



SECURE & PREPARED

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HSEMD/FEMA Teams Assess Tornado and Storm Damage in Six Counties

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) conducted joint damage assessments with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Small Business Administration (SBA) and local officials following the tornadoes and severe weather on April 9.

Teams comprised of local officials, HSEMD and FEMA conducted joint preliminary damage assessments (PDAs) April 18-19 for federal Individual Assistance and Public Assistance programs.

"The damage assessments were the next step in our efforts to assist Iowans and communities that were affected by the tornadoes and severe weather on April 9," said HSEMD Administrator J. Derek Hill.

Individual Assistance joint PDA teams reviewed damages in five



HSEMD Administrator J. Derek Hill, center, along with Governor Terry Branstad, talk with Mapleton residents on April 10. Photo by Col. Gregory Haggood, Iowa National Guard.

counties: Buena Vista, Ida, Monona, Pocahontas and Sac. The Individual Assistance program provides assis-

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Are You Prepared?

Are you and your family prepared for severe weather? Learn more at www.beready-iowa.org

Helping Others Comes Naturally to Iowans

HSEMD PIO Stefanie Bond was with damage assessment teams that visited Monona County on April 19. While there, she had an opportunity to talk with impacted citizens.

A Family Affair

David J. Malloy doesn't live in Mapleton, but he wants to help the citizens who have been impacted here. Only one day after being released from the hospital, he walked into the Mapleton

City Hall and offered a home in the city of Sloan, two campers, and other equipment to anyone in town who could use a break.

"Some people called me and knew I had rental properties," he said. "I just got over here this morning and started figuring out what to do."

It's amazing how the community – even the extended community in surrounding counties – has pulled

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HSEMD/FEMA Assess Storm Damage

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tance to home owners and small businesses, including temporary housing, disaster unemployment assistance and replacement or repair of costs for eligible applicants.

Public Assistance joint PDA teams reviewed damages in six counties: Buena Vista, Cherokee, Ida, Monona, Pocahontas and Sac. The Public Assistance program provides funding to public entities and select nonprofit agencies to rebuild damaged infrastructure that may include roads, bridges, culverts, and other public facilities, or to cover costs of emergency work during and debris removal after the storms.

Data from these joint PDAs could be used by Governor Branstad to request a Presidential Disaster Declaration, which, if granted, could make Public Assistance and Individual Assistance available in the designated counties. Information gathered during the assessments will be analyzed to determine if damages incurred meet criteria set by the federal government.

HSEMD is responsible for the coordination of State disaster response and recovery activities. HSEMD staffed the State Emergency Operations Center from shortly after the tornadoes touched down until all requests for resources were fulfilled several days later. HSEMD staff assisted the City of Mapleton in determining how to best remove the large amounts of debris left by the tornado. HSEMD also worked with the Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council to coordinate volunteer management throughout the impacted counties. Ω

VA Central Iowa Health Care System Conducting Patient Reception Exercise

The Department of Veterans Affairs and the Veterans Health Administration are known primarily for providing medical care services to veterans, providing health care education to medical students and residents, and conducting innovative medical research. A lesser known mission is that of a federal emergency response organization that supports several Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) within the National Response Framework, primarily health and medical response (ESF 8). A key component of federal health and medical response is the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS).

The NDMS is a cooperative, asset-sharing partnership among the Departments of Veterans Affairs, Health and Human Services, Defense and Homeland Security. Its statutory mission is to organize a coordinated effort between the NDMS federal partners, states and other appropriate public or private entities to provide health services and health-related social services to respond to the needs of victims of a public health emergency or catastrophic disaster.

VA Central Iowa Health Care System (VACIHCS) is a designated NDMS Federal Coordinating Center (FCC). Its mission as a FCC is to receive, triage, stage, transport and track in-coming patients evacuated during a disaster or national emergency to local participating NDMS inpatient hospitals. VACIHCS maintains NDMS agreements with hospitals in Des Moines, Ames, Iowa City and Cedar Rapids. The primary patient reception site is located at the 132d Fighter Wing, Iowa Air National Guard.

Patient reception operations are supported by a wide range of local, emergency service organizations, i.e. Polk County Emergency Management, Central Iowa Emergency Medical Services organizations, American Red Cross, Salvation Army, and Amateur Radio Emergency Services. In addition, the Patient Reception Team is composed of staff from VACIHCS, Iowa Health System, and Mercy Medical Center.

