



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
AND HOMELAND SECURITY**



Peter J. Boynton, Commissioner

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**REPORT TO JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY**



Connecticut  
Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security  
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## Executive Summary

The Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) has made tremendous progress in advancing its all hazards, multi-discipline approach to emergency management and homeland security, as well as its goals of strengthening planning and coordination regarding emergency management and homeland security; and improving communication, coordination and collaboration with federal, state, local and tribal entities, as well as the private sector. This broad scope is required under the National Response Framework and as a pre-requisite for federal emergency management and homeland security grant funds.

DEMHS, in close collaboration with these partners, directly assists the residents of Connecticut in many ways, especially those who may be most vulnerable in times of crisis or disaster. Some of DEMHS' activities include:

- Provided training on emergency preparedness specifically designed for seniors;
- Support for emergency management operations in times of crisis, including weather events: last year, for example, DEMHS worked with the Department of Social Services (DSS) and others to support the opening of overflow shelters across the state during a period of severely cold weather;
- Supported the creation, training and activation of thousands of emergency volunteers across the state, including:
  - Over 3000 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers, who perform a wide range of tasks from checking on elderly neighbors when the power goes out, to assisting the Salvation Army to run a canteen at a fire site.
- During the recent H1N1 outbreak, DEMHS approved 69 CERT and 33 Medical Reserve Corps volunteer activations, as well as numerous Behavioral Health Team activations, to assist at vaccine clinics.
- During the recent H1N1 outbreak, DEMHS provided coordination of the state's response, working closely with the lead state agency, the Department of Public Health (DPH), as well as other local and state partners.
- Convened the Child Safety and Crisis Response Committee, working closely with the Commission on Children and local and state education agencies and organizations, including organizing workshops on emergency preparedness for educators, as well as program to educate fourth grade school children, their parents and teachers.
- Creation and updating of Evacuation and Shelter Guides within all five DEMHS regions;
- Worked with, among others, the Office of Protection and Advocacy, creating a special needs sheltering guide;
- Working in conjunction with municipalities and the Red Cross to update and maintained a state-wide shelter database;
- Maintained agreements with state agencies and nongovernmental organizations to provide, among other things: temporary mass shelters; disaster canteen services; donations management; mass care; disaster recovery centers; messaging to and from the public through the 2-1-1 Infoline in time of emergency, pandemic or other crisis.

In addition to these collaborative efforts, as the state administrative agency for federal emergency management and homeland security grants, DEMHS has administered over \$215 million in grant funding and disaster assistance since 2005. DEMHS grant activities also include the following:

- Currently administering over \$101 million in 20 active all-hazard grant programs.
- DEMHS actively solicits new grant opportunities. Grant program responsibilities have increased from 3 grants at the time DEMHS was created in 2005 to 20 grants as of 2009, a 566% increase over 5 years.
- DEMHS uses virtually every general fund dollar it receives to match federal grant funds. In FFY 09, DEMHS leveraged its general and private funds to provide match for \$3.1 million in federal grant funds.
- For Federal FY 2010, Connecticut will receive almost \$25 million in additional emergency management and homeland security funding, including: over \$4.7 million in the Emergency Management Performance Grant program; \$1.2 million in the Emergency Operations Center Grant Program; over \$5.5 million in Urban Area Security Initiative funding; and over \$8.8 million in the State Homeland Security Program.

This report will highlight accomplishments, ongoing initiatives and capabilities in the areas of regional collaboration, homeland security/emergency preparedness, information sharing, communications, training and exercise, and citizen preparedness. The report will also address target goals in each of these areas.

This report is filed in compliance with Connecticut General Statute section 28-1i, which requires DEMHS to submit an annual report that outlines the last year's activities to the Joint Standing Committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety.



## Mission Statement

The mission of the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) is to direct and coordinate all available resources to protect the life and property of the citizens of Connecticut in the event of a disaster or crisis through a collaborative program of prevention, planning, preparedness, response, recovery and public education.



## State Overview

### State Background

Connecticut is New England's second smallest and southernmost state. Its 5,009 square miles (13,023 square kilometers) are bordered by New York State on the west, Rhode Island on the east, Massachusetts on the north and by Long Island Sound on the south. The southerly flow of the Connecticut River divides the state roughly in half.

The State is comprised of 169 municipalities and two Tribal Nations, with a total population of approximately 3.5 million residents. Cities with largest populations include Bridgeport, New Haven, Hartford, Stamford, and Waterbury. Approximately two-thirds of the State's population resides in its coastal communities. The population number increases significantly during the summer months with an influx of tourists to Connecticut's southern shoreline areas. The area of southeastern Connecticut includes military bases, a nuclear power plant, major defense contractors, and a pharmaceutical manufacturing company. The southwestern area of the State is considered "Metro New York" and contains vital corporate and transportation infrastructure.

Connecticut is the transportation hub for Southern New England. The State is literally bisected from north to south by I-91 and from east to west by I-84. Interstate 95 extends the entire length of the Long Island Sound shoreline passing through three of the five largest cities in the State; Stamford, Bridgeport and New Haven. The average daily traffic volume on I-95 can exceed 150,000 vehicles through the metropolitan areas of Stamford and Bridgeport. Similarly, I-84 accounts for a comparable level of traffic in Hartford, while I-91 supports more than 135,000 vehicles daily.

Mass public transportation assets are an essential component to the region's transportation network.

Shore Line East (SLE) trains are owned and operated by the Connecticut Department of Transportation under contract with Amtrak to provide daily rail operations. SLE commuter operations serve the segment of Amtrak's Northeast Corridor between New Haven and New London. SLE Service also connects at New Haven, Bridgeport and Stamford stations for Metro-North service to New York City. SLE provides on average 1,700 rides per day or 425,000 rides a year. Amtrak's Acela high speed rail service between Boston and Washington, D.C. also stops in New Haven and Stamford.

The New Haven Line service carries 115,000 passengers per weekday and over 33 million trips per year. Nearly eighty percent of the passengers originate from Connecticut traveling to in-state or New York destinations. Metro North Railroad operates the New Haven Line and Branch Services for the Connecticut Department of Transportation. The New Haven Line is one of the busiest commuter lines in North America. Additionally, CSX Transportation has moved 1.4 million tons of rail freight in Connecticut.

Bradley International Airport, serving both Connecticut and western Massachusetts, has grown significantly in recent years in the number of passengers and the amount of cargo handled. Additionally, Connecticut has three major deepwater ports; Bridgeport, New Haven and New London. These provide entry points for both passenger transportation (i.e. ferries and cruise



ships) and commerce. New Haven and Groton are the sites of fifty percent of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve in the Northeast.

The Connecticut River is navigable, by barges and tanker vessels, all the way from Long Island Sound to Hartford. Along its length is a decommissioned nuclear power plant, as well as a number of bridges that, if damaged, could severely impede transportation routes within the northeast. The prolonged disruption of service, whether natural or man-made, on any interstate highway, the airport, the rail systems, or the harbors would have major economic consequences for the State and, likely, the entire Northeast region.

Connecticut's manufacturing industry is highly diversified. Jet aircraft engines, helicopters and nuclear submarines have given the state pre-eminence in the production of defense, military and transportation equipment. Connecticut also is a leader in such highly skilled and technical fields as metalworking, electronics and plastics. This sort of creativity has made a significant contribution to Connecticut's standard of life. This, in turn, is responsible, in large part, for the influx of major corporate offices. Another significant source of employment, revenue, and tourism in Connecticut are the resorts/casinos operated by the Mashantucket Pequot and the Mohegan Tribal governments in southeastern Connecticut.

Among its better-known corporate industries, are Connecticut's insurance companies. Connecticut began to earn its reputation as the "Insurance State" more than 180 years ago. Marine insurance, the great grandfather of all modern forms of insurance, had its start in Connecticut with coverage for ships and cargoes which sailed from the state's ocean and river ports to the Caribbean. Fire insurance got its formal start in 1794; other types – life, accident, casualty, health – followed over the next century.

Natural disasters represent the most significant and anticipated hazards facing the State. Beyond the disruption of transportation, commerce and communication systems, catastrophic natural events have destroyed property, requiring evacuations and sheltering. They can also pose serious public health problems as a result of floodwater contamination, lack of refrigeration, lack of sanitation and potable water, disruption of pharmaceutical operations, and vector (disease producing organism) proliferation.

In its 1994 Hurricane Evacuation Study, the Army Corps of Engineers noted that Category 1 and 2 hurricanes produced very similar effects on the Connecticut coast in terms of flooding. The Corps also noted that category 3 and 4 hurricanes produced similar storm surge flooding conditions. Therefore, for the purposes of simplicity, there are two basic hurricane scenarios for Connecticut: a "weak storm" (category 1 or 2) and a "strong storm" (category 3 or 4). In addition to hurricanes, other extra-tropical storm systems such as nor'easters can create dangerous conditions along the Connecticut coast which may warrant evacuation. A strong extra-tropical storm system could produce coastal flooding comparable to a category 1 or 2 hurricane. Major winter storms or blizzards may also have a crippling effect on the State through the interruption of transportation and electrical power.

The State's population, facilities, and infrastructure dynamics present numerous opportunities for potential acts of WMD/terrorism. The concentration of military bases, defense contractors, a nuclear power plant, a large pharmaceutical complex, transportation facilities, corporate headquarters, sports facilities, and special event venues, including the casinos, present a



variety of targets for groups or individuals intent on causing damage and creating fear. While the probability of a terrorist attack in Connecticut, including one involving a chemical, biological or radiological weapon, is considered to be relatively low, concerted efforts at target hardening and collaborative intelligence sharing must be undertaken to reduce risk.

In 2004, Governor M. Jodi Rell and the Connecticut General Assembly acknowledged the magnitude of the state's responsibilities as they relate to emergency management and homeland security with the passage of Public Act 04-219, *An Act Enhancing the Protection and Security of the Citizens of Connecticut by Establishing the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security*. By consolidating the functions previously performed by the Division of Homeland Security, within the Department of Public Safety, and the Office of Emergency Management, within the Military Department, the legislation created an entirely new agency responsible for emergency management, civil preparedness and homeland security. The creation of a single, centralized agency enhanced the state's public safety mission by strengthening and integrating planning and coordination between its emergency management and homeland security functions; improved and expanded communications with federal, state and local entities; established a clear chain of command; and streamlined the organizational structure. The Public Act is now codified in Connecticut General Statutes §§ 28-1 to 28-22a.

The Commissioner of the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) has been granted the statutory authority to "...apply for, qualify for and accept any federal funds made available or allotted under any federal act relative to emergency management or homeland security (C.G.S. 28-1a(a))." Furthermore, the Commissioner is authorized to "...organize the department and the personnel of the department as may be necessary for the effective discharge of the authorized emergency management, civil preparedness and homeland security missions (C.G.S. 28-1a(b))...."

The enabling legislation that created the DEMHS also established the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Council (EMHSCC), a state-wide, 24-member advisory group (C.G.S. 28-1b). The EMHSCC meets at least quarterly and is charged with advising DEMHS on:

- Applying for and distributing federal or state funds for emergency management and homeland security;
- Planning, designing, implementing, and coordinating statewide emergency response systems;
- Assessing the state's overall emergency management and homeland security preparedness, policies and communications;
- Recommending strategies for improving emergency response and incident management, including training and exercise, volunteer management, communications and use of technology, intelligence gathering, compilation and dissemination, the development, coordination and implementation of state and federally required emergency response plans, and the assessment of the state's use of regional management structures; and
- Strengthening consultation, planning, cooperation and communication among federal, state and local governments, the Connecticut National Guard, police, fire, emergency medical and other first responders, emergency managers, public health officials, private industry, and community organizations.



Chaired by the Commissioner of DEMHS, membership in the Council includes the Commissioners of the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Public Health, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, the Department of Public Works, and the Department of Transportation. Also included are the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the Adjutant General of the Military Department, the chairperson of the Department of Public Utility Control, the State Fire Administrator, the United States Attorney for Connecticut, the Special Agent-in-Charge of the F.B.I., and the Commanding Officer of the State's U.S. Coast Guard contingent. Appropriate representation from municipal law enforcement, the fire service, emergency medical services, and other first responder agencies is included, as well as the Connecticut Council of Municipalities, the Council of Small Governments, regional civil preparedness organizations, local health and hospital administration, and public safety communications services.

Connecticut has no county government. While the state consists of eight distinct counties, there are no corresponding governmental entities that either provide or support public safety services. Therefore, the most clearly defined, all encompassing and independent jurisdictions are the municipalities. Every city, borough and village is contained within one of the 169 towns.

In recognition of Connecticut's home rule structure, municipality-based provision of public safety services and the value of expanding public safety mutual aid, Connecticut initiated a regional planning approach in 2005.

A key component to instituting this all-hazard preparedness approach was the establishment of emergency planning and preparedness regions that effectively coordinate planning, training and response across all disciplines. In 2005, the EMHSCC's Regional Boundary Subcommittee formulated boundaries that were at once consistent with existing regions and inclusive of multiple interests. The Subcommittee evaluated determining factors that included population, transportation routes, critical infrastructure, and public safety assets. In considering the latter, the group ensured that each proposed region had sufficient and equitable access to "ready resources," that is, public safety assets that were on duty and available. Ultimately, the Subcommittee recommended the creation of five (5) Emergency Preparedness Regions, which were then approved by the EMHSCC in August 2005. Over the past five years, a number of state agencies and private sector partners, notably the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) and American Red Cross, have re-aligned their own operational regions to the DEMHS configuration. This greatly enhances comprehensive preparedness and implementation efforts across many disciplines throughout Connecticut.

Today, the multi-disciplinary Regional Emergency Response Teams (REPTs) created by DEMHS in 2007 within each of the Emergency Preparedness Regions are active and self-governed with written by-laws. The REPTs have been accepted by local leadership as the primary venue for intra-municipal emergency planning, resource sharing and policymaking. Grant resources were set aside in 2007 and 2008 to expand and enhance the capabilities of these REPTs. Simultaneously, DEMHS increased support to its five (5) regions by assigning a planner, an exercise coordinator, and critical infrastructure assessment personnel to each of the regions. These additional staff members provide both direct and supplemental services to the DEMHS Regions. The delineation of clear and reasonable regional boundaries, combined with the cooperative efforts of state and municipal entities, ensures more efficient and effective emergency planning and response capabilities.



## DEMHS STRATEGIC GOALS AND PLANNING

The following chart provides a “crosswalk” connecting the National Priorities, as established at the federal level, with the DEMHS strategic goals set in 2007, and the DEMHS state-wide strategy, recently set for the 2010-2015 planning cycle.

