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

The InfoGram

Volume 19 — Issue 12 | April 18, 2019

Fires and cultural heritage: protecting our national treasures

The recent devastating fire at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris and last year's fire at the National Museum of Brazil underscore how valuable and vulnerable a nation's cultural heritage can be. Cultural heritage is not a renewable commodity; when it is gone, communities lose resources for economic development, tourism and commerce, as well as their shared identity, history and knowledge.

A new curriculum is available to help cultural institutions – museums, libraries, archives, historical societies, government records agencies and more – work with their first responders to build that all-important relationship at the local level and to write a disaster plan to protect the resources that these cultural institutions hold in the public trust.

"Finding Common Ground: Collaborative Training for the Cultural Heritage and Emergency Response Communities" was developed by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) in conjunction with the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services with grant support from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The course package includes:

- Five pre-program preservation webinars to ensure all participants arrive with the same foundational knowledge.
- Training materials for the program's five workshops.
- Slide decks and text for each in-person workshop.
- Checklists to help develop your own live burn and salvage exercise.
- Videos for the live burn and salvage workshops held in Massachusetts.
- Handouts for each workshop.

The pilot program was very successful in Massachusetts, with 198 out of a maximum possible 200 registrants. Nearly all participating institutions completed a risk assessment, at least 30 institutions completed disaster plans during the training, and cultural stewards expressed a dramatic increase in their comfort level responding to disasters. Most important, nearly every first responder felt more comfortable working with their local cultural stewards – and vice versa.

(Source: MBLC)

DHS announces 2019 preparedness grants totaling over $1.7 billion

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the release of Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Notices of Funding Opportunity for eight DHS preparedness grant programs totaling more than $1.7 billion.

The grant programs provide funding to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as transportation authorities, nonprofit organizations, and the private sector, to improve the nation's readiness in preventing, protecting

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Healthcare and Public Health Sector Highlights newsletters

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

against, responding to, recovering from and mitigating terrorist attacks, major disasters and other emergencies.

- Emergency Management Performance Grant - divided into 10 grants by FEMA region
- Homeland Security Grant Program
- Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program
- Nonprofit Security Grant Program
- Intercity Passenger Rail - Amtrak Program
- Port, Transit and Intercity Bus Security Grant Programs

FY2019 grant guidance focuses on the nation's highest risk areas, including urban areas that face the most significant threats. For FY2019, the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) will enhance regional preparedness and capabilities by funding 31 high-threat, high-density urban areas.

Consistent with previous grant guidance, dedicated funding is provided for law enforcement and terrorism prevention throughout the country to prepare for, prevent and respond to pre-operational activity and other crimes that are precursors or indicators of terrorist activity.

(Source: Grants.gov)

Healthcare and Public Health Sector Highlights newsletters

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) works to ensure the resiliency of healthcare and public health facilities through effective planning and risk management through ASPR's Division of Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP).

ASPR CIP provides many resources for the sector, including four topical editions of the weekly e-mail newsletter "Healthcare and Public Health Sector Highlights" bulletin. Topics include:

- Preparedness, Resilience and Response (sent every Thursday).
- Cybersecurity (sent every Friday).
- Healthcare Supply Chain (sent the second Wednesday of every month).
- Infectious Diseases (sent the third Wednesday of every month).

To subscribe to any (or all) of these bulletins visit the subscription page on the ASPR website.

(Source: ASPR)

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DHS and the FBI encourage recipients of this document to report information concerning suspicious or criminal activity to the local FBI office and also the State or Major Urban Area Fusion Center.

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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