During the week of May 16-20, 2011, VACIHCS will be conducting a series of full-scale exercise activities associated with the National Level Exercise 2011 (NLE2011), a multi-state multi-agency exercise designed to support regional planning, response and recovery from a catastrophic earthquake in the New Madrid seismic zone.

Through the course of the exercise VACIHCS, its NDMS hospitals and community-based support organizations will progress from NDMS alert, to activation, to receipt of simulated earthquake victims, to transporting simulated patients to participating NDMS hospitals. Overall the exercise will demonstrate the collaboration and partnerships necessary to support NDMS patient reception operations. The non-threatening learning environment will allow participants to increase their knowledge of organizational roles and responsibilities and provide a constructive evaluation of current operational plans.

Submitted by Michael Peters, VHA Office of Emergency Management. Ω

Creston School District Receives Approval for Construction of Safe Rooms

The Creston Community School District recently received approval for the construction of tornado safe rooms at their high school and middle school. The safe rooms will receive funding through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). As part of the HMGP in Iowa, 75 percent of eligible project costs is paid by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), 10 percent is paid by the state and the remaining 15 percent is paid by the sub-applicant (local governments/communities/tribal governments and certain eligible private nonprofit organizations).

For additional information on Iowa's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program projects, see the April 8, 2011, issue of Secure & Prepared at www.iowahomelandsecurity.org.

Creston High School Safe Room Project

Award Amount: \$1,035,973

Award Date: March 24, 2011

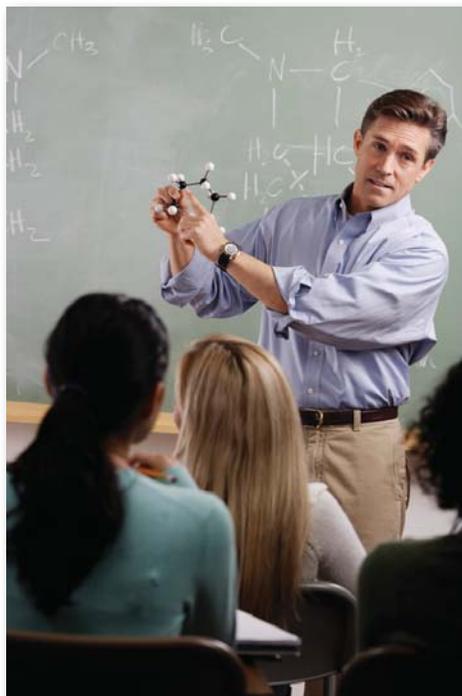
This multi-purpose tornado safe room project will provide near absolute life protection for 730 Creston high school students, staff, and administration. The new facility will be an addition to the northeast side of the existing Creston High School facility.

Creston Middle School Safe Room Project

Award Amount: \$1,445,656

Award Date: April 6, 2011

This project will also serve as a multi-purpose safe room to provide protection for 1,102 Creston elementary/middle school students, staff, and administration. The new facility will be an addition to the north side of the existing Creston Elementary/Middle School facility. Ω



CAPTAP/ACAMS Training

When: May 9-11, 2011

8 a.m.—4 p.m. daily

Where: Hoover State Office Building, Des Moines

Who: Analysts, assessors, incident planners, law enforcement, fire and emergency management/homeland security personnel

The CAPTAP training will provide attendees with information about the CI/KR Protection Program, vulnerability assessments, and terrorist surveillance operations. To register, click the "HSEMD Course Registration" link under the "Quick Links" tab of the HSEMD website. For more information, contact Curt Sullivan by email or by calling 515-725-3202.

Prerequisites: Attendees must complete the Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII) certification training and must provide a printed certificate of completion and a nondisclosure agreement. To access PCII accreditation, go to <https://pciims.dhs.gov>.

Each participant must register and complete the CAPTAP web-based training. To register, please enter the following URL into the address bar of your browser

<http://captap-training.org>, and click "New Account Registration."

An LMS Administrator will activate your account within 24-48 hours. Each participant will receive an email notification indicating the account is active. Contact Jeremy Sroka at 515-331-5988 with questions.

There is no fee for this course. The registration deadline is April 29. Ω

CERT Train-the-Trainer Course

When: May 18, 2011, 9 a.m.—5 p.m.

Where: Cedar Rapids

Who: Course managers for the CERT Basic Training course, or those with the desire to provide

training for local CERT volunteers.

To register, click the "HSEMD Course Registration" link under the "Quick Links" tab of the HSEMD website www.iowahomelandsecurity.org.