CROSSWALK: 2010		
National Priorities, State-wide Strategy, DEMHS Strategic Goals		
National Priority	State-Wide Strategy 2010-2015	DEMHS Strategic Goals 2007
<p><b>NP-1:</b> Expand Regional Collaboration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- Strengthen the capabilities of emergency responders in identifying and responding to an all-hazards incident.</li> <li>2- Strengthen local, regional and State incident response and contingency plans for all-hazards incidents.</li> <li>3- Improve critical incident management and response through the implementation and use of the National Incident Management System (NIMS).</li> <li>4- Secure each town’s leadership commitment and adequate sustainable funding for emergency management and homeland security capabilities.</li> <li>7- Maintain and enhance the State’s training program for all-hazards preparedness.</li> <li>9- Strengthen the State’s resiliency through coordination with response and recovery partners.</li> <li>10- Engage the general public, educational systems, non-governmental organizations (NGO) and private sector in all-hazards prevention, planning, response and recovery.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- Ensure the state has the ability to manage natural and human made disasters by developing plans and procedures for effective response to and recovery from all hazards, disasters and threats.</li> <li>2- Collaborate with local, regional, state, tribal and federal partners to ensure appropriate planning, equipment, training, exercise and response capabilities for emergency management and homeland security.</li> <li>6- Maximize federal and other grant resources to support priority homeland security and emergency management programs.</li> <li>10- Develop, coordinate and conduct training and exercise programs.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- Strengthen the capabilities of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- Ensure the state has the</li> </ul>



<b>CROSSWALK: 2010</b> <b>National Priorities, State-wide Strategy, DEMHS Strategic Goals</b>		
National Priority	State-Wide Strategy 2010-2015	DEMHS Strategic Goals 2007
<p><b>NP-2:</b></p> <p>Implement the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the National Response Framework (NRF)</p>	<p>emergency responders in identifying and responding to an all-hazards incident.</p> <p>2- Strengthen local, regional and state incident response and contingency plans for all-hazards events.</p> <p>3- Improve critical incident management and response through the implementation and use of the National Incident Management System (NIMS).</p> <p>5- Enhance a statewide telecommunications infrastructure and protocol that will allow for timely, efficient and cost effective communications</p> <p>9- Strengthen the State’s resiliency through coordination with response and recovery partners.</p>	<p>ability to manage natural and human made disasters by developing plans and procedures for effective response to and recovery from all hazards, disasters and threats.</p> <p>2- Collaborate with local, regional, state, tribal and federal partners to ensure appropriate planning, equipment, training, exercise and response capabilities for emergency management and homeland security.</p> <p>6- Maximize federal and other grant resources to support priority homeland security and emergency management programs.</p> <p>9- Continue to enhance and sustain statewide interoperable communication capabilities.</p>
<p><b>NP-3:</b></p> <p>Implement the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP)</p>	<p>6- Enhance public safety through hardening of critical infrastructure sectors</p> <p>8- Strengthen information collection, analysis and sharing systems to prevent and mitigate terrorism incidents</p> <p>9- Strengthen the State’s resiliency through coordination with response and recovery partners.</p>	<p>2- Collaborate with local, regional, state, tribal and federal partners to ensure appropriate planning, equipment, training, exercise and response capabilities for emergency management and homeland security</p> <p>5- Develop and maintain agency response, protection and intelligence capabilities</p> <p>7- Continue development of critical infrastructure plan for State of Connecticut.</p>



CROSSWALK: 2010 National Priorities, State-wide Strategy, DEMHS Strategic Goals		
National Priority	State-Wide Strategy 2010-2015	DEMHS Strategic Goals 2007
		8- Enhance capabilities to conduct proactive interdictions and investigations to prevent and mitigate terrorism incidents.
<p><b>NP-4:</b> Strengthen Information Sharing and Collaboration Capabilities</p>	<p>5- Enhance a statewide telecommunications infrastructure and protocol that will allow for timely, efficient and cost effective communications.</p> <p>7- Maintain and enhance the State's training program for all-hazards preparedness.</p> <p>8- Strengthen information collection, analysis and sharing systems to prevent and mitigate terrorism incidents.</p> <p>10- Engage the general public, educational systems, non-governmental organizations (NGO) and private sector in all hazard prevention, planning, response and recovery.</p>	<p>2- Collaborate with local, regional, state, tribal and federal partners to ensure appropriate planning, equipment, training, exercise and response capabilities for emergency management and homeland security</p> <p>3- Educate Connecticut residents and visitors on how best to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from all disasters and emergencies both natural and human-made.</p> <p>5- Develop and maintain agency response, protection and intelligence capabilities</p> <p>8- Enhance capabilities to conduct proactive interdictions and investigations to prevent and mitigate terrorism incidents.</p> <p>9- Continue to enhance and sustain statewide interoperable communication capabilities.</p> <p>10- Develop, coordinate and conduct training and exercise programs.</p>



<b>CROSSWALK: 2010</b> <b>National Priorities, State-wide Strategy, DEMHS Strategic Goals</b>		
National Priority	State-Wide Strategy 2010-2015	DEMHS Strategic Goals 2007
<p><b>NP-5:</b></p> <p>Strengthen Interoperable and Operable Communications capabilities</p>	<p>1- Strengthen the capabilities of emergency responders in identifying and responding to an all-hazards incident.</p> <p>5- Enhance a statewide telecommunications infrastructure and protocol that will allow for timely, efficient and cost effective communications.</p>	<p>2- Collaborate with local, regional, state, tribal and federal partners to ensure appropriate planning, equipment, training, exercise and response capabilities for emergency management and homeland security.</p> <p>9- Continue to enhance and sustain statewide interoperable communication capabilities.</p>
<p><b>NP-6:</b></p> <p>Strengthen CBRNE detection, response and decontamination capabilities</p>	<p>1- Strengthen the capabilities of emergency responders in identifying and responding to an all-hazards incident.</p> <p>2- Strengthen local, regional and state incident response and contingency plans for all-hazards events.</p> <p>7- Maintain and enhance the State's training program for all-hazards preparedness.</p> <p>9- Strengthen the State's resiliency through coordination with response and recovery partners.</p>	<p>1- Ensure the state has the ability to manage natural and human made disasters by developing plans and procedures for effective response to and recovery from all hazards, disasters and threats.</p> <p>2- Collaborate with local, regional, state, tribal and federal partners to ensure appropriate planning, equipment, training, exercise and response capabilities for emergency management and homeland security.</p> <p>5- Develop and maintain agency response, protection and intelligence capabilities</p> <p>9- Continue to enhance and sustain statewide interoperable communication capabilities.</p>



<b>CROSSWALK: 2010</b> <b>National Priorities, State-wide Strategy, DEMHS Strategic Goals</b>		
National Priority	State-Wide Strategy 2010-2015	DEMHS Strategic Goals 2007
<p><b>NP-7:</b></p> <p>Strengthen Medical Surge and Mass Prophylaxis capabilities</p>	<p>1- Strengthen the capabilities of emergency responders in identifying and responding to an all-hazards incident.</p> <p>2- Strengthen local, regional and state incident response and contingency plans for all-hazards events.</p> <p>7- Maintain and enhance the State's training program for all-hazards preparedness.</p>	<p>1- Ensure the state has the ability to manage natural and human made disasters by developing plans and procedures for effective response to and recovery from all hazards, disasters and threats.</p> <p>2- Collaborate with local, regional, state, tribal and federal partners to ensure appropriate planning, equipment, training, exercise and response capabilities for emergency management and homeland security.</p> <p>9- Continue to enhance and sustain statewide interoperable communication capabilities.</p> <p>10- Develop, coordinate and conduct training and exercise programs.</p>
<p><b>NP-8:</b></p> <p>Community Preparedness: Strengthen Planning and Citizen Capabilities</p>	<p>1- Strengthen the capabilities of emergency responders in identifying and responding to an all-hazards incident.</p> <p>2- Strengthen local, regional and state incident response and contingency plans for all-hazards events.</p> <p>9- Strengthen the State's resiliency through coordination with response and recovery partners.</p> <p>10- Engage the general public, educational systems, non-governmental organizations (NGO) and private sector in all hazard prevention, planning, response and recovery.</p>	<p>2- Collaborate with local, regional, state, tribal and federal partners to ensure appropriate planning, equipment, training, exercise and response capabilities for emergency management and homeland security.</p> <p>3- Educate Connecticut residents and visitors on how best to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from all disasters and emergencies both natural and human-made.</p> <p>5- Develop and maintain agency response, protection</p>



<b>CROSSWALK: 2010</b> <b>National Priorities, State-wide Strategy, DEMHS Strategic Goals</b>		
National Priority	State-Wide Strategy 2010-2015	DEMHS Strategic Goals 2007
		and intelligence capabilities



## Regional Collaboration

### 1. Accomplishments

#### Intra-State Accomplishments:

The Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security continued to promote a regional approach to all-hazards planning and response during 2009. Working in partnership with the Regional Collaboration Committee of the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Coordinating Council (EMHSCC), DEMHS has been successful in guiding the progress of the Regional Emergency Planning Teams (REPTs) established in 2007 in each of the five DEMHS regions. The multi-jurisdictional and multi-disciplinary REPTs have been fully functioning as they lead each of their respective regions through the annual needs assessment and spending plan development process, NIMS-compliant resource typing and the development of a Regional Emergency Support Plan (RESP) Version 1.0. Moreover, leaders and subject matter experts have been coming together each month on Steering Committees, forming RESF Working Groups and establishing emergency preparedness and response priorities using federal DHS Homeland Security grant funds to acquire, track and deploy emergency resources.

It is a notable achievement that Connecticut's 169 towns and two tribal nations have recognized the advantage of using economies of scale in order to pool equipment purchases and combine human and other resources as they prepare for emergency situations on a region-wide basis.

Listed below are the significant accomplishments toward regional collaboration:

- The Regional Collaboration Committee of the EMHSCC was established in 2006 to advise the Council on implementation and progress of the Regional Planning Model. The Regional Emergency Support Implementation Plan was developed by DEMHS to further enhance the Regional Planning Model and it was reviewed and revised by the Regional Collaboration Subcommittee in January 2007. The Plan clarifies the vision, goals, objectives, and performance measures of the regionalization initiative and highlights the important role of chief executive officers in achieving the overarching goal of creating an efficient and coordinated emergency management and homeland security system. The Implementation Plan acknowledges and reinforces that "bottom up" collaborative regional planning is inherently stronger than "top down" state-centric planning because response capabilities are predominantly municipal assets available through mutual aid.
- DEMHS has continued to foster comprehensive regional strategies for resource sharing, communication, and emergency response and management collaboration. The multidisciplinary Regional Emergency Planning Teams (REPTs) guide the overall planning process and ensure that plans are locally driven and supported. All REPTs have developed and approved bylaws under which local Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) or other local partners, as voting members, may approve region-wide resource allocations and expenditures.



- Initially a requirement of the first Homeland Security Regional Collaboration program in FY2007, the Regional Emergency Support Plan (RESP), developed by multi-disciplinary regional teams and approved by the REPTs as Version 1.0 in December 2009, is now part of the ongoing regional program and will be continuously revised every year.
- DEMHS continues its investment in regional collaboration. DEMHS has facilitated the REPTs development of all-hazards Regional Emergency Support Plans (RESP), Version 1.0. In addition, DEMHS is working to ensure that regional plans and operations are consistent across all regions and statewide. DEMHS continues to conduct NIMS-compliant regional exercises and training programs. These activities will continue this year with an emphasis on exercising the Regional Emergency Support Plan.
- In support of National Priority 2 of the FFY2007 and 2008 Homeland Security Grant Programs, Homeland Security grant funds have been allocated to the five DEMHS Regions, predicated on a continuing regional collaboration relationship between DEMHS and Regional Planning Organizations (RPOs) that, in turn, encourage constituent municipal executives to participate in the regional process as members of the REPT. Over the past two grant periods, NIMS-compliant resource typing of Regional Emergency Support Functions (RESFs) for Public Works, Firefighting, Emergency Management, Public Health (EMS only), Animal Safety and Law Enforcement has standardized local and regional resources that may be readily accessed in times of emergency. Another result of this grant-based initiative is an RESF-based regional spending plan.
- Release of the FFY 2009 Homeland Security Regional Collaboration grant application to the REPTs is expected in early February 2010. Because the REPTs are now well-established, this grant is designed to support each region's emergency preparedness priorities as these have emerged "bottom up" from constituent municipalities. It should be noted that the multi-jurisdictional RESF teams have been instrumental in representing cross-functional service priorities over single-functional equipment purchases.
- Version 1.0 of Connecticut's five Regional Evacuation and Shelter Guides were distributed in 2007 to all Emergency Management Directors and Chief Executive Officers in the state. DEMHS is working with the regions to produce Version 2.0 which is contingent upon the completion of the Shelter Data Collection Initiative described below.

The Shelter Data Collection Initiative was begun in 2009 to update, verify and consolidate local shelter data held by various public and private agencies. DEMHS staff worked with the Connecticut Chapter of the American Red Cross (ARC) to develop a standard data collection tool that contained all necessary elements, including reference to the National Shelter System. The template was pre-populated with existing data and sent to municipalities for validation. Upon receipt, DEMHS forwards this information to ARC for validation. Once confirmed, it is placed in the master *Excel* spreadsheet, WebEOC and statewide web-based incident management system. Through this process, an accurate database will be available to the emergency regional community. DEMHS and ARC have agreed to maintain this database over time to assure its accuracy. Version 2.0 will eventually contain this updated shelter data and will become an annex to each region's RESP, as well as remaining a stand-alone document.



## **2. Current Capabilities**

### **Inter-State Regional Collaboration:**

Existing strengths in Connecticut encompass several regional law enforcement and information sharing organizations: the New England State Police Information Network (NESPIN), Law Enforcement On-line (LEO), and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) function effectively in an interoperable manner. Within Connecticut, five strong regional hazmat teams exist. Connecticut is assessing the feasibility of creating inter-state hazmat mutual aid.

Also, two long-standing HAZMAT teams, having statewide jurisdiction, exist within the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). One team, the DEP Emergency Response Unit, (ERU) has statutory authority for response, mitigation and cleanup activities of all petroleum and chemical materials. DEP HAZMAT responds to suspected and actual Weapons of Mass Destruction events. The second team is based in the DEP Radiation Division, which has statutory authority over radiological events with response capabilities for detection, monitoring and isotope identification. Multi-state radiological response with the New England States is coordinated through the Department of Environmental Protection's New England Compact on Radiological Health Protection. Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont conduct regional planning for radiological response, joint training, and coordination of resources for radiological response.

There are a series of activities that illustrate Connecticut's involvement in inter-state regional collaboration, including:

- Participation in the Regional Catastrophic Planning Grant (RCPG) with New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The RCPG is designed to identify planning gaps and synchronize catastrophic emergency operations plans across the metropolitan region. RCPG planning projects focus on evacuation, sheltering, logistics, debris management, disaster housing, infrastructure protection, and mass fatality cooperation;
- Continuation of the Connecticut, New York and New Jersey partnership on Regional Transit System security projects, including interoperable communications;
- Participation of Connecticut DEMHS in the Northeast States Emergency Consortium (NESEC), an organization of New England, New York, and New Jersey state emergency management directors that meets regularly to address current and ongoing emergency management and homeland security issues. Connecticut's Emergency Management Director is the current President of NESEC;
- Ongoing discussions with Rhode Island to determine emergency management and homeland security areas of mutual concern and benefit, including possible joint exercises;
- Continued participation of Connecticut and other New England states in the development of coordinated regional inter-state operational approaches to pandemic



- influenza, as well as the development of a regional planning process for addressing all-hazards public health emergencies across state borders;
- Continuation of involvement in the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) process for inter-state aid and Connecticut's involvement with the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA). Connecticut's Emergency Management Director is a Regional Vice-President for NEMA;
  - Establishment in Connecticut of the FEMA Region 1-sponsored Individual Assistance Program technical assistance initiative for New England states;
  - Ongoing participation of the DEP ERU in State/Federal meetings for Regional Response Teams (RRT). The RRT is responsible for coordination of activities among the New England states, EPA Region I, USCG District I, NOAA Scientific Support Coordinator, US Fish and Wildlife, and US Customs to prepare for, respond to, and recover from incidents involving oil spills, natural disasters, chemical emergencies (both industrial and WMD), as well as biological pathogens releases;
  - Continued representation on the New England Compact on Radiological Health Protection process for inter-state radiological aid and the Department of Environmental Protection's involvement in this compact;
  - Coordination with New York and New Jersey in the prevention of radiological incidents through its participation in the Tri-State Secure the Cities initiative. This effort focuses on identifying and preventing illicit radioactive material reaching New York City;
  - Involvement in international collaboration whereby DEMHS, along with DPH, participates in the International Emergency Management Group (IEMG), an organization that meets regularly to address issues raised under the International Emergency Management Assistance Compact (IEMAC), among the New England states and the Eastern Provinces of Canada. This past year, Connecticut enacted the IEMAC into law.

