Regional Integration Branch
External Preparedness Efforts

• The Regional Integration Branch (RIB) at FEMA Region I is leading the way in collaborating with external partners to ensure communities are resilient to disasters
• This whole community approach to partnerships is the key to creating a resilient nation
• Building these partnerships is a key factor when preparing for, responding to, and recovering from catastrophic incidents
• RIB has utilized those partnerships to enhance the resiliency of the region, which has enabled partners to recover faster and ensure a minimal disruption in business.
Region I Partnerships

• Region I has partnered with Agencies, Organizations, and other affiliates, like the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Health and Human Services, AmeriCorps, American Red Cross, and the private sector, to ensure critical pieces of infrastructure can get back up and running following an incident.
Region I Collaboration Efforts

- COOP
- Cyber Security
- Higher Education
- Public Health Preparedness
- FEMA Corps
- Adult Preparedness (SOS)
Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP)

- RIB has provided outreach materials to Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) that have enhanced their ability to be more resilient. Through the Continuity of Operations Program (COOP)
- RIB has offered COOP training courses to agencies and individuals and also has developed COOP working groups within each state.
Cyber Security Initiative

• Attendance at several Federal, State, and Private sector cyber security related working groups.
• Results in an increased awareness of developing cyber security threats.
• Over time, threat sharing capability is increased. Which can reduce damage over multiple networks.
Cyber Planning

Cyber Resilience Workshops

- DHS facilitated four or eight-hour workshop introduces cyber security managers and practitioners to cyber resilience concepts and to capability and capability building activities in key performance areas related to cyber security, IT operations, and business continuity.

- These collaborative and interactive workshops:
  - Raise awareness to gaps in cyber management practices and to process improvements for CIKR and SLTT communities.
  - Reinforce cyber security best practices and examine resilience concepts and objectives.
  - Share information with communities-of-interest related to national cyber security policies, initiatives, and federal capabilities.
  - Enhance cyber incident response and business continuity capabilities and discuss federal coordination for incident notification, containment, and recovery.

- What to Expect:
  - A four or eight-hour, collaborative workshop, with interactive discussions between operations and cyber security personnel.
  - Structured dialogs and scenario walk-throughs to reinforce resilience concepts and best practices.
  - Sector/industry-specific content and threat examples.
Cyber/COOP Training and Exercise

- Independent Study (IS) 523: Resilient Accord
- IS-546: Continuity of Operations
  [http://training.fema.gov/is/](http://training.fema.gov/is/)
- Cyber Sentry TTX: focused on how continuity planners, responded to a simulated cyber-threat scenario in order to assess their continuity plans, policies, and procedures.
- For more information on COOP and Cyber Security, please contact Nate Spada at [Nathan.Spada@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Nathan.Spada@fema.dhs.gov)
Staying Connected

• Info/threat sharing networks must be built
• Reduces the spread of threats as they attempt to spread across multiple networks
• Advanced Cyber Security Center (ACSC)
• FEMA R1-IAEM
• UCC, IHE Center of excellence
  o Pell Center, Norwich University
  o Quarterly webinars
Higher Education (HiEd) Program

- The Higher Education program is regarded as one of the best and used as a best practice throughout the nation, constantly seeking to expand partners in the field of Higher Education through our International Association of Emergency Managers University and College Caucus (IAEM UCC) representative.
Strengthening Academic Programs

- FEMA Regional Office Provides subject matter expertise in Mitigation, Preparedness, Response and Recovery.
- Serves as Non-Voting Members of academic institution.
- Coordinates letters of support for curriculum development.
- Coordinates Conferences, Seminars and Workshop support.
- IAEM UCC (Regional) and FEMA R1 Collaboration.
HiEd Program Initiatives

- Grant mapping/resource opportunities
- Annual HiEd Conference
- Integration with local, county, State emergency management/homeland security hierarchy
- Integration of programs (private sector, CERT, STEP, etc.)
- Standardize EM plans on/around campuses
- Internships and employment opportunities
- Involvement with the greater community
  - C-CERT
  - Technical support (volunteers, engineering, GIS, etc.)
  - College Exemplars/SMEs/Federal Centers of Excellence
HIED Program

Emergency Management Institute

Provides guidance for EM/HS academic program development

Campus Emergency Plans

Connecting to other HIEDs & Private sector

Connecting schools with resources needed to draft, practice & adapt emergency plans

Teaches 5th grade students what to do in emergency & empowers them to implement life-saving preparedness initiatives

Links HIED Internships to public/private sector

Promotes Citizens Corp programs such as CERT to enhance overall HIED preparedness and response.

FEMA Region 1
Public Health Initiative

• Partnership formed with Region I Department of Health and Human Services’ (DHHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) and Region I Federal Emergency Management Agency’s National Preparedness Division
  – Developing engagement strategies that will enable regional states to further build out their public health and emergency/incident management capabilities through a coordinated effort to meet federal, state, and local preparedness, mitigation, response & recovery priorities
• FEMA, through a support mechanism, will assist DHHS in coordinating and cross-connecting issues that pertain to hospital and public health emergency preparedness throughout Region I
FEMA Corps
FEMA Corps

• In partnership with NCCC
• Devoted to disaster preparedness, response, and recovery
• Available to support preparedness efforts throughout the country
  – FEMA Region I has partnered with States throughout the Region to support preparedness related projects, including Shelter Assessments and Business Preparedness
  – Currently discussing projects including public housing preparedness and cultural preparedness efforts
FEMA Corps Preparedness Activities

• Craft volunteer and donations request language for media
• Create a donations database
• Train communities in creating and managing Volunteers Reception Centers (VRC). VRCs register, train, stage, deploy, and document all volunteers as part of Incident Command System
• Perform preparedness outreach and coordination activities in local communities based on state and local plans
• Implement the FEMA Connect preparedness program in high schools.
• Assist in establishing or enhancing state and local Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) and/or Long-Term Recovery Committees (LTRC)
• Assist in the coordination of Preparedness activities in the state. Focus on family and individual preparedness activities
• Engage in projects supporting the NDRF and the whole community
FEMA Corps

• List of Other Approved Projects
  – Business Continuity
  – Public Housing
  – STEP/Youth
  – Shelter Assessments
  – Drills
  – Other
FEMA Corps Contact Information

Regional Points of Contact

• Tom Wightman, Regional FC Program Coordinator
  – 617-956-7560 or thomas.wightman@fema.dhs.gov
• Russ Webster, Federal Preparedness Coordinator
  – 617-956-7583 or William.webster@fema.dhs.gov
• Matt McCann, Deputy Federal Preparedness Coordinator
  – 617-956-7595 or matthew.mccann@fema.dhs.gov
• Melissa Surette, Preparedness FC Program Coordinator
  – 617-956-7559 or melissa.savilonis@fema.dhs.gov
Secrets of Survivors (SOS)

- A preparedness program for seniors & other vulnerable populations
- Outreach will enhance preparedness of older Americans by providing basic emergency preparedness information via workshops or materials (wallet cards, emergency checklists, resources to stay informed etc).
- Those that attend a workshop or webinar will have a better understanding of ways to prepare to shelter in place, build relationships in their neighborhood, to share resources and what it may take for them to evacuate comfortably.
- Graphic materials and interactive workshop in collaboration with:
  - Administration on Aging- Meals on Wheels
  - AARP
  - CERTs
  - Councils on Aging/Senior Centers
  - Libraries
- For more contact information, please reach out to Nancy Smalzel MEd., at 617-832-4716 nancy.smalzel@fema.dhs.gov
Questions?