Helping Others Comes Naturally in Mapleton

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together for a common cause.

"I've got a dump truck. I'm going to have it fixed up enough to start hauling [debris] for people [in Mapleton] and helping them out. And I've got a small skid loader that I'm going to offer, and then my time," Malloy said.



HSEMD's Stefanie Bond, left, talks with David Malloy during a visit to Mapleton.

Malloy is a lifelong Iowa resident and has lived in Sloan in Woodbury County for the past 33 years.

The Malloy family has definitely faced its fair share of adversity. Malloy used to live in Salix – the town where five of nine of his ancestors living there on June 11, 1899, were killed by a tornado dubbed the "Salix Cyclone."

Food for Thought

After a long morning surveying the damage in Mapleton, some of us decided to grab something to eat. We were intrigued by the name of one establishment on Main Street and headed that direction.

A sign on the front door of the restaurant made us even more curious: "Aarokotah's serving a free will lunch and dinner. Please come in."

Traci Pawlowski has owned and operated Aarokotah's restaurant in Mapleton for more than three years. The restaurant's name is a combination of her two children's names: Aaron and Dakotah.

"I thought Mapleton was a nice community, and I looked for a

building so I could put a business here," Pawlowski said. She is also a lifelong Iowa resident, and has lived in Monona County for the past 10 years.

On Monday, Aarokotah's was teeming with people enjoying a home-cooked meal.

"This week and all of last week I've extended my business hours," she explained. They were staying open until 8 p.m. serving up freewill dinners.

"After my food costs, I'm donating all of the money to the community and helping out the families here," Pawlowski told us. "It's a blessing for me. In a tragedy like this, God is so good," she said. "He gave me the resources to be able to do this."

Not so. The roof of her business was damaged, and after multiple power surges, she lost all of the freezers in the restaurant. So, I asked her: If she is going to have to worry about her own business and getting back to normal, why was she doing this for her community?

"They're worth it," she said. Ω

TIIPP Corner

In previous columns, we've discussed a little bit about the work of the Threat Information and Infrastructure Protection Program (TIIPP) in sector and asset planning. In this column, we'd like to focus on our efforts in information sharing.

The development of a robust information-sharing system is a huge undertaking. The TIIPP focuses on developing and implementing information sharing systems with the public and private infrastructure sectors, the asset holders and workers within the sectors that make them function. The ultimate goal of the TIIPP in this regard is to develop an effective system that is used by all stakeholders in each of Iowa's 17 sectors that enables the free flow of information, and that the needed information is accessible.

A huge portion of this process is leveraging existing systems that are already in place. To that end, the TIIPP is either currently working with, or looking to work with, organizations such as the Safeguard Iowa Partnership, the Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN) and the Iowa Fusion system, and Infragard to see what systems they have in place, and how we can tie into them.

The Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) is another information-sharing system that the TIIPP is championing. The HSIN is coordinated by the federal government to provide a platform for information sharing. The TIIPP

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HSEMD Mission

Lead, coordinate, and support homeland security and emergency management functions in order to establish sustainable communities and ensure economic opportunities for Iowa and its citizens.

We're on the Web!

www.iowahomelandsecurity.org

HSEMD Welcomes New Homeland Security and Grants Bureau Chief

Angela Chen has joined HSEMD as the Homeland Security and Grants Bureau Chief.

Prior to joining the Division on April 15, Angela served as the Bureau Chief for Energy Programs at the Iowa Office of Energy Independence, managing federal grants and the state's Power Fund investments. She had also worked at the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for nearly 18 years.

Angela has a great deal of experience with federal Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Energy grants, including grant application and administration, and also budget management experience. She has a strong background in engineering with a Ph. D. in mechanical and industrial engineering.

Angela has a green thumb and likes to grow plants indoors and work



Angela Chen

in her garden. She and her family enjoy traveling and spending time together.

Welcome to HSEMD, Angela! Ω

TIIPP Corner: Information Sharing

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has been working with our federal partners to develop a new HSIN-Iowa site from the ground up; once we've completed it, the HSIN-Iowa portal will function as a one-stop shop for all users to access relevant information based on their sector needs.

In the next TIIPP Corner, we'll focus more on the new HSIN-Iowa portal

and our plans for its development and implementation.

As always, if you ever have questions or want more information on any of the topics we discuss in this column, please call 515-725-3231 or email tiipp@iowa.gov.

Submitted by Kyle Karsjen Ω