**Intra-State Regional Collaboration:**

Clear lines of communication have been established both within DEMHS, where strategic planning initiatives are closely tied with operations activities, as well as with its external partners through the activities of the Regional Collaboration Committee, grant partner Regional Planning Organizations, the Regional Emergency Planning Teams, Steering Committees and RESF working groups.

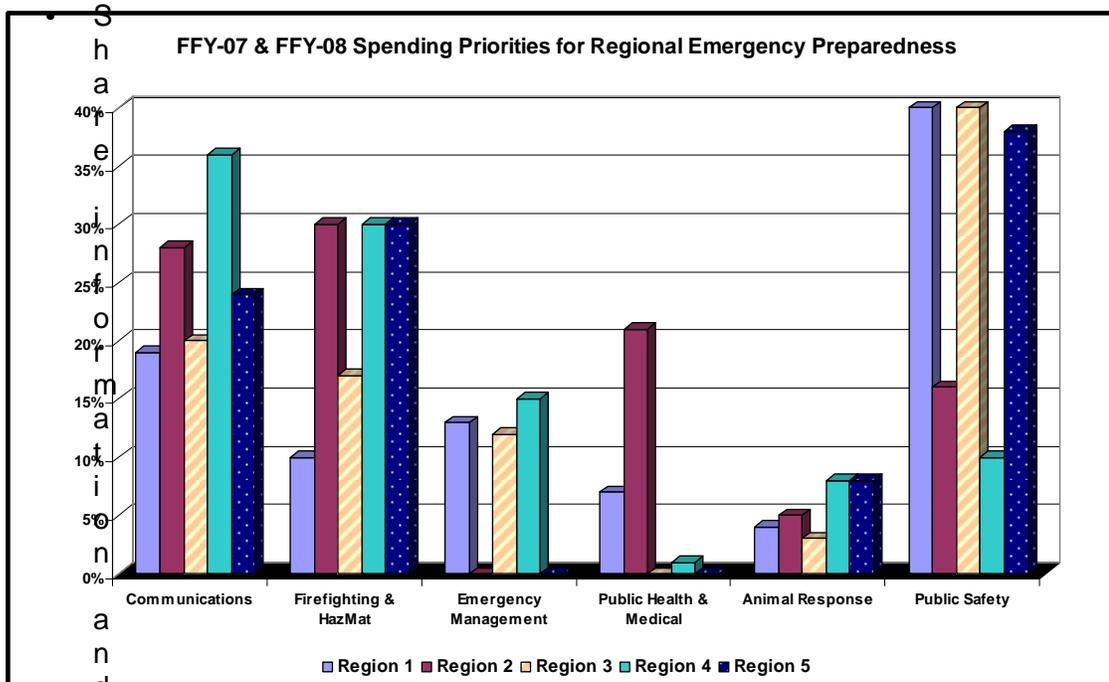
The Regional Collaboration Committee of the EMHSCC is a multi-disciplinary group that assists DEMHS in the implementation of the regional initiative and maintains a direct line of communication to the EMHSCC. Regional Planning Organizations that administer the Homeland Security Regional Collaboration grants in their respective DEMHS regions have become strong partners with DEMHS, assuring that grant deliverables are executed and that planning and preparation activities are viably operational. Each region's REPT truly represents not only each constituent municipality but also region-wide emergency preparedness planning and management.



DEMHS works closely with each of these groups to assure consistent policy development, implementation and the sharing of best practices.

**REGIONAL FUNDING:** Using FFY-2007 and FFY2008 Homeland Security grant funding, the REPTs have initiated a multi-year budget process, based on regional priorities that address identified region-wide emergency preparedness needs, including:

- communications interoperability across all 5 DEMHS regions;
- enhancement of firefighting, law enforcement, mass care and public health resources;
- identification, cataloging and sharing of regional assets;
- local emergency management personnel's fluency in the use of WebEOC for regional emergency response; and
- development of an overarching regional emergency support plan (RESP) defining multi-functional roles and responsibilities in managing a regional event.



In both FFY2007 and FFY2008, DEMHS allocated a base level of funding to each of Connecticut's five (5) DEMHS Regions for emergency planning and preparedness. Additional funds were also provided to the five DEMHS regions based on relative risk in accordance with an assessment of their critical infrastructure and key assets. Approximately 3,000 sites were assessed and ranked according to the likelihood of the site becoming a target of an individual or group. The sum of the target rankings within each municipality represents the town's risk assessment. Similarly, the assessment for each region was calculated by adding the scores of its constituent towns. The total risk assessment allocation was distributed among all five DEMHS regions.

**REGIONAL EMERGENCY PLANNING TEAMS:** Simultaneous with the development of the FY 07 regional funding approach, DEMHS formalized the Regional Emergency



Planning Teams (REPTs) in each DEMHS Region through the creation and adoption of bylaws. The REPTs are multi-disciplinary regional groups that are intended to facilitate regional planning and resource coordination. Establishment of bylaws in each region assures that the planning process is a local cooperative and inclusive effort,

**REGIONAL PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS:** The Regional Planning Organizations play a pivotal role in representing the interests of their constituent municipalities. In the context of emergency preparedness and response activities, the RPOs provide a vital link to municipal chief executive officers (CEOs). This important linkage creates direct access to municipal decision-making and assists CEOs in fulfilling statutory responsibilities for emergency preparedness. DEMHS issued FY2007 and FFY2008 Homeland Security grant awards to Coordinating Regional Planning Organizations (RPOs) in three of the DEMHS Regions. In conformance with grant requirements, each participating RPO agreed to work with the DEMHS Regional Office staff, their Partner RPOs and the REPT to enhance communication with CEOs, conduct resource typing (inventory), develop a regional spending plan based on a needs analysis of each Regional Emergency Support Function (ESF), execute the approved spending plan, and develop the Regional Emergency Support Plan (RESP).

**REGIONAL COLLABORATION STRATEGY: NEXT STEPS:** In FFY2009, the Regional Collaboration Grant Program will continue to support the REPT structure as the primary method of allocating local emergency management and homeland security funding. The REPTs will enhance their multi-year budgeting approach and align their work against the federal Target Capabilities Listing (TCL) framework. This will be DEMHS' primary objective in designing the FFY2010 application for Homeland Security Regional Collaboration Funding.

### 3. Targets

**Inter-State Regional Collaboration:**

DEMHS will continue to participate in and expand upon current regional collaboration activities with its partner New England states, including its immediate neighbors, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New York, and with the Atlantic Seaboard states.

Target Description
To enhance current planning efforts with New York and New Jersey on Regional Transit System projects to assure optimum security levels, interoperable communications and evacuation of non-residents into and/or through Connecticut to safety from natural or man-made disaster events.
To initiate a collaborative planning process with Rhode Island relative to areas of mutual concern and benefit, including possible joint exercises.
To continue work with other New England states to strengthen pandemic influenza planning across state borders, to establish operational protocols and to research potential command and control mechanisms required for a regional response to a pan flu incident
Continue to assess the feasibility of interstate hazmat mutual aid.



To continue to participate in FEMA Region 1 Individual Assistance Program technical assistance initiative to enhance state preparedness
To formalize the expansion of mutual aid agreements with our neighboring states: Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New York.
To enhance current planning efforts with New York and New Jersey on Secure the Cities project to assure optimum security levels, interoperable communications, and prevention of natural or man-made radiological events.
To continue work with Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont states to strengthen radiological planning and response across state borders, to update operational protocols and to implement NIMS in all existing plans.
To continue to work with New York and New Jersey to synchronize emergency operations plans across the metropolitan region through participation in the Regional Catastrophic Planning Grant.
To continue to work with New York, Rhode Island, US Coast Guard for the purpose of multi state marine law enforcement.

Secure the Cities Pilot Initiative

The State of Connecticut is participating in an initiative with New York, New York City, and New Jersey to develop the infrastructure to protect major cities from radiological terrorist incidents. This project focuses on coordinating the efforts of law enforcement and non-law enforcement agencies. The overall goal is to locate, identify and interdict radiological devices before they can be used to harm either the public or environment.

**Intra-State Regional Collaboration:**

DEMHS will continue advocating for regional approach to preparedness planning and response by expanding upon current activities that are designed to build regional capacity.

Target Description
To reach 100% local Chief Executive Officer / municipal participation in the regional collaborative process by means of service as a voting member of the Regional Emergency Planning Team (REPT), responsible, per approved bylaws, for regional expenditures, resource allocations and the Regional Emergency Support Plan (RESP) in every DEMHS region.
To achieve NIMS-compliant Resource Typing of equipment, personnel and training, beyond the six RESF categories already targeted, to include all appropriate RESFs for all 5 DEMHS Regions.
To use the Version 1.0 Regional Emergency Support Plan as a base from which to develop Version 2.0 for all 5 DEMHS Regions, thereby assuring the most current information and most viable operability.
To continue supporting RPO participation in the Connecticut Homeland Security Grant process.



To exercise the RESP and incorporate revisions into Version 2.0 RESP.
To complete the shelter data collection initiative and release Version 2.0 of the Regional Evacuation and Sheltering Guides.

#### 4. Initiatives

##### Initiative 1: Inter-State Regional Collaboration:

###### Description:

The State of Connecticut will continue its vigorous program to regionalize emergency management functions across the state, as well as with its collaborative participation in cross-border regional preparedness and response. These strengths will be fortified and enhanced as this regionalization initiative crosses Connecticut borders into neighboring states and regions building Connecticut’s capacity to prevent, protect, respond and recover from catastrophic incidents.

The Department of Environmental Protection will continue its active participation in the New England Compact on Radiological Health Protection (NECRHP) to ensure an effective cross-border radiological preparedness and response. Planning efforts to expand response coordinate formally beyond the traditional nuclear power plant response is will enhance this regional capability.

###### Geographic Scope:

Existing interstate initiatives in EMAC, RCPG, law enforcement, evacuation, hazmat, transit, pandemic influenza and banking involve working with the New England states, New York and New Jersey, as well as Atlantic Seaboard states.

###### Program Management:

Connecticut’s involvement with bordering states continues to grow. The recent federal mandate to develop a state evacuation plan (ODP Bulletin #197), in conjunction with Governor M. Jodi Rell’s mandate to produce the same, has prompted increased cross-border planning and coordination with New York, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Connecticut is also involved in the Regional Catastrophic Planning Grant along with New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The goal of this grant is to identify planning gaps and to synchronize emergency catastrophic planning and response across the metropolitan region.

In addition, Connecticut will continue to participate in the Regional Transit Security Working Group to assure optimum security levels and interoperable communications along tri-state rail lines. The maturation of this working partnership will produce, among other things, regional security protocols.

The need to collaborate in the event of large scale disasters will continue to drive the state-to-state regional planning process. Participation in the EMAC process is just one example of cross border cooperation. The Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) continues to coordinate activities to assure Connecticut has a synchronized approach to our growing working relationships with our neighboring states. Formal mutual aid agreements, standard operating procedures, related



governance documents and cross-border training and exercises will be developed as necessary to solidify these relationships.

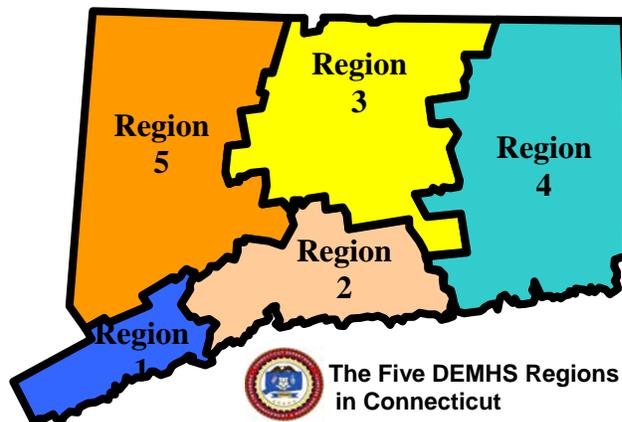
**Initiative 2: Intra-State Regional Collaboration:**

Description:

The Regional Collaboration Initiative is the foundation of Connecticut's emergency management and homeland security program.

Geographic Scope:

This initiative affects the entire State of Connecticut beginning at a regional level and also impacts partnerships with other states. The five DEMHS regions have established multi-disciplinary, RESF-structured teams to conduct collaborative emergency management and homeland security planning. Chief executive municipal officers have become an integral component of this process.



Program Management:

Each DEMHS region has formal by-laws to assure appropriate governance of regionalized resource allocations and regional planning activities. Regional Emergency Planning Teams meet two to four times annually; regional preparedness activities are typically handled by each region's Steering Committees and the RESF Work Groups. Such activities include the initial and annual update resource typing for RESF categories. Over the past two years, resource typing has included, Public Works, Firefighting, Emergency Management, Public Health (Emergency Medical Services component only), Animal Safety and Law Enforcement. In addition, the REPTs have analyzed each of the core 15 RESFs to form the basis of a spending plan for developing their Regional Emergency Support Plan. These Teams report out to DEMHS which, in turn, reports out to the Regional Collaboration Committee of the EMHSCC .

In addition, DEMHS provides staff to facilitate the development of Regional Emergency Support Plans. Additional resources provided by DEMHS and its partner, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH), have been allocated for the coordination of training and exercise activities in each DEMHS region. DPH has established five public health regions that directly coincide with the DEMHS Regions and has designated one public health liaison per region to assure program and service consistency across regions. This strengthens the program and policy initiatives at both local and state levels for emergency management, homeland security and public health.

DEMHS plans to also promote the participation of business and industry councils in regional emergency planning initiatives. In some DEMHS regions, such participation has become established and will serve as a base from which DEMHS can foster robust public-private partnerships across all Connecticut regions. DEMHS has also established a public/private sector committee of the EMHSCC, comprised of representatives from



each of the private sectors identified by federal DHS.

## Homeland Security/Emergency Preparedness

### 1. Accomplishments

#### DEMHS OFFICE OF COUNTERTERRORISM

The DEMHS Office of Counter Terrorism (OCT) consists of three units: (1) the Connecticut Intelligence Center (CTIC); (2) the Critical Infrastructure Unit (CIU); and (3) a unit participating in the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF).

The Critical Infrastructure Protection Unit's primary mission is to identify, assess risk and vulnerability and categorize key assets within the state. The Unit works to develop mitigation strategies designed to improve security at these critical sites. This will include: 1) Identifying critical key assets within the state; 2) Assessing the vulnerability of designated key sites within the state; 3) Developing mitigation strategies designed to improve security at these critical key sites; 4) Completing a detailed risk and vulnerability assessment of the passenger ferry terminals and boats operating within Connecticut; 5) Completing a detailed risk and vulnerability assessment of Connecticut's railroad system infrastructure with the emphasis on the passenger and freight rail lines; 6) Participating in the development of a comprehensive Global Information Systems (GIS) database detailing the states critical infrastructure along with site-specific information capable of being utilized to assist in crisis management.

The Critical Infrastructure Unit (CIU) works in conjunction with the federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS), private industry and local municipalities in the Buffer Zone Protection Program (BZPP). In FY 2008/2009, this project was responsible for bringing \$398,000 in 2008 and another \$400,000 in 2009 in federal grants to Connecticut to directly enhance the abilities of local and state law enforcement agencies to improve physical security at sites deemed "critical" by DHS. The CIU worked directly with 2 sites identified by US-DHS, performed assessments, and provided resources to support the security of the facilities.

