

# ANNUAL REPORT SFY 2022



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF  
HOMELAND SECURITY AND  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

John R. Benson  
Director

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# Letter from the Director

The Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD) is pleased to present the SFY 2022 annual report, a snapshot of the year's activities and accomplishments.

Disaster response and recovery are core responsibilities of HSEMD. During this fiscal year, our response to the COVID-19 pandemic came to an end, we coordinated the State's response to and recovery from a never-before-seen derecho in December 2021, and assisted communities respond and recover after a March 2022 outbreak of tornadoes killed seven people. We also assisted the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship in the State's response to highly pathogenic avian influenza that affected more than 13 million birds.

Although our disaster response and recovery work kept us quite busy, we rose to the task when the governor asked for our assistance in June 2022 to increase the safety of Iowa's schools. Using the expertise of HSEMD staff and our partners, we built a program to provide vulnerability assessments of school facilities and developed a system to administer grant funding that schools can use to make safety improvements identified by those assessments.

On top of our disaster work and numerous other projects and initiatives, we also performed our important day-to-day work. Bills were paid, responders were trained, preparedness information was provided to the public, the state's emergency notification system's upgrade was finished, and disaster recovery and mitigation projects were completed. In SFY 2023 we will continue our work to ensure that Iowa and Iowans better prepared for all emergencies and disasters.

At the end of this report you will find the Department's performance measures for the past fiscal year. As you will see, HSEMD has continued to support our many partners and strengthen our department and state through our commitment to excellence in homeland security and emergency management.

We have only been able to touch upon a few of HSEMD's activities in this report. Please visit our department's website, [www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov](http://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov), to learn more.

Sincerely,



John R. Benson, Director



**Director John R. Benson**

## HSEMD Authorities

Iowa Code Chapter 29C, establishes the responsibilities of the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. These responsibilities ensure the state is adequately prepared for disasters through administration, preparation, and execution of emergency management and homeland security programs.

HSEMD is charged with supporting local entities as they plan and implement mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery strategies. The Department provides technical assistance, training, exercise facilitation, communications, and other support necessary for establishing and maintaining local capabilities. HSEMD is the coordinating entity that ensures consistency and compliance with numerous federal and State legal requirements and regulations. The Department also is responsible for overseeing and implementing Iowa's homeland security activities.

## HSEMD Core Values, Purpose, and Focus

### HSEMD Core Values

Mission Oriented – We are resolute in our service to Iowans

Integrity – We conduct ourselves with honesty and are transparent in our actions

Distinguished – We are leaders in our field

One Team – We collaborate, connect, and share

### HSEMD Core Purpose

Enhancing the quality of life for Iowans

### HSEMD Core Focus

Preparing our state and building resilient communities

## HSEMD Strategic Vision

In 2021 HSEMD redefined its core values, purpose, and focus. At that same time, the Department developed a strategic plan that represents a transition, as well as growth, from previous years and expands the traditional operational focus to incorporate the organizational structure and internal strategic goals of the agency. This shift toward a broader departmental ethos seeks to improve not only the services we provide to Iowans, but also the manner in which those services are provided.

HSEMD has identified five strategic priorities to ensure we are able to provide Iowans the very best service and our employees an environment where they can excel. Those priorities are: increase the agility of our response operations; ensure recovery programs are rapidly implemented and provide clear-cut benefits; provide all staff with opportunities and resources to be leaders in their fields and within State government; create collaborative, transparent, and creative teams; and operationalize equity in emergency management. Areas where progress has been made include redefining how response operations are carried out and how information is provided to the public during disasters, greater integration of the private sector into disaster response planning and operations, and assessing Iowa's equity and diversity in disaster management to improve how Iowa assists underserved communities and marginalized populations with recovering from all types of disasters. Significant and steady progress toward achieving those goals help us to meet our purpose of enhancing the quality of life for Iowans and building a more resilient and better prepared state.

