Emergency Management and Response - Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC)

The InfoGram

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Drugs of Abuse resource guide and overdose mapping tool

Two new resources are available to help communities combat the growing drug and overdose problem.

The Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) created the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP), a free national crowdsourcing tool tracking real-time overdose data. This is a mobile tool used to map overdoses, both fatal and non-fatal, in real time across jurisdictional lines.

ODMAP Level I users, usually law enforcement or fire/EMS personnel, put incident information into a mobile tool on their device or data terminal (no personally identifying information is collected), after which it is uploaded to a database along with approximate location. The initial input takes seconds. Level II users, usually public health and public safety officials, can search and filter data for analytical purposes.

The tool automatically alerts Level II users when there is an overdose spike in their region. ODMAP has uncovered previously unknown geographical correlations, enabling jurisdictions to ramp up response when necessary. The more use ODMAP gets, the more such relationships it will uncover. Training is available on the ODMAP website.

In addition, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) released its 2017 edition of "Drugs of Abuse" (PDF, 3.9 MB), a resource guide on the commonly abused drugs, drugs of concern and designer drugs. The DEA created the guide for anyone dealing with illegal drugs including law enforcement, educators, families and community groups.

(Source: Washington/Baltimore HIDTA)

Lessons learned lead to better active shooter response

Embedding EMS as medics into police teams is still a debated practice, but it had a big test with the Las Vegas mass shooting in early October. Local law enforcement and fire/EMS departments sent 16 police-fire teams into action that night to bring wounded concertgoers to safety, likely saving many lives in the process.

Clark County Fire Department has trained with local law enforcement as part of the local rescue task force for 7 years. They decided to team up in part due to lessons learned from the 1999 Columbine shooting and the 2012 Aurora movie theater shooting. In these and many other cases, medics had to wait for the all-clear before entering the scene, eating up valuable time as people lay dying.

As local departments evaluate this incident, they will make changes to their plans and drills based on the new lessons learned. Other departments have contacted them for information to help them create cohesive rescue task force programs of their own.

The International Public Safety Association recently released the "Rescue Task Force Best Practices Guide," 46-pages covering numerous challenges departments faced when setting up rescue task forces and how they handled them, such as funding and budget, implementation, team make-up, debriefing, training and equipment.

(Source: IPSA)

Training your employees to be better at cybersecurity

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Training your employees to be better at cybersecurity

Webinar: Mass Feeding During Disaster - Planning and Response

U.S. Fire Administration

The InfoGram is distributed weekly to provide members of the Emergency Services Sector with information concerning the protection of their critical infrastructures.

National Cyber Security Awareness Month's (NCSAM) is now in its 14th year. This annual month-long event dedicates October to reminding all digital citizens and businesses that protecting our computers and networks is "Our Shared Responsibility" and that everyone plays a critical role in promoting safe computing. A wide variety of resources are available to help departments train employees to be more cybersecure, including:

- Stop.Think.Connect – this Department of Homeland Security-sponsored program contains videos for training employees, a toolkit for educating different audiences, downloadable posters, and other resources.
- StaySafeOnline – offered by the National Cyber Security Alliance, this program provides a wide variety of resources and pointers to information to help you create a cybersecurity awareness program, including more information about NCSAM and Data Privacy Day (January 28th).
- MS-ISAC Monthly Newsletters – among all the other free resources the MS-ISAC offers state, local, tribal and territorial governments is a monthly cyber tips newsletter that you can rebrand and distribute to your employees. Sign up for the newsletter distribution list or to receive more membership information.
- One of the best courses for training employees and recommended by many state and local governments, the SANS "Securing the Human" program. Twice a year the Center for Internet Security's CyberMarket offers large discounts on SANS training, so you can purchase this training at a huge discount. The next buy window is January and February 2018, which makes this the perfect time to find the funding to train all of your employees.

NCSAM primary goal is to provide Internet users and businesses with information and tools they need to be safer and more secure online, including education about how to protect personal information in today's highly connected world.

(Source: MS-ISAC)

Webinar: Mass Feeding During Disaster - Planning and Response

Logistically managing mass feeding in a disaster area can be one of the most difficult aspects of recovery. With limited power comes limited refrigeration. Damaged or flooded transportation routes make already complex supply chains even more complicated. Then, all the federal aid agencies, military operations, non-profit aid groups and commercial crisis response teams need to coordinate actions.

The Food Protection and Defense Institute is hosting a webinar "Mass Feeding During Disasters: Planning and Response" on Friday, November 3, 2017, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Eastern. Presenters will include people from FEMA logistics to discuss planning and preparedness efforts, and from Southern Baptist Disaster Relief to discuss mobile kitchens and the organization's other work. Those interested must register.

Several other past webinars listed in the Institute's webinar archive also touch on this problem and other issues that are relevant to homeland security or public health.

(Source: Food Protection and Defense Institute)

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For information specifically affecting the private sector critical infrastructure contact the **National Infrastructure Coordinating Center** by phone at **202-282-9201,** or by email at **nicc@dhs.gov.**

The U.S. Fire Administration maintains the Emergency Management and Response – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC). For information regarding the EMR-ISAC visit www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac or contact the EMR-ISAC office at: (301) 447-1325 and/or emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov.

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