The CIU also provided personnel to work highly visible transit security initiatives along with Transportation Security Administration. These missions are called Visible Inter-Modal Prevention & Response Teams (VIPR). Following the Madrid train bombings, the TSA stepped up its efforts to enhance security on rail and mass transit systems nationwide by creating and deploying VIPR Teams. Comprised of federal air marshals, surface transportation security inspectors, transportation security officers, behavior detection officers, explosives detection canine teams, and members from local and state homeland security and law enforcement, VIPR teams over the past two years have augmented security at key transportation facilities in urban areas around the country. In Connecticut,



these teams have been activated on a periodic basis at mass transit locations in an effort to deter, detect and prevent a potential terrorist attack.

The Connecticut Intelligence Center (CTIC) is a multi-agency intelligence fusion center representing DEMHS, FBI, DHS, US Coast Guard, Connecticut State Police, Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, and other jurisdictions. A Policy Board, which reports to the Commissioner of DEMHS, has been established to provide overall guidance and direction. It serves to exchange information and intelligence, provide analytical support, maximize resources, streamline operations, and improve the ability to fight crime and terrorism by merging data from a variety of sources. More specifically, CTIC serves as the state mechanism for municipal and state law enforcement, private security firms, and tribal entities among others to report suspicious activities (e.g. potential terrorist reconnaissance, money laundering, recruiting efforts, etc.) which may be linked to grass-roots terrorism. CTIC also fuses intelligence provided from Federal and State Agencies (e.g. DHS, Coast Guard, FBI, Department of Public Health and State Police) with the grass-roots information to identify linkages.

The Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) is a multi-agency investigative unit administered by the FBI, and is comprised of local, state, and federal investigators who are dedicated to combat terrorist activities within the State. The JTTF respond to reports of suspicious individuals believed to be involved in acts of terrorism anthrax threats; threats of weapons of mass destruction; threats related to land, sea and air transportation; and threats towards Connecticut's critical infrastructure. They also investigate terrorism funding, collect evidence and provide security at special events when requested. Finally, investigators assigned to the JTTF work closely with members of Immigration & Customs Enforcement, the Secret Service, the Department of Homeland Security, and the U.S. Coast Guard on terrorism related issues.

### **Other Accomplishments:**

#### **Port Security Grant**

The 2008 Port Security Grant Program (PSGP) is one of five grant programs that constitute the DHS FFY 2008 focus on infrastructure protection activities. The PSGP is one tool in the comprehensive set of measures authorized by Congress and implemented by the Administration to strengthen the Nation's critical infrastructure against risks associated with potential terrorist attacks. The vast bulk of U.S. critical infrastructure is owned and/or operated by state, local and private sector partners. PSGP funds support increased port-wide risk management; enhanced domain awareness; training and exercises; and further capabilities to prevent, detect, respond to and recover from attacks involving improvised explosive devices.

The FY 2008 Port Security Grant Program Guidelines require Tier II port areas (Bridgeport, New Haven, New London) to develop a Port-Wide Risk Management/Mitigation plan which is to align with and support the port areas' Area Maritime Security Plan (AMSP) and the National Preparedness Guidelines, considering the entire port system strategically as a



whole, and to identify and execute a series of actions designed to effectively mitigate risks to the system's maritime critical infrastructure.

DEMHS, in concert with the Coast Guard and the Area Maritime Security Council, is presently engaged in developing this plan which upon completion will provide a five year security road map for the three Connecticut ports. Also upon the plan's completion, nearly \$4.5 million in 2008 grant funds and another 4.5 million in 2009 grant funds will support risk mitigation strategies within these port areas. DEMHS serves as the fiduciary agent for the Port Security grant.

### **Transit Security Grant**

The Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP) is another of the five grant programs that constitute the DHS FFY 2008 Infrastructure Protection Program (IPP). The TSGP is an important component of the Department's effort to enhance the security of the Nation's critical infrastructure. The program provides funds to owners and operators of transit systems (which include intracity bus, rail, and ferry systems) to protect critical surface transportation infrastructure and the traveling public from acts of terrorism, major disasters, and other emergencies.

DEMHS continues to partner with Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) on this regional working group supporting a multi-state (CT-NY-NJ), multi-agency security approach toward risk mitigation. Connecticut's yearly funding provided by this grant has addressed security issues specifically concerning the Metro-North rail line from New Haven station to Grand Central terminal.

### **Disaster Assistance Handbook**

In October 2008, DEMHS completed a Disaster Assistance Handbook as a tool for staff involved in disaster recovery. The handbook includes information and steps involved in: Sequence of Events, Preliminary Damage Assessment, the Declaration Process, Public Assistance and Individual Assistance.

### **Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC)**

In an effort to increase preparedness for disaster recovery, DEMHS has designated DRCs throughout the State. DRCs are opened by FEMA, in coordination with DEMHS, after a presidential declaration for Individual Assistance is received. The centers provide residents with the opportunity to ask questions and receive information in person. DEMHS has finalized Memoranda of Agreements with several Towns and the Community College System to pre-designate DRCs in their jurisdictions.

### **WebEOC**

WebEOC is a customizable web-based application that allows agencies to communicate and coordinate response and recovery operations in a secure real-time online environment. It allows state, municipal and federal agencies to share information during an emergency



and provides a common operating picture for all, which enhances situational awareness and improves interoperable communications. It is currently being used by many state and county governments in the United States, various agencies within the federal government, and others such as the World Bank and the World Health Organization.

When DEMHS began investigating options for a web-based communications tool, the goal was to find a tool that was:

- Affordable and user friendly
- Maintainable by existing DEMHS staff
- Tailored to meet the specific needs of DEMHS and local municipalities
- Capable of allowing remote access by authorized users located outside the LAN
- Complaint with the Incident Command System (ICS) compliance
- Able to integrate with other systems such as mapping applications or telephonic alert notification systems
- Able to provide Help desk support 24 hours a day as needed.

DEMHS, along with multiple state and local partners, spent over six months on developing the web-based application, which mirrors the way emergency management preparedness, response and recovery is conducted at the municipal level, the DEMHS Regional Level, and at the state level (in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).) Some of the key features of the design include:

- Control panel displays that can include quick access to information in categories like: power outages; river levels; road closures; significant (emotional) events.
- A Significant Events Board which allows Operations at the EOC and the Director of Emergency Management to post important information which can be viewed by state agencies, the Governor's office, local emergency management directors, and first responders.
- Mission Task Requests for Assistance: requests from municipalities or other state agencies are sent electronically to the EOC for review and assignment by the Operations Staff. The status of request can be monitored within the EOC.
- A File Library was created which includes: sample declarations; Situation Reports, Standard Operating Procedures; maps; the Natural Disaster Plan; the Consequence Management Guide; Evacuation and Shelter Guides, and other information.
- Web EOC History is a new and important feature which allows users to view the most recent updates within the DEMHS WebEOC Board.

DEMHS staff have been providing training in WebEOC to municipalities and state agencies since June of 2008. To date, DEMHS has trained about 750 people, including personnel from almost all municipalities, staff from 67 state agencies, federal partners including FEMA Region 1 and the Federal DHS, along with private sector partners such as the American Red Cross, and Infoline/211.

DEMHS has partnered with the Department of Public Health (DPH) who shares the DEMHS WebEOC system. DPH has been working with the WebEOC vendor to develop separate boards (or web pages) that can be used for Local Public Health Departments/Districts,



Hospitals and Central Emergency Medical Dispatchers to track public health outbreaks or incidents. DPH and DEMHS staff have trained over 150 public health administrators and personnel on the use of this system. The Public Health Boards are now in a production environment and available for use by the DPH partners referenced above.

DEMHS has also been working with the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to develop a new Continuity of Operations Agency Status Board which tracks agency absenteeism, requests for special assistance, and other issues that may be important to sustaining continuity of operations during an event such as the H1N1 Pandemic. DEMHS has been providing training for personnel in all state agencies and they have been using the boards on a weekly basis for reporting purposes.

### **Current Capabilities**

#### **Critical Infrastructure Protection Program:**

##### **Critical Infrastructure Protection Unit (CIU)**

Members of the CIU have received specialized training, specifically designed for the task of critical asset protection. The CIU's primary mission is to identify and assess risk and vulnerability, and categorize key assets within the State. The Unit works to develop mitigation strategies designed to improve security at these critical sites, which include public and private entities (both physical and cyber-based systems) that are essential to maintaining minimal operational capabilities of government, and are necessary to the well-being of the State's economy. These include, but are not limited to: energy; telecommunications; banking and finance; transportation; public water systems; and, both government and private sector emergency service providers. The results of these efforts are then shared with local law enforcement officials in Connecticut.

The Critical Infrastructure Unit also works closely with the private sector and the five DEMHS Regions. Members of the Critical Infrastructure Unit are assigned to each of the five DEMHS emergency planning regions. Similarly, Regional Intelligence Liaison Officers (RILO), who are municipal police officers and one state corrections officer assigned to the CTIC, are designated to serve as liaisons to the DEMHS regions. The collaborative interaction among the CI/KA officers, the RILOs, the local public safety and emergency management community, and the private sector significantly enhances the security of the region's assets. The regional liaisons utilize their relationships with the private sector to develop and refine the inventory of CI/KAs. The liaisons also provide basic training for the private sector in responding to CBRNE & WMD/Hazmat emergencies, as well as NIMS and NRP.

As a central part of the FY 2007 State Homeland Security Grant Program, DEMHS allocated a portion of available funds to each of the five DEMHS Regions. The CIU utilized past assessment information to identify the sites to be included in the review. The infrastructure network that was evaluated included facilities from each of the federally-defined Sector-Specific Plans, including banking and finance, commercial facilities, dams, energy, government facilities, information technology, and transportation systems. The unit also relied on the federally approved sector and threshold definitions to ensure uniformity and consistency in the application of the assessment. Each municipal Chief Executive Officer



was asked to designate a point of contact to review, revise and authorize the list of critical infrastructure and key assets within their respective community. This process of review and revision was initiated to ensure that the lists were contemporary, complete and accurate.

### **Connecticut Intelligence Center (CTIC)**

Protecting critical infrastructure and other key assets requires a cooperative effort among federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, as well as security services within the private sector, and assistance from all citizens. The Connecticut Intelligence Center (CTIC) is a multi-agency intelligence fusion center representing DEMHS, FBI, DHS, US Coast Guard, Connecticut State Police, Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, Connecticut Department of Corrections, and other jurisdictions. A Policy Board, which reports to the Commissioner of DEMHS, has been established to provide overall guidance and direction. It serves to exchange information and intelligence, provide analytical support, maximize resources, streamline operations, and improve the ability to fight crime and terrorism by merging data from a variety of sources. More specifically, CTIC serves as the state repository for municipal and state law enforcement, private security firms, and tribal entities among others to report suspicious activities (e.g. potential terrorist reconnaissance, money laundering, recruiting efforts, etc.) which may be linked to grass-roots terrorism. CTIC also fuses intelligence provided from Federal and State Agencies (e.g. DHS, Coast Guard, FBI, Department of Public Health and State Police) with the grass-roots information to identify linkages. CTIC is also co-located and works very closely with the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF). DEMHS is in the process of establishing a satellite office of CTIC at DEMHS headquarters in Hartford, co-located with the CIU.

### **CARVER2® target analysis system:**

With a list of sites assembled for each town, the information was entered into an automated analytical tool. The CARVER2® target analysis system, designed by DHS for Infrastructure Expertise, evaluates critical infrastructure and key assets across several factors, including criticality (i.e. value), accessibility, vulnerability, and recognition. Each factor for each site was given a numerical score, which reflected the desirability of attacking the site or facility. The multiple scores or values were then placed in a decision matrix, which calculated a “target ranking”. This is a numerical score that corresponds to the likelihood of the site becoming a target of an individual or group. The sum of the target rankings within each municipality represents the town’s risk assessment. Similarly, the assessment for each region was calculated by adding the scores of its constituent towns. This analysis is in the process of being converted to a new system called C/ACAMS, Constellation / Automated Critical Assessment Management System.

### **Automated Critical Assessment Management System (ACAMS)**

The Automated Critical Asset Management System (ACAMS) is a Web-enabled information services portal that helps state and local governments build critical infrastructure/key resource (CIKR) protection programs in their local jurisdictions.

ACAMS provides a set of tools and resources that help law enforcement, public safety and emergency response personnel. These tools allow users to: Collect and use CIKR asset data, Assess CIKR asset vulnerabilities, Develop all-hazards incident response and recovery plans, and Build public-private partnerships.



Using ACAMS also provides state and local jurisdictions with a practical way to implement the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP), including the NIPP Risk Management Framework.

Some of the Key Features provided by ACAMS include Programmable, role-based access, Comprehensive CIKR asset inventory, inventory management and assessment tools, Sector-specific protective measure recommendations for each Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) level, Automatically generated standard and customized reports, Built-in Asset Manager Questionnaires, Built-in Buffer Zone Plan development tools, Department-approved CIKR asset taxonomy classification tool, Access to live and historical law enforcement and counter-terrorism news feeds, Integrated robust mapping and geospatial functionality using the Integrated Common Analytical Viewer (iCAV), Comprehensive electronic CIKR reference document library and it is approved for Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII) storage.

ACAMS users have access to one resource: Automated Critical Asset Management System (ACAMS). ACAMS is a secure, online database and database management platform that allows for the collection and management of CIKR asset data; the cataloguing, screening and sorting of this data; the production of tailored infrastructure reports; and the development of a variety of pre- and post-incident response plans useful to strategic and operational planners and tactical commanders.

The Department of Homeland Security's Office of Infrastructure Protection (IP) provides ACAMS to state and local jurisdictions at no cost. ACAMS is used by a wide variety of organizations responsible for building, implementing, and operating CIKR protection programs at the state and local level. Individual users are typically state and local emergency responders, such as infrastructure protection planners, homeland security officials, law enforcement personnel, and emergency managers. These users have official infrastructure protection or homeland security responsibilities and have completed ACAMS and PCII training. Users in more than 40 U.S. states and territories participate in the ACAMS program.

### **Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII)**

Efforts to implement the Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII) Program are continuing. The DEMHS Critical Infrastructure Unit has been trained and certified in the proper handling and safeguarding of PCII.

### **School Security Grants:**

The Connecticut Legislature passed, and Governor M. Jodi Rell signed into law, An Act Concerning Security Assessments and Assistance for Schools and Emergency Response Plans for Institutions of Higher Education (PA- 07-208), which became effective July 1, 2007. This grant is being administered by the Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS). The purpose of the grant is to reimburse towns for certain expenses for security improvements at schools. Eligible expenses include but are not limited to: Improvements to school entrances to include surveillance cameras, entry buzzers, scan card systems, panic alarms and portable screening devices. Training of school personnel in the maintenance of security at school entrances is also eligible. Once



the schools with the greatest need have been identified, priority shall be given to schools that have no security infrastructure at entrances and succeeding priority shall be granted to schools identified as priority school districts according to C.G.S. section 10-266p of the general statutes. Since November 15<sup>th</sup> 2007, the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security has processed 360 school applications for funding representing 60 cities/towns and awarded grants to 211 schools in January 2008, funding for School Security improvements that totaled \$4,910,000.00. A second round of School Security funding applications for 08-09, representing 145 schools and 46 cities and towns was approved, and grants were awarded totaling \$1.7 million.

### **Cyber Security:**

The Department of Information Technology (DOIT) has developed an Incident Response Procedure. DOIT has developed a Security Risk Analysis Methodology and is in the process of conducting a Risk Assessment of the DOIT infrastructure.

### **Public/Private Sector Outreach**

DEMHS has long recognized the importance of working with the private sector, including the private security firms. Initially even in the TOPOFF3 Exercise held in April 2005, DEMHS assign personnel located at the state Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to act as a conduit with the private sector throughout the 4 day nationally recognized exercise.

