWS provides to help core partners, such as local emergency managers, make decisions when weather, water, and climate impact the lives and livelihoods of the American people. IAEM is committed to the success of IDSS and opposes any budget cuts to NWS that could adversely affect the implementation of IDSS. IAEM opposes any attempt to close local offices or cut the workforce as proposed in the President's FY 2019 budget.



## ABOUT IAEM

IAEM-USA is our **nation's largest** association of emergency management professionals with almost **4,500 members**, including emergency managers at the state and local government levels, tribal nations, the military, colleges and universities, private business, and the nonprofit sector. Our membership includes emergency managers from large urban areas as well as rural areas. Most of our members are city and county emergency managers who perform the crucial

functions of coordinating and integrating the efforts at the local level to **prepare for, mitigate the effects of, respond to, and recover from all types of disasters**, including terrorist attacks.

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