Since then, DEMHS has been very active in the INFRAGARD organization in an ongoing attempt to make sure that the connection is strong, and beneficial to all parties. DEMHS is also working to engage the private sector in ongoing drills, training and exercises. DEMHS has been working with the Connecticut Police Chief's Association (CPCA) and the Private Security Group Subcommittee to hold annual training opportunities, involving all public safety personnel, police, fire, public health, EMS and the private sector.

DEMHS has also established a Public/Private Sector Committee of the EMHSCC comprised of representatives from each of the private sectors identified by federal DHS.

DEMHS is committed to working with the private sector, and will continue to collaborate and provide meaningful training with the private security sector.



## Targets

Critical Infrastructure Protection Program:

Target Description
Train 100 municipal, tribal and state police officers to conduct CI/KA assessments using the ACAMS System.
Implement the Automated Critical Asset Management System (ACAMS).
Perform assessments at the top 100 CI/KA sites, based on the FY 2007 analysis.

## Initiatives

Critical Infrastructure Protection Program:

### **Initiative 1: CI/KR Assessment Training**

The capacity to increase the number of assessments, provide guidance on hardening Critical Infrastructure and Key Resource (CI/KR) sites, and fully implementing the NIPP will dramatically increase through continued training. By offering training and collaborative opportunities to municipal, tribal and state law enforcement personnel, comprehensive and detailed security assessments will be produced, in a shorter period of time, resulting in immediate security improvements to critical sites.

### **Initiative 2: Emergency Preparedness and Response GIS**

DEMHS has been working diligently to build momentum in the development of a Geographic Information System (GIS) for emergency preparedness and response. This initiative is truly an interagency collaboration with representatives from DEMHS along with the Departments of Information Technology, Public Health, Transportation, Environmental Protection, the Military Department, and the Office of Policy and Management working together.

This system is initially being designed to support the emergency management needs of the state through DEMHS, over time, the creation of this new system will provide additional benefits to those state agencies that are in the process of, or are about to develop, their own "enterprise solutions".

The State of Connecticut has contracted to design and implement the GIS initiative. Phase I of the implementation focused on the creation of four software applications that stakeholders have identified as the most critical in preparing for and responding to emergencies. They include the following: event awareness portal, which provides a common operating picture; flood planning and response; evacuation planning; and Emergency Operations Center map request, which includes, the production of custom made maps to analyze buffer zones, plume models, flood evacuation areas, and critical state assets.



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**Initiative 3: Oblique Imagery**

The state's interagency GIS team has also worked on the state's oblique imagery initiative. Using oblique digital imagery (aerial photographs taken at an angle), features such as houses, commercial or public buildings can be seen in their entirety (front door of the house, back door, windows, etc.) DEMHS and DEP pooled available funding to conduct "fly-overs" for the Connecticut shoreline, the Capitol region flood area, and a 10-mile radius around Millstone power plant. Oblique imagery is an important component of the State's overall GIS initiative. This is an ongoing project.

**Initiative 4: Automated Critical Asset Management System (ACAMS)**

Implementation of the Automated Critical Asset Management System (ACAMS) will improve the Critical Infrastructure Unit's ability to identify and assess critical infrastructure, develop incident response and recovery protection plans and build public/private partnerships. The web-based system will also enable the CI/KA officers to more efficiently collect and use asset data and protection information to develop incident response and recovery plans to protect infrastructure assets. The system's integrated mapping and GIS functionalities will complement and enhance the State's current GIS and oblique imagery initiative.



## Information Sharing and Collaboration

### 1. Accomplishments

#### **The Connecticut Intelligence Center (CTIC)**

The Connecticut Intelligence Center (CTIC) is the fusion center for the State of Connecticut. It is comprised of a co-located team of federal, state and local partners (including DEMHS, Department of Public Safety, Department of Correction, CT National Guard, the FBI, US Coast Guard, and the Office of the US Attorney, the Department of Homeland Security, and municipal police). The CTIC collects, analyzes and disseminates information to law enforcement officials throughout the state. The CTIC works very closely with the JTTF. DEMHS is in the process of establishing a satellite office of CTIC at DEMHS headquarters in Hartford, co-located with the CIU.

#### **Accomplishments include the following:**

1. The establishment of a toll-free tips line (866-HLS-TIPS). This allows the citizens of Connecticut a single point of contact to report suspicious incidents or suspected acts of terrorism. This toll free number is manned 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year ensuring that someone will be available to answer the tips line. Tips necessitating a law enforcement response are forwarded to the JTTF for investigation.
2. The hiring of regional intelligence liaison officers (RILOS); this affords each region an intelligence point of contact. The RILOs reach out to the law enforcement community and collect and distribute intelligence information. They are used to coordinate intelligence gathering efforts throughout their respective regions.
3. Intelligence Liaison Seminars are conducted for local law enforcement on a bi-annual basis. This allows for the promotion of the ILO program and provides a platform to distribute training and intelligence related projects throughout the regions. The next scheduled conference is March 26<sup>th</sup> 2010.
4. CTIC disseminates to all municipal, state and federal police agencies, as well as to every fusion center in the nation, a weekly Intelligence Bulletin containing information on Homeland Security and Terrorism Awareness, officer safety matters, specific crime information for each county in the State of Connecticut, as well as training information and information from other fusion centers.
5. The creation of a secure web site for the dissemination of intelligence information is accomplished through the HSIN network and the HSDN. Currently these are progressing rapidly. Training for these networks are done at the ILO Conferences and as needed within the intelligence community by people from the CTIC.
6. The development of a Virtual Command Center that can be utilized by federal, state and local emergency responders to assist in situational awareness and investigative operations. This has been used in multiple large scale operations allowing for the accurate and timely distribution of information to multiple jurisdictions.



7. Actively collect, analyze and disseminate information to law enforcement officials outside of the State of Connecticut with Fusion Center partners, such as the New England Regional Intelligence Group, which comprise all of the New England Fusion Centers.

## **2. Current Capabilities**

### **Intelligence and Information Sharing and Dissemination Capability:**

CTIC is the center of the intelligence information flow for Connecticut. In addition to the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN), CTIC also uses unclassified information systems such as: LEO, NCIC Collect (Connecticut On-line LE Telecoms System), and NESPIN (New England State Police Information Network) which is part of RISSNet. These capabilities allow CTIC to communicate with all law enforcement agencies within the state.

### **Counter-Terror Investigations and Law Enforcement Capability**

CTIC is co located with the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF). This task force is a multi-agency investigative unit administered by the FBI, and is comprised of local, state, and federal investigators who are dedicated to combating terrorist activities within the State.

The JTTF investigators respond to: reports of suspicious individuals believed to be involved in acts of terrorism; anthrax threats; threats of weapons of mass destruction; threats related to land, sea and air transportation; and threats towards Connecticut's critical infrastructure. They also investigate terrorism funding, collect evidence and provide security at special events when requested. Finally, investigators assigned to the JTTF work closely with members of Immigration & Customs Enforcement, the Secret Service, the Department of Homeland Security, and the U.S. Coast Guard on terrorism related issues.

The CTIC serves to collect and analyze both criminal and terrorism related intelligence obtained by the JTTF. For instance, every tip received from the 866-HLS-TIPS line is researched by CTIC, and disseminated to the JTTF for investigation. This information is then disseminated to all law enforcement agencies in the State of Connecticut. The CTIC acts as the primary conduit for information sharing within the state and nationally. CTIC also endeavors to identify emerging threats or crime trends and serves as a central resource to effect intelligence sharing.

The CTIC is a participating member of DHS State & Local Intelligence Community of Interest. This enhances the information sharing between State & Local intelligence communities, (including the tribal law enforcement communities) and the federal intelligence communities. CTIC participates in the Northeast Regional Intelligence Group (NRIG). NRIG is a working group of all intelligence centers in the Northeast region. Information is exchanged and disseminated outside the state boundaries, allowing for the accurate and timely distribution of information across state lines.



### **Intelligence and Information Sharing and Dissemination Capability:**

#### **Target Description**

- Continue to develop CTIC as the fusion center for the State of Connecticut, including participation of federal, state and local agencies, as well as a broad spectrum of first responders and private sector participation.
- Develop a statewide intelligence/information sharing database.
- Draft operating procedures for GeoLab at EOC to clarify: workflow; job descriptions of those working in GeoLab (from multiple state agencies), and required training.
- Conduct training.
- Conduct exercise to validate training.
- Develop recommendations for improvements.

#### **Geospatial Information Systems (GIS):**

- Determine target audiences and skill sets in need of GIS training.
- Develop training program.
- Determine users needing each level of training.
- Schedule trainers and sites.
- Advertise training.
- Deliver training.
- Collect data on number of students trained, programs provided.
- Develop continuing education and exercise program.

### **Counter-Terror Investigations and Law Enforcement Capability:**

#### **Target Description**

- Fully staff the CTIC with federal, state and local personnel capable of collecting, analyzing and disseminating counter terrorism intelligence information supporting all of the counter- terrorism investigative needs within the state.
- Educate & Promote statewide terrorism/suspicious incident reporting.



-Establish and promote coordination efforts with Regional and National Fusion Centers enabling the timely distribution of counter terrorism intelligence information to the law enforcement communities.

### **3. Initiatives**

#### **Intelligence and Information Sharing and Dissemination Capability:**

##### **Summary:**

The Connecticut Intelligence Center (CTIC), located in New Haven, CT, is a multi-agency operation representing various jurisdictions which serves to collect, analyze and disseminate both criminal and terrorism-related intelligence to all law enforcement agencies in the State of Connecticut. The CTIC is an all-crimes operation with a mission of identifying emerging threats or criminal trends and serving as a statewide resource to effect intelligence sharing. CTIC is not an investigative unit – information requiring further investigation is turned over to an appropriate agency. Their primary customers are the law enforcement officers, emergency managers and the private sector of Connecticut and the Northeast region. They participate in the Northeast Region Intelligence Group and have informal relationships with New York and New Jersey.

Currently a workgroup has been formed consisting of FBI, DHS, State Police, Local Police and DEMHS partners that will review the current system and develop plans to enhance the operation and products provided by CTIC. The goal is to provide a future vision of the CTIC operations to best meet the needs of the law enforcement community with an emphasis of protecting the citizens and critical infrastructure of the towns and communities within the State of Connecticut.

#### **Initiative #1 CTIC Fusion Center**

Continue to develop CTIC as the Fusion Center for the State of Connecticut. This would include participation from federal, state and local agencies, and to include a broad spectrum of first responders and private sector participation. DEMHS is in the process of building a satellite CTIC/Fusion center at the DEMHS headquarters in Hartford that will work in unison with the CTIC Fusion center located at the FBI building in New Haven. The Hartford location was analyzed by the Federal Dept. of Homeland Security and deemed appropriate for a satellite office that which will meet all necessary security requirements once construction and hardening of the site is complete.



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**Initiative #2 Inventory and Collection of GIS Data**

Develop a statewide intelligence/information sharing database.

**Initiative #3 Fully Staff CTIC with support personnel**

Fully staff CTIC with adequate support personnel (Analysts, data entry personnel, IT personnel, Security officer, regional staffing, etc...)

**Initiative #4 Inventory and Collection of GIS Data**

Phase 2 of the GIS data project will involve the development of enhancements to the system based on feedback from system users (primarily state agency users). One of the first priorities within Phase 2 will be the ability to make the updating of data as user friendly as possible. Inventory and collection of data related to critical infrastructure assets within the State of Connecticut from Municipal GIS programs is another Phase Two high-priority area.



## Communications

### 1. Accomplishments

#### **Connecticut, State Tactical On-Scene Channel System (STOCS)**

The purpose of the STOCS System is to provide an Interoperable Radio System for on scene tactical use. It is intended to allow individuals and groups of responders to communicate when working at the scene of an incident, using their existing portable radio equipment. The STOCS System consists of three (3) VHF frequencies, three (3) UHF frequencies and five (5) 800Mhz frequencies combined into five (5) interoperability channel groups.

Final guidance documents for use by agencies, organizations and municipalities were completed. Many municipalities and response organizations have placed these interoperability channels into their exiting communication systems for use, with several operational successes during this past year. This system provides interoperable communications at the emergency scene where such capability had previous not existed. 100 mobile low-power cross band multi-band devices were designed and purchased through a DHS grant and are being distributed throughout Connecticut to first responder organizations for use. As of December 2009, 68 units have been allocated deployed to First Responders. Reports from first responder agencies indicate that these units are making a significant contribution to improving tactical radio interoperability.

#### **Enhanced ICALL (E-ICALL)**

The Connecticut Public Safety State Interoperability Executive Committee of the DEMHS Coordinating Council worked with DPS to develop requirements and install a one-channel analog simulcast system for statewide mobile radio communications for all hazards to leverage the existing 800 MHz radios deployed to the first response community statewide. This enhancement allows the DPS Message Center to respond to an ICALL request without the need to select a specific repeater. The system is normally operated in a “split simplex” mode; a voted receiver network receives inbound calls with the best signal being presented to the dispatcher. Transmitted audio is broadcast from all sites in a synchronized mode so transmitter selection is not required. The “repeat” function is normally in the non-repeat mode. An incident commander in the field has the option of requesting the repeater to be turned on if there is a need for wide area coordination that cannot be accomplished with one of the standard localized repeaters.

#### **Connecticut State-Wide Police Emergency Radio Network (C-SPERN)**

In 2008, The Interoperability Committee worked with DEMHS, DPS and the Connecticut Association of Police Chiefs to design and install a one-channel analog simulcast system for statewide mobile radio communications for law enforcement agencies. The primary design of this system is to use one channel of the Department of Public Safety’s 800 MHz radio system using sites throughout Connecticut. This project enables simulcast capability and is integrated into DPS’s microwave network allowing communications between multiple mobile and / or stationary communication facility locations. This mission critical statewide public safety communication network will provides 97% coverage to mobile units throughout the state. This network provides improved law enforcement mutual aid communications, response, and coordination and enhanced



officer safety. In the summer of 2009 DEMHS recognized that due to the worsening economy, this system was not being used to its full capacity, municipal police departments found themselves unable to fund even the modest cost of purchasing the mobile radios needed to participate. With this in mind Homeland Security Grant funds were reprogrammed and used to purchase 800 mobile radios for distribution to municipal police departments. As of December 2009 775 of these radios had been issued to local police departments for installation in their patrol vehicles.

The accomplishment of this goal continues our effort to implement a cost effective mission-critical communication network by leveraging the State's investment in the existing I-CALL Mutual Aid system.

### **DEMHS High Band System**

The Interoperability Committee assisted DEMHS developed guidance for municipal adoption and use of a very high frequency (VHF) radio telecommunications system. This system is used to communicate with each of the municipalities within Connecticut. The high band radio system contains five (5) radio frequencies, each designated to one of five DEMHS Regions within the state. Each municipality is required by DEMHS to operate one base station on the assigned regional frequency for communications between that municipality and the DEMHS Regional Office during emergency situations, when this type of telecommunications becomes necessary. In certain operations, interoperability is required for handling major emergency situations for adjacent municipalities. This radio system may be used as the vehicle for achieving that necessary non-routine interoperability. In addition to the Base Transmitter, each Emergency Management Director will be allowed to operate mobile and portable radios on these frequencies. In 2008, significant improvements to the system architecture were implemented in addition to the start of a regular testing program to test the operability of each of the municipal systems. A significant improvement of coverage and clarity was achieved in 2008 by the municipalities.

### **DOIT Master Contract Awards**

In 2009, the master radio catalog contract, created by the Department of Information and Technology (DOIT) was updated to reflect newly available equipment and technology to better serve the agencies and organizations covered under the Department of Homeland Security grant programs, which are administered by DEMHS. The catalog is available on the DOIT website. It includes 14 Connecticut vendors on contract with the State of Connecticut to offer radio communication equipment, such as mobile, portable and control station radios and accessories. This catalog contract allows for the expeditious procurement and pricing of communications equipment available through the grant programs.

### **Grant Review and Guidance**

During 2009, a team of Interoperability Committee members continued their process for reviewing all homeland security funding requests for communications equipment. The review process was implemented to ensure interoperability through guidelines and recommendations provided to the grantees.

### **Region 1 Urban Area Security Initiative**

Of particular note are the efforts of the 14 towns and cities which comprise DEMHS Region 1. As a recipient of a FY2008 Urban Area Security Grant, it was determined that their best course



of action would be to focus on a single project which would have the greatest impact on their ability to respond to both natural and manmade disasters.

To this end, they have committed the entire 4.2 million dollars received to date to establishing region wide 700 MHz trunked radio system, for use by all public safety agencies in the region. Working with DEMHS and the Connecticut State Police Communications Unit, a system has been designed and purchased which will leverage the existing CSP communications infrastructure and the P25 message switch procured using the DEMHS PSIC grant for the benefit of the towns and state agencies. The first items of equipment procured have been delivered and the system is expected to be installed and in the testing process by early summer.

### **Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP)**

The FY 2008 IECGP Program provides Connecticut \$545,234 to improve local, tribal, regional, statewide, and national interoperable emergency communications, including communications in collective response to natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters. The funding will enable the five DEMHS Regions and the State to implement their Statewide Communication Interoperability Plans (SCIP) and align to the National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) to further enhance interoperability. As part of this grant program each region will receive an equal portion of the grant allocation to work towards their individual regional goals in accordance with the grant program. This program has been continued by the Federal Government for FY 2009.

### **Public Safety Interoperable Grant Program (PSIC) Statewide Communications Interoperable Communications Plan (SCIP)**

In 2008, Connecticut was awarded approximately \$13 million for the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Grant Program. The PSIC Grant Program will provide funding to Connecticut to enable and enhance public safety agencies' interoperable communications capabilities. This program is being implemented by DHS and NTIA in accordance with the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 and Call Home Act of 2006. The period of performance for the PSIC grant is to be completed by September 30, 2011. These funds will be used for the acquisition of, deployment of, and training for, the use of interoperable communications systems.

### **State Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP)**

Under the 2006 Homeland Security Grant Program, each state is required by December 31, 2007 to submit such a plan to the Department of Homeland Security. Connecticut submitted its plan to DHS and was approved in 2008. The plan was written by the PSIC Grant Team and formulated with input from local and state practitioners; including the following items:

- Background and preliminary steps
- Strategy
- Methodology
- Governance
- Technology
- Standard Operating Procedures
- Training and Exercises
- Usage
- Funding
- Implementation



The intent is to review and update this plan annually to reflect changes in status and technology.

### **PSIC Investment Justifications (IJs)**

Three investments were submitted as part of the PSIC Grant Package. Investment Justification # 1: Interconnectivity of PSAPs and communications systems on a proprietary resilient IP network for operability and interoperability during natural or man made disasters and provide APCO P25 interoperable connectivity between the PSAPs in Connecticut. This will involve the interconnectivity of identified public safety facilities throughout Connecticut. It will also create an integrated voice and data network to connect all emergency response services, assisting and supporting organizations. This project is well under way, equipment has been received and is being deployed which will allow the shared use of existing state and municipal radio systems, and allow for seamless interoperability.

Investment Justification # 2: Enhancement and integration of first responder practitioner Mobile Field Communications through improved equipment, training and coordination. The objective of this investment justification is to establish a cache of hardware and radio infrastructure equipment that is readily available to be deployed to a dispatch center where a catastrophic failure has occurred and to restore radio communications in a quick and efficient manner.

Investment Justification # 3: Enhancement and migration of regional communications systems to 700 MHz while maintaining current capabilities. This Investment supports the State SCIP PSIC criteria by allocating a common bandwidth to provide for voice and data communications interoperability. The completion of this investment will result in the leveraging of existing local and regional radio communication assets, allow for migration of all public safety practitioners to common bandwidth over time, facilitate immediate integration with 700 MHz as per 47CFR 90.531 as amended and as per Region 19 approved 700 MHz Regional Plan, and provide for interface to proposed statewide Public Safety Voice/Data/Video Network. The Interoperability Committee has approved the State 700 MHz Plan, and the first application for an FCC license has been filed on behalf of the Region 1 Urban Area Security Initiative.

### **Methodology Used to Choose each Investment:**

In order to capture local and regional stakeholder buy-in and input, meetings were held in 2008 in each of the State's five Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) regions, as well as a sixth meeting for State and Federal stakeholders. In addition, feedback was received via multi-page questionnaires that were distributed to the above stakeholders. Information from these was then reviewed. The Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) Steering Committee met several times to review all available information, at which time consensus was reached as to the priority and viability of each investment.

### **Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan**

The Interoperable Communications Committee, along with DEMHS, assisted Region 2, Region 4 and Region 5 in development of a Tactical Interoperable Communications (TIC) Plan similar to the efforts done for DEMHS Region 1 and 3 in the previous years. This planning is conducted in conjunction with the federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS). As part of this process; emergency managers, first responder managers and communications professionals held over twenty workshops, training sessions, and exercises to create the plan and ready the Region for the



validation exercise. This plan includes sections dealing with governance, operations, communications equipment inventories, training and technical expertise.

### **Communication Assets Survey and Mapping (CASM) Tool**

In 2006, as part of the TICP process a Communications Assets Survey and Mapping Tool was implemented and used for the DEMHS Region 1 area. In 2008 the use of this tool was expanded to include the entire State of Connecticut. Training sessions were held in Connecticut to training local users on the use and benefits of this system. The Region 3 area took significant advantage of this program in 2008 and the other regions have plans to expand their efforts in 2009. This tool consists of two components provided by a DHS Interoperability Communications Technical Assistance Program (ICTAP). These components are a Communication Assets Survey (data collection) tool and a Communication Assets Mapping (interoperability analysis) tool. They allow agency representatives to enter their own radio communication assets information using the survey forms. The tool also allows State, Regional and Agency representatives to perform interoperability and compatibility analysis. The system also provides information regarding radio systems in use by other agencies, radio system infrastructure and available interoperable resources information. This information allows for the collection and planning for common methods for communication (e.g., shared systems, shared channels, gateways, etc.).

### **Communication Unit Leader Training Program**

As part of the readiness for the Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans Communication Unit Leader Programs were designed to provide participants with the skills and knowledge needed to perform in the role of Communications Unit Leader (COML). This five-day program includes: gathering information; organizing the communications unit; designing communications systems; installing, maintaining, and assigning equipment; internal and external coordination; and demobilization. This program developed and delivered by the DHS office of Interoperability and Compatibility and Interoperable Communications was the first such program for a multi-disciplined group within New England and had attendance from several other states. During FY 10 DEMHS will again sponsor COML training using Federal IECGP funds allocated for statewide initiatives.

## **2. Current Capabilities**

### **Communications Capability:**

#### **Municipal Fire and Police Departments**

Each municipal fire and police department has a designated voice communications system. In some areas, fire and police departments are on the same system. The fire service utilizes the low band frequency, very high frequency (VHF), ultra high frequency (UHF) and 800 MHz conventional and trunked radio systems. The State Fire Chiefs Technical Advisory Committee maintains a low band communications system for dispatch center coordination as part of the State Fire Rescue Disaster Plan (SFRDP). The municipal police departments have limited common regional systems depending on their area of the state, that also include the low band, VHF, UHF, and 800 MHz conventional and trunked radio systems.

#### **Emergency Medical Services (EMS)**

Every Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Paramedic-staffed (Advanced Life Support) ambulance is required to be equipped with a two-way radio capable of



communicating on the UHF Medical (MED) radio system. There are thirteen (13) Coordinated Medical Emergency Dispatch (CMED) centers in Connecticut. These serve as communication centers that interconnect emergency medical service (EMS) field personnel with any of the thirty-two (32) Acute Care hospital emergency departments and three (3) free standing emergency medical care facilities in the state for medical direction and control by emergency department physicians using the UHF MED radio system.

### **Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS)**

DEMHS has several voice radio systems covering the range of spectrum; maintains an emergency operations center (EOC) during significant incidents, an emergency alert system and a microwave broadcast fax capability. DEMHS is also a partner of the MEDSAT system which will be explained in the DPH section below.

### **800 MHz Communications System**

DPS operates and maintains an 800 MHz digital voice communications system primarily for use by the Connecticut State Police (CSP). The system is the primary link among troopers, twelve (12) regional troop commands and CSP headquarters. Additionally CSP operates and maintains an 800 MHz analog I-CALL/I-TAC voice radio system for the use of any Incident Commander to achieve a unified command during a significant incident. CSP also has a very robust micro-wave network with an interoperable capability (95 SPAN). The DPS Communications Center has the capability of patching different voice radio systems.

### **DEP ENCON Police, Radiation Response Teams**

DEP operates and maintains a 24 X 7 X 365 Emergency Dispatch Center (EDC) and a backup dispatch center at the State Armory. The EDC provides communications for Hazmat, ENCON Police, Radiation, Parks, Water and Air personal. The Agency operates and maintains 9 Towers utilizing the Department of Public Safeties Microwave network. DEP operates on 4 primary Low Band Channels and 19 high band channels. DEP also maintains a link to Millstone and a Radiation communication center at the State Armory as primary communications with Connecticut's Radiological Response Field Teams. The DEP operates and maintains 50 remote locations on a high-speed data network, and 15 unmanned air monitoring sites and 55 Flood (ALERT) locations.

The DEP operates a Dodge Sprinter Van that is used for planning and data communication purposes during emergency response events. The vehicle is equipped with an on-board 8 KW generator, which provides a heated/air-conditioned workspace for up to 5 staff. It also has a satellite dish for wireless data transmissions, a broadcast quality video camera with pan/zoom tilt installed on a 30' mast, a 24" high-resolution color plotter, an all-in-one color inkjet copier/printer, and a wireless *Weatherpak* MTR weather station. The vehicle can be used for data analyses; GIS map generation, and air plume modeling. It can host a WIFI network that will allow additional network users. The operators of this unit are authorized users of Interagency Modeling and Atmospheric Assessment Center (IMAAC) for advanced hazardous chemical/biological plume modeling. In the future, the agency plans to add dedicated video and GIS servers, a local network and satellite phone system and a radio interoperability system.

### **Department of Public Health (DPH)**

DPH operates and maintains a satellite medical voice communications network known as MEDSAT. This system links DPH, DEMHS, the two hospital Centers of Excellence, the Connecticut Hospital Association and the 32 hospitals and the 13 CMEDS within the State together. DPH also has both a Health Alert Network (HAN) for surveillance and a Wide Area Network (WAN) capable of transmitting both voice and data.



### **Department of Transportation**

DOT has multiple voice channels covering the low, VHF, and UHF bands. DOT also utilizes an AM broadcast band to alert motorists to traffic conditions in several parts of the State. DOT supports radio communications for four airports and movable bridge systems. DOT has two (2) operation centers to monitor their state wide frequencies and traffic conditions. It also utilizes four (4) district radio communication centers to coordinate day to day operations.

### **Transit Security along Rail Lines**

The state of Ct Department of Transportation has partnered with the Transit Systems in the states of New Jersey and New York on a Transit Security Grant to enhance security systems along the Metro North Commuter rail line from Greenwich to New Haven, CT. Part of this grant is a concept to enhance interoperable communications along the Metro North Line for train crews and first responders.

### **Emergency Public Information and Warning Capability:**

#### **NOAA Public Alert Radios**

In 2006 the Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) and the Connecticut State Department of Education (SDE) in cooperation with the National Weather Service (NWS) and our federal agency partners installed over 1,000 NOAA Public Alert Radios in every public school in Connecticut. These radios are part of the DEMHS and SDE continuing effort to provide the best possible warnings to Connecticut's schools in the event of severe weather or other emergencies. In 2008 an additional 1,300 private schools and school district offices received NOAA Public Alert Radios.

#### **Emergency Notification System**

The installation of an Emergency Notification System (ENS) is a communications solution that uses a combination of database and GIS mapping technologies to deliver outbound notifications. Users can quickly target a precise geographic area and saturate it with thousands of calls per hour. The system's interactive technology provides immediate interaction with recipients and aids in rapid response to specific needs. Users can also create a list of individuals with common characteristics (such as a Neighborhood Crime Watch group or emergency responder teams) and contact them with helpful information as needed.

The installation of an Emergency Notification System for every municipality in the state was accomplished in 2009 through the joint efforts of DEMHS and DPS/OSET. The state of Connecticut has contracted with Everbridge to provide this service through each of the states 107 Public Safety Answering Points. Through the efforts of DEMHS, the Governor, and the General Assembly, this system utilizes the State E911 database, which is the most up to date listing of citizen's telephone numbers available.



**211 Info Line**

DEMHS has a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with 211 Information Services to serve as rumor control and disseminate public safety information during emergencies. 211 also sends a liaison to the EOC during exercises and actual events.

**3. Targets**

**Communications Capability:**

During the planning stage, the Statewide Interoperability Plan is updated and enhanced by the members of the CPSSEIC and the Interoperability Coordinator. Recommendations from the previous fiscal year and the current environment are considered to:

- Add new initiatives to be accomplished in the coming year.
- Update and carry over incremental initiatives from the previous year that are still pertinent to the effort.
- Remove initiatives that have been accomplished.
- Add new content to the supplemental information sections of the Statewide Plan to provide practitioners with the most up to date information about the status of interoperability in the State of Connecticut.

The final draft of the Statewide Plan is sent to the Commissioner of the DEMHS, and then the Governor for approval. Once the Governor has signed off on the Statewide Plan, another year of implementation begins.

Although the establishment of the I-CALL/I-TAC system throughout the State is a major step towards interoperability, there is more to be done. The state’s plan is to accomplish the following 5 goals.

Target Description
Interconnect PSAPs, communication systems and identified public safety facilities throughout Connecticut such as fire stations, EMS facilities, hospitals, law enforcement facilities, emergency operations centers, and local public health, etc. on a proprietary resilient IP network; Creation of an integrated voice and data network to connect all emergency response, assisting and supporting organizations.
Enhancement and integration of first responder practitioner Mobile Field Communications through improved equipment, training and coordination. This goal will accomplish the requirements of the STR.
Enhancement and Migration of Regional Communications Systems to 700 MHz while maintaining current capabilities, i.e. evaluate CMED system and maintain CMED infrastructure on UHF while building out 700 MHz.



<p>Create a common understanding of communications interoperability throughout the State of Connecticut. Create a process for developing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), using common language (English), and Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and complete regional governance.</p>
<p>Conduct an inventory of all existing radio equipment and licenses and prepare a long term plan. Tasks and activities will include hiring a contractor, drafting specifications for the inventory, determining the scope, designing an inventory database, and inputting the actual data.</p>
<p>Upgrade the DPS Hotline and CMED System. Tasks and activities will include hiring a contractor to study the existing systems, preparation of a design, purchase of equipment, and installation and training for the users of the systems. Each step in this process will be reviewed and approved by the Connecticut Interoperable Communications Committee.</p>
<p>Continue to maintain and update the Regional Tacticap Interoperable Communications Plans, and integrate them into a single statewide TIC Plan.</p>
<p>Continued training is needed for agencies outside of Fire, EMS &amp; law enforcement.</p>

**Emergency Public Information and Warning Capability:**

Target Description
<p>Install a DEMHS/State based Emergency Notification System for alerting of first responders and Emergency Management Directors during emergencies.</p>
<p>Assist DPS/OSET in the coordination of Emergency Notification Systems in Connecticut.</p>

Two comprehensive and aggressive long-term performance measures have been developed to show the progress of the State’s interoperability effort as it moves towards the 2015 Vision.

- The ability and effectiveness of local, regional, state, non-profit and private entities to communicate with voice, data and video.
- Coordination with state agencies’ interoperable communication efforts.



The annual update and maintenance of an interoperability database of local, regional, and statewide equipment, governance, along with standard operating procedures (SOPs). An annual self-assessment based on the SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum is expected to indicate rightward movement towards appropriate interoperability levels.

The State of Connecticut uses an annual planning lifecycle to update, implement, institutionalize and measure the success of the Statewide Plan. This lifecycle, depicted in the figure below, consists of four stages: Plan, Implement, Assess and Measure, and Buy-In and Compliance. This planning lifecycle will be used each year until 2015, or until the Vision is achieved, whichever is sooner.

#### **4. Initiatives**

The goals identified in the SCIP have been prioritized to address the development and improvement of interoperable communications through the enhancement of governance, technology, SOPs, usage, training and exercises. The deliverables will be continually evaluated for their progress and effectiveness. Changes to the SCIP will be made as necessary to achieve overall success.

##### **Communications Capability:**

#### **Initiative 1: Interconnectivity of Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs):SCIP**

**Goal:** Interconnectivity of Public Safety Answering Points communication systems and identified public safety facilities throughout Connecticut such as fire stations, EMS facilities, hospitals, law enforcement facilities, emergency operations centers, and local public health, etc. on a proprietary resilient IP network; creation of an integrated voice and data network to connect all emergency response, assisting and supporting organizations.

##### **Initiatives:**

- Identify sites for wireless and 700 MHz connectivity
- Identify locations and capacity needed for all sites to be connected with fiber optic
- Develop specifications for wireless network
- Purchase and deploy wireless network
- Develop a project plan, proposal for procurement and equipment list, etc.

#### **Initiative 2: Enhancement of First Responder Mobile Field Communications: SCIP**

**Goal:** Enhancement and integration of first responder practitioner Mobile Field Communications through improved equipment, training and coordination.

##### **Initiatives:**

- Develop specifications for mobile communications vehicles and equipment



- Purchase and deploy mobile communications vehicles and equipment
- Develop specifications for mobile STR Cache of communication infrastructure equipment
- Purchase and deploy mobile STR Cache of communication infrastructure equipment
- Develop specifications for mobile EOC/PSAP unit
- Purchase and deploy mobile EOC/PSAP unit
- Re-inventory and assess previously distributed communications equipment
- Develop a maintenance plan for the distributed communications equipment
- Maintain the distributed communications equipment
- Identify training needs of local practitioners
- Develop training programs
- Deliver training programs
- Evaluate training effectiveness through exercises
- Inventory needed programming needs by local practitioners
- Develop reprogramming plan

### **Initiative 3: Migration of Regional Communications Systems to 700 MHz: SCIP**

**Goal:** Enhancement and Migration of Regional Communications Systems to 700 MHz while maintaining current capabilities i.e. evaluate CMED system and maintain CMED infrastructure on UHF while building out 700 MHz.

#### **Initiatives:**

- Establish a planning team
- Develop a frequency plan and governance for regional use of 700 MHz
- Quantify systems to be integrated into requirements
- Develop specifications for systems and network equipment
- Purchase and install equipment
- Train, exercise and test systems

### **Initiative 4: Create a common understanding of interoperability: SCIP**

**Goal:** Create a common understanding of communications interoperability throughout the State of Connecticut.

#### **Initiatives:**

- Identify all applicable practitioners
- Develop and deliver outreach and education programs.

### **Initiative 5: Developing Standard Operating Procedures and MOU's: SCIP**

**Goal:** Create a process for developing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), using common language (English), and Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs).



**Initiatives:**

- Identify any existing applicable SOPs and MOUs
- Collect and develop a team to evaluate, update and create applicable SOPs and MOUs
- Identify and/or create a system and process for sharing of SOPs and MOUs

**Initiative 6: Complete regional governance: SCIP**

**Goal:** Complete regional governance

**Initiatives:**

- Select representatives to comprise Regional Emergency Planning teams and subcommittees
- Develop guidance and governance documents
- Have governance formally approved and adopted

**Initiative 7: Complete Regional TICP:SCIP**

**Goal:** Complete Tactical Interoperable Communication Plans (TICP) for all regions and statewide.

**Initiatives:**

- Write and develop TICPs
- Exercise and develop mitigation plans for the TICPs.

**Initiative 8: MEDSAT for Hospitals**

Provide a redundant communications system designed to support and/or replace existing avenues of telecommunication in the event those systems become insufficient to manage the event or become inoperative. Provide DPH with an emergency broadcast communications system between and among the 32 acute care hospitals in Connecticut, the Centers of Excellence and the Department of Public Health in response to an emergency event. This system contains two (2) communications devices within one unit, and the individual features can not be used simultaneously.

The system also has a two-way individual and group radio type feature capable of broadcasting a message to all 32 acute care hospitals and Centers of Excellence simultaneously. In an emergency MEDSAT will be used for ongoing, updates which can include status of the event, intelligence sharing and resources requirement/reallocation.



# Training and Exercises

## 1. Accomplishments

DEMHS directs the delivery of National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command System (ICS) training to our partners within Connecticut. It's training partners include the traditional first responder community (Fire, Police and EMS), Emergency Management, Chief Executive Officers, Public Health, Public Works, non governmental and private sector agencies.

DEMHS continues to do extensive outreach by holding regional seminars to enforce the importance of NIMS and ICS and to ensure buy-in to the concepts. NIMS and ICS have been incorporated into the Fire, Police and EMS recruit and refresher trainings. DEMHS training staff is currently working on distance learning, webinars and video conference training to reach a larger audience and reduce the financial burden on agencies. This process continues into 2009 as DEMHS is involved in a National Working Group to effect this change on a nationwide level.

During 2009, DEMHS conducted 59 direct deliver programs within Connecticut. (See Table) DEMHS will continue this aggressive approach to ensure NIMS compliance within Connecticut.

Course Number	Direct Deliver Programs
<b>NIMS 700</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>ICS 100</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>ICS 200</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>ICS 300</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>ICS 400</b>	<b>10</b>

There was a decrease to the direct delivery of the NIMS 700 and ICS 100 & 200 programs due to a recommendation from the NIMS Education and Training Committee that these programs be completed on-line. This allowed DEMHS to focus on the advanced programs.

DEMHS sponsored CBRNE training in cooperation with the FEMA consortium, training over 400 first responders in Advanced Level Programs. DEMHS also piloted an Ambulance Task Force Leader course which was the first offering in the Northeast. A second delivery is scheduled for early 2010.

### **Department of Public Health/Emergency Management and Homeland Security Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program**

A partnership between DEMHS and DPH delivered 5 deliveries of the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program in each of the DEMHS regions. This program is the federal standard for the development and delivery of Exercises using federal grant funding.



### **Initial Law Enforcement Response to Suicide Bombing Incidents**

This is a new program offered through New Mexico Tech and is part of the Department of Homeland Security Consortium training partners. Fire, EMS and Law Enforcement from around the state were instructed by retired members of the Israeli Military as to prevention, response and recovery to bombing incidents.

DEMHS will be conducting additional programs in this series during 2010.

### **Automated Critical Asset Management System**

The DEMHS Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources unit sponsored an Automated Critical Asset Management System (ACAMS) training in which law enforcement officers received training in the methodology and process involved in assessing, recording and managing critical infrastructure sites. This information is then entered into a database when it can be assessed and used for planning and response.

### **Current Capabilities**

#### **NIMS Compliance**

The State of Connecticut and DEMHS have prioritized the implementation of NIMS with the passage of Public Act 07-56, the Intrastate Mutual Aid System, effective October 1, 2007. As required by C.G.S. 28-7(a), DEMHS solicited, received and reviewed updated Emergency Operations Plans (EOP's) from all 169 municipalities and 2 tribal nations.

### **Targets**

#### **NIMS / ICS Compliance & Training, National Framework**

DEMHS will develop an aggressive training plan to keep Connecticut prepared to respond within our borders or to assist neighboring states in the event of an emergency or disaster.

Target Description
Working with IMSD, The State of Connecticut is NIMSCAST compliant as of November 2009. NIMSCAST is required, per FEMA guidance, for the Grantee (State of Connecticut). The Sub-Grantees (municipalities) at this point are requested but not required to complete NIMSCAST.
National Response Framework (NRF) continues through EMI's IS programs. Training to the new NRF is a very high priority for DEHMS and will be delivered via multiple avenues. DEMHS will be using the IS data and state training records to track the compliance and measure delivery.
DEMHS will review the procedures on how NIMS and ICS training



<p>are delivered in Connecticut. DEMHS is working with state and national level partners to streamline NIMS and ICS training to incorporate additional educational methods such as distance learning, blended learning, State sponsored Webinars, video conferencing, additional train the trainer programs, etc. DEMHS staff serves on a national working group addressing NIMS/ICS Training.</p>
<p>New NIMS programs have been added into the State of Connecticut's NIMS/ICS training plan. All of these programs are to be part of the NIMS 5 year training program and continues to encourage first responders to complete these courses.</p>
<p>DEMHS and its partners will be reviewing the ICS training needs of individual agencies to assist in developing appropriate training for all first responders. The plan is to fit the needs, operational responsibility, and capacity of agencies with the ICS. Agencies comprising less than 20 staff can assume that operating a multi-jurisdictional event beyond a single operational period is extremely unlikely. The development of IMTs to fill this void is currently occurring within Connecticut. The National curriculum has been released and adopted by DEMHS in our 5 year training plan.</p>
<p>ICS Position Specific Training (PST) is a key program that will assist all of the response stakeholders within Connecticut. DEMHS is reassessing the need for smaller agencies to be trained to levels that exceed their capabilities. The formation of incident management teams (IMT) with the addition of the PST will meet the DEMHS strategic goal of the formation of this team within Connecticut.</p>

## Initiatives

### **Initiative 1 Incident Management Teams**

DEMHS is working with our Regional Emergency Planning Teams (REPT) to develop an All Hazards Incident Management Team in each of the five DEMHS Regions. The teams will vary between Level 5 (Local IMT) to Level 3 (Statewide IMT) and will be determined by the REPT.

### **Initiative 2: Credentialing**

Credentialing remains a major priority for DEMHS under NIMS. The DEMHS Coordinating Council formed the Credentialing Committee and has completed Stage I of a 3 stage credentialing plan. The committee has also identified training requirements for 6 of the 15 Emergency Support Functions.

### **Initiative 3: 3 Year Training and Exercise plan**

DEMHS is working with the REPTs to develop a NIMS compliant 3 year Training and Exercise plan. This will assure that all of the trainings conducted and exercises held meet the NIMS and HSEEP guideline to ensure compliance under the Homeland Security Grants Program.



## Citizen Preparedness

### 1. Accomplishments

#### **Citizen Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place Capability**

In early 2009, DEMHS regional planning staff initiated production of Version 2.0 of Connecticut's Regional Evacuation and Shelter Guides, which is nearing completion.

The Shelter Data Collection Initiative was begun in 2009 to rectify inconsistencies in local shelter data held by various public and private agencies. DEMHS worked with Connecticut American Red Cross to develop a standard data collection tool that contained all necessary elements, including reference to the National Shelter System. Through this process, an accurate database will be available to the emergency regional community. DEMHS and ARC have agreed to maintain this database over time to assure its accuracy. Version 2.0 will eventually contain this updated shelter data and will become an annex to each region's RESP, as well as remain a stand-alone document.

In addition to the Shelter Data Collection information, Version 2.0 updates protocols and policies central to the Version 1.0 guidance, issued by DEMHS in 2007. As Connecticut's first Regional Evacuation and Shelter Guides, these were written to be used by state and local government organizations to manage and coordinate multi-jurisdictional or regional evacuations. Implementation of the procedures outlined in the guides would occur under the direction of the Governor, through the State Emergency Operations Center and the Regional Offices of DEMHS. Each of the guides identifies a range of emergency situations which have the potential to disrupt essential services or mobility, or adversely affect public health and safety, or regional infrastructure to varying degrees. The Guides are part of a much larger planning process which had led to the creation of draft Regional Emergency Support Plans in accordance with FEMA's State and Local Guide (SLG 101) for All-Hazard Emergency Operations Planning and the Department of Homeland Security's National Response Framework. As a result, the work of the REPTs is ongoing. Connecticut's mission, in developing the Evacuation and Sheltering Guides, is to:

- Remove people from harm's way;
- Optimize the State's transportation system;
- Deploy appropriate resources

#### **Mass Care (Sheltering, Feeding, and Related Services) Capability**

Across the country much attention has been focused on providing for the needs of persons with disabilities, older persons, and the medically dependent or otherwise distinct population groups within our communities during disasters. Some of the previously identified obstacles included space requirements; the need for specialized equipment; reliance on assistive devices, reliance on available power sources; privacy for personal care; presence of noise and confusion; and reliance on trained medical personnel. As a result of these concerns, many hurricane-prone states have adopted the strategy of creating a network of "Special Needs Shelters." DEMHS,



along with advocates for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and other state and local agencies, has taken a different approach by developing written guidance to local emergency management directors and the American Red Cross on how to create “universally accessible shelters” The concept of universal access sheltering requires that existing “community shelters” should strive to be accessible and usable by as many members of the community as safely and reasonably possible. Not only does this approach more accurately match the composition of our communities, it reduces the need for the development and maintenance of special needs shelters.

### **Supportive Care Shelters**

The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) has convened an Inter-Agency Supportive Care Shelter (SCS) Workgroup to develop a standardized, comprehensive statewide and regional approach for support services and temporary shelters to be provided by municipalities for vulnerable populations during disasters. People with disabilities or special needs (i.e., physical, sensory, developmental, cognitive or psychiatric) working and residing in their communities independently face unique challenges and increased vulnerability during natural disasters such as floods or hurricanes. Defining and measuring populations with disability is complex and varies by the different considerations, which makes it difficult to identify the scope of need or essential services. However, the 2000 United States Census provides estimates of the prevalence of persons living with disabilities for each Connecticut town and identified 17.5% of Connecticut’s population or 546,813 individuals’ ages 5 years and older (2000 U.S. Census American Fact Finder).

DPH is collaborating with representatives from the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Department of Developmental Services, Office of Protection and Advocacy, Department of Social Services, Connecticut Association of Home Care, Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee and other representatives for the vulnerable populations. Similar to the congregate and universal access shelters, the SCS are designed for “wellness care” during general emergency evacuations, e.g., hurricane, flooding, or the Millstone accidents.

### **CERT Teams**

#### **CERT Activities and Training included the following:**

##### ***ADMINISTRATION:***

- 2,644 citizens have been trained to serve on 80 different Community Emergency Response Teams.
- 684 citizens are being trained or awaiting training in 26 different municipalities across the State.
- Two additional categories of trained citizens have been added to the statewide Citizen Corps/CERT program this year. Level 4 are fully trained citizens who do currently affiliate with a municipal team and Level 5 are citizens trained at the awareness level only.
- CERT information access was initiated through the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) for Connecticut Citizen Corps Council members.



- Chairperson William H. Austin and DEMHS Representative Sharon Mazzochi attended the National Annual Citizen Corps Council Conference in Arlington, Virginia, August 8-13, 2009.
- Statewide identification card issue for CERT teams commenced in July 2009 and approximately 600 ID cards have been issued.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Connecticut Citizen Corps Conference was held on September 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009.
- The Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) Program co-sponsored between the Citizen Corps Council (via a \$50,000 grant) and the American Legion begins the statewide introduction process in September 2009.

**FINANCIAL:**

- Category C grants for Planning Organization administration support was increased to \$4,000 per grant during this year.
- The Emergency Financial First Aid Presentation (targeting older Americans) continued and has now been given to over 50% of the municipalities in Connecticut.
- Fiscal Year 2007 Citizen Corps Grant funds were expended in June, 2009, and FY2008 grant funds are now being expended.
- In the past 12 months 37 Category A grants totaling \$54,588, 38 Category B grants totaling \$65,254, and 17 Category C grants totaling \$68,000 were approved for a total of \$187,742.00 in Citizen Corps grants.

**OPERATIONS:**

- The Personal Disaster Presentation (targeting older Americans) is currently being given to towns and cities in Connecticut for 2009.
- A ruling was issued in December 2008 that CERT team usage of strobe lights was not legal in Connecticut.
- CERT and non-sponsored response teams activation policy was amended by DEMHS James Thomas in July 2009.
- During one eight day period in December 2008 the Manchester CERT team had four activations.
- Discussions were initiated with the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary about becoming a working partner with the Connecticut Citizen Corps Council, action is still pending.

**SPECIAL EVENTS:**

- Student Tools Emergency Planning (STEP) Program is being offered in 13 Connecticut municipalities this year.

**TRAINING and EXERCISES:**

- A second CT State Animal Response Teams (SART) was CERT trained in May-July 2009
- Campus CERT TtT was held in March of 2009 at Western Connecticut State University



- Middletown had a Full Scale Exercise involving sheltering with people of special needs and sheltering pets that CERT Teams participated in April 2009.
- The 5th Annual Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Weekend was held on September 26th and September 27th, 2009.

## 2. Current Capabilities

### **Planning Capability**

The Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) has both strategic and operational planning capabilities. The “All Hazards” planning unit also administers the FEMA Public Assistance and Individual Assistance Program and in Presidentally –declared disasters and emergencies. In addition, the State Department of Public Health has several emergency planning staff dedicated to developing procedures for the medical/public health response to pandemics and bioterrorism.

The five DEMHS Regional Offices each have a Regional Coordinator and a planner involved in planning at the regional level. In addition, the staff of Regional Planning Organizations (RPOs) and Councils of Governments (COGs) assist with regional planning initiatives. The Regional Coordinators, Regional planners and staff of the RPOs and COGs also provide technical assistance to local emergency management directors.

There are approximately 10 full-time local Emergency Management Directors (EMDs) out of 171 municipalities and tribal nations in Connecticut. In the other 161 municipalities of the State, local EMDs are either part-time paid or volunteer directors.

**Adequacy of State Plans:** – Existing State Operations Plans are deemed adequate with regards to applicable guidance, assumptions and concept of operations. Plans have been developed to address hazards most likely to occur in the State including natural disasters, chemical and biological terrorism, nuclear power plants accidents, dam failures, livestock diseases, and health care employee strikes. The State’s operations plan for catastrophic events (primarily intended for catastrophic natural disasters) is a draft document which may be finalized when some key plan elements pertaining to debris management, donations management, law enforcement, logistics management and joint military operations in support of civil authorities are further developed.

**Feasibility of Plan:** Existing State operations plans are deemed feasible since critical tasks can be accomplished internally with organic state agency resources or other resources available through existing State contracts, the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), and/or resources available through the federal government. Procedures exist for determining resource needs and for requesting resources through EMAC or the federal government.

**Acceptability of Plans:** Existing State level operations plans are deemed acceptable because it is felt they can meet the requirements of a large-scale (though perhaps not a catastrophic) disaster. The State’s Natural Disaster Plan (NDP), the State of Connecticut Consequence Management Plan for Incidents Involving the Deliberate Use of Chemical Agents were revised, updated and signed by Governor Rell in February 2009. The State of Connecticut Radiological Emergency Response Plan for the Millstone Nuclear Power Station (RERP) were signed by the Governor in accordance with State law in January 2006 and are now under revision with expected completion by the end of January 2009.



### **Citizen Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place Capability**

Each of the Regional Evacuation and Shelter Guides contain 5 Appendices which are referred to as Regional Emergency Support Functions. They are written to facilitate communication and coordination among local municipalities and agencies around specific subject matter issues and activities during a disaster. For example, the Transportation Emergency Support Function focuses on disruptions of the regional transportation system which would require inter-jurisdictional coordination and information sharing. The other four Emergency Support Functions include: Emergency Management; Mass Care and Sheltering; Resource Support; and Health and Medical Services. Other valuable information in the guides includes:

#### **Transportation**

- State Traffic Control Points and road maps
- Wrecker/towing services and gas stations
- Commuter parking lots and lot capacity

#### **Emergency Management**

- Census data and municipal information on first responders
- Locations of Hazardous Materials Teams and Decontamination Trailers
- Locations of special populations including child care facilities, nursing and long term care facilities, youth camps, schools, state parks, Department of Correction facilities, Department of Developmental Services' residential facilities, and much more.

### **Mass Care (Sheltering, Feeding, and Related Services) Capability**

DEMHS has released information which can be of use to local Emergency Management Directors in planning for universally accessible shelters, which are defined as group or congregate public shelters; planned, equipped and operated to meet the sheltering needs of a wide variety of community members, including most people with disabilities and older adults. The ultimate goal of universal access sheltering is that: "All community shelters in the state of Connecticut will be accessible and usable by any member of the community who normally lives independently." While the relative sophistication of a shelter must be determined in response to each community's specific needs, the core to successfully creating "universally accessible" shelters lies in a common foundation composed of

- a reliable power source,
- an appropriate facility,
- an administrative approach that promotes flexible policies to meet individual needs (extra space for assistive devices; private areas to attend to personal needs); and,
- communications capabilities, including signage that is accessible in pictures and Braille rather than just words, as well as telephone and internet capability.

In addition to issuing Universal Access to Shelter Guidance Version 1.0, Connecticut has developed a Disaster Emergency Shelter Accessibility Checklist which can be used as an assessment tool for emergency management directors and other shelter staff and volunteers. A Space and Layout Considerations document has been developed to provide emergency management directors with a visual guide on how to assess space and floor planning. It provides useful information on assessing the space needs that would be required to shelter persons with disabilities, their personal care assistants, service animals,



and personal care equipment in a sheltering environment. Finally, local emergency management directors have been provided with the names of advocacy organizations for persons with disabilities and the elderly who work at the local level and who can engage in universal access shelter planning at the local and regional levels.

### **Community Preparedness and Participation Capability**

The guidance for Connecticut Citizen Corps Council is provided by the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security as well as other Connecticut agencies that work closely with the department.

The Medical Reserve Corps efforts in Connecticut were established under a Department of Public Health sponsored initiative with the establishment of the State Medical Reserve Corps Advisory Council. Funding for the Medical Reserve Corps is provided by DPH.

The Connecticut Statewide Citizen Corps Council Program Funding Guidelines were approved on February 22, 2007, including the establishment of Category A, B, and C grants for program participants.

Examples of how local jurisdictions have integrated non-governmental resources include:

- West Hartford ID teams;
- Search and Rescue Teams of Manchester, Connecticut;
- Torrington Connecticut Community ID Teams;
- All local jurisdictions use volunteers in shelter & support in the event of an emergency

## **Continuity of Operations / Continuity of Government**

### **COOP Plan for Disasters:**

In 2009, DEMHS focused its Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government planning on pandemic response, and specifically, response to the H1N1 virus outbreak. DEMHS took a number of internal actions, including updating and revising the agency's Pandemic Influenza Continuity of Operations (COOP) plan, exercising that plan, and also creating a pre-activation H1N1 operations framework. Working in cooperation with the lead agency for the H1N1 response, the CT DPH, as well as with the Governor's Office, the Department of Information Technology, the Department of Administrative Services, the State Department of Education and other partners, DEMHS created a State Agency Concept of Operations Guide which was released in November of 2009. DEMHS also participated in the Pandemic COOP Unified Command.

### **Critical Resource Logistics and Distribution Capability:**

#### **Resource Logistics and Distribution Plan**

DEMHS has initiated a Resource Typing Database Program in January 2008, inventorying resources by Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) across all five DEMHS regions. Using FY 2007 Homeland Security grant funding, DEMHS regions were required to deliver inventoried



and typed data for four functions in this funding period: ESF #3 (Public Works), ESF # 4 (Firefighting), ESF #8 (Public Health, EMS only), and ESF #13 (Law Enforcement).

DEMHS intends to update the initial four (4) ESFs by inventorying and typing the complete ESF#8 (Public Health and Medical Services) in concert with the CT Department of Public Health, ESF #1 (Transportation), ESF #2 (Communications), and ESF # 11 (Agriculture and Nature Resources).

### 3. Targets

**Planning Capability:**

DEMHS departed from its previous 4-year plan update cycle and began an update of its Natural Disaster Plan and Consequence Management Plan for Deliberately Caused Incidents Involving Chemical Agents in 2008. The plans had been previously been promulgated in January 2006. The current update should be complete in January 2009, effecting a 3-year update cycle. In addition, DEMHS will undertake a rewrite of the existing plans, including those currently being updated, to reflect an All-Hazards, ESF-based plan format, similar to the format used by the U.S, Department of Homeland Security. T

Target Description
Update and Consolidate Existing Operations Plans to correspond to the National Response Framework ESF structure (NDP, CMG, RERP)
Finalize Catastrophic Disaster Plan (CDP)
Create a State Emergency Operations Plan that is NIMS compliant and ESF-based to better coordinate with federal and Regional Emergency Support Plans.
Update Administrative Plans for FEMA Public Assistance

**Mass Care (Sheltering, Feeding, and Related Services) Capability**

DEMHS has begun working with the Department of Public Health, who is taking the lead on developing guidance for the establishment of “supportive care shelters” which provide temporary care in congregate settings for residents that require some assistance to maintain functionality (unlike persons with disabilities who, along with their personal equipment, services animal, and/or family members or personal care assistants can care for themselves at a universally accessible shelter.) This planning effort has just begun and includes representatives from state agencies, local government, and advocacy groups for persons with disabilities and the elderly.

Target Description
Participate in Committee established to develop written guidance for operation of “supportive care shelters”



Assist DPH in the development of medical and other staffing requirements and assess realistic resources within the state available to meet staffing needs
Assist DPH in table top exercise to test guidance

**Community Preparedness and Participation Capability**

The Connecticut Statewide Citizen Corps Council Advisory Committee was established by a formal vote of the Connecticut State Emergency Management and Homeland Security Advisory Council at its regular monthly meeting on February 10, 2005. The committee is charged with recommending statewide policy concerning funding distribution formulas, response standards, performance requirements, agency interface, statewide credentialing, and regionalization efforts for Connecticut. During the past two years, CERT teams have been established in numerous locations throughout Connecticut and have been successful to include a diverse population. The future establishment of CERT teams will include disabled citizens who will provide community outreach to first responders on dealing with disabled citizens. The success of the Citizen Corps Council Advisory Committee will continue based upon the strong cohesiveness of the members and the support from the Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

Target Description
Establishing a CERT team in the DEMHS 3 composed entirely of disabled citizens whose mission will be public relations and training first responders on dealing with disabled citizens.
Using homeland security funding to conduct background checks on future citizen responders.
Youth Health Service Corps-Collegiate High School Corps trained as a CERT Team.
Draft a Public Awareness Strategic Plan

Target Description
Equip all state agencies with the Information Technology Equipment necessary to make each agency COOP Ready in the event of a Pandemic.
Draft a Master Pandemic COOP Plan for Connecticut.



Implement a cost sharing program in cooperation with Connecticut Light & Power under Public Act 05-01 to fund the purchase and installation of emergency generators for EOC's, Shelters and large Communications Centers. Tasks and activities will include signing an MOU with the DPUC, drafting homeland security generator standards, and approving the applications of local municipalities.

Target Description
Initiate ESF-based Resource Typing Database across all 5 DEMHS Regions January of 2008 to be annually updated.
Establish Resource Typing Webpage within the DEMHS structure where database is selectively available to and interactive with regional jurisdictions for data collection and annual updates.
Establish a position in the State EOC for activations for the purpose of locating, deploying and tracking needed resources.

#### 4. *Initiatives*

##### **Initiative 1: Planning Capability**

Planning activities have been primarily in support of catastrophic disaster response. These have included debris management planning, donations management planning, commodities distribution panning.

##### Debris Planning

The State of Connecticut awarded a statewide debris removal contract to AshBritt, Inc. and a statewide debris monitoring contract to Beck Disaster Recovery, Inc. (BDR). These contracts could be activated by the Governor in a major disaster to supplement existing State and local debris management capabilities. Both AshBritt and BDR have extensive experience in the management of huge quantities of disaster-generated debris and will work together to remove debris efficiently while maximizing federal reimbursements in a Presidentially-declared event. In addition, the State of Connecticut finalized a Debris Management Plan in 2008 which was approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

DEMHS, DEP, DOT and other state agencies formed subcommittees to establish procedures, etc. on how to implement the contracts. They include: Policy and Procedures, Finance, Temporary Debris Storage and Reduction Sites, Public Information and Education, and Exercise and Training. A Concept of Operations Plan was developed. Temporary Debris Storage and Reduction Sites are being identified, along with DEP Emergency Authorization process. A Disaster Debris Management Preparedness Workshop – “Strengthening



Interagency Planning, Communication, and Coordination” was conducted in November 2009. An Exercise Design Team has been established for a June 2010 Tabletop Exercise.

### Donations Management

The State Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) established a multi-agency Donations Management Organization (DMO) in 2008 and began to address critical donations management issues such as procedures for the procurement of a warehouse for donated goods in a catastrophic disaster. The full DMO met 3 times in 2008 and will continue to meet in 2009. In addition, DEMHS has created the Donations Coordination Team (DCT). The DCT is comprised of critical Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) and DEMHS planning staff. The DCT meets bi-monthly and its efforts are concentrated on planning and coordination. The DCT will be the primary functioning body to provide donations management in the event of a disaster. DEMHS has an MOU with members of the DCT, which includes the Adventist Community Services (ACS), to operate the donations warehouse. DEMHS also has an MOU with the Aidmatrix Foundation to allow the use of the Aidmatrix Donations Management software. The Aidmatrix software is a web-based program that is being adopted by an increasing number of States to manage donated goods and services as well as cash donations in a major emergency. The Connecticut portal is now active on the Aidmatrix website and a Donations Coordination Team composed of staff from several state and private non-profit agencies in Connecticut have received training on the program. These agencies include DEMHS, DSS, the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, United Way of CT, the CT Food Bank, and FoodShare. The Donations Management Support Annex of the State’s draft Catastrophic Disaster Plan was updated to reflect these developments

### Commodities Distribution Planning

Utilizing U.S. Army Corp of Engineers guidance, the DEMHS Plans Unit developed a Local Distribution Point PowerPoint presentation. The DEMHS Regional Trainers, with support from the SPGA Planners as subject matter experts, delivered 10 sessions of this course in 2008. Local officials were provided a commodities distribution planning template and encouraged to begin developing plans and procedures for staffing, equipping and operating their previously-identified local distribution points. This course may be repeated in the future. In addition, in December 2008 DEMHS conducted a set-up of the State Staging Area Command Post at Rentschler Field. The State Staging Area would receive incoming federal relief commodities (food, water, ice, tarps) in a catastrophic disaster and redistribute them to local commodities distribution points. The Commodities Distribution Standard Operating Procedure was updated following functional exercises on the state/regional/local ordering system and the State Staging Area operations.



## CONCLUSION

The Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) has been in existence for five years as of January 1, 2010. Over those five years, the staff and leadership team at DEMHS have worked to enhance and improve emergency planning, preparedness, response and recovery on behalf of Connecticut's citizens. The many accomplishments outlined in this report are a testament to that hard work. DEMHS would like to recognize the efforts of the membership of the DEMHS Coordinating Council, along with local emergency management directors, chief elected officials, tribal leaders, and the private and non-profit sectors for their willingness to partner with state government and for their equally hard work to protect the safety of the citizens of Connecticut.