# About HSEMD

In 1965, Iowa Governor Harold Hughes created the State Civil Defense Agency with a focus on the threat of nuclear war. Since that time, the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management has undergone many changes to evolve into an organization that is prepared for multiple natural and human-caused hazards.

In the 1970s, the focus expanded to include the management of naturally caused emergencies and disasters. Management of radiological and hazardous materials incidents were added in the 1980s and the office adopted an all-hazards approach to emergency management.

In 1992, the office became the Emergency Management Division of the Iowa Department of Public Defense. The focus of the Division became one of protecting people and property from the effects of all types of disasters, and to speeding the recovery from disasters.

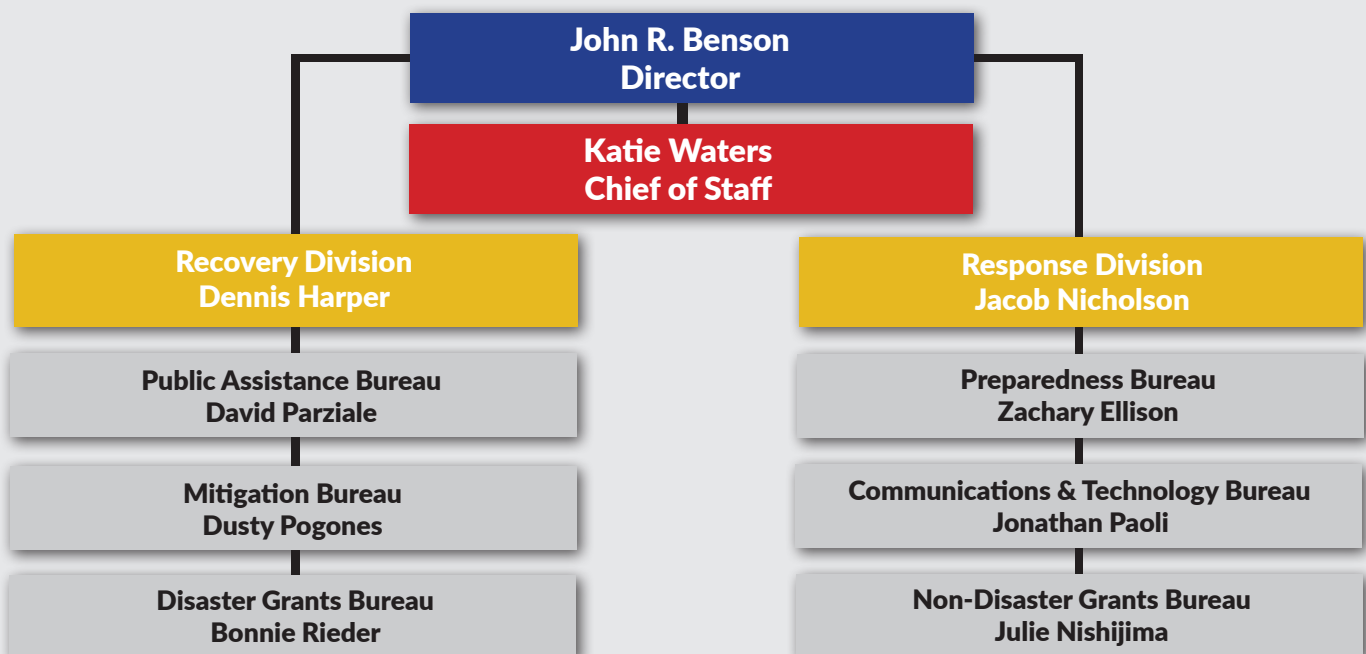
The 2001 terrorist attacks in the United States once again redefined Iowa's emergency manage-

ment approach. Following Sept. 11, 2001, homeland security responsibilities were integrated into the duties and responsibilities of the Emergency Management Division, and in 2003 the Division's name was formally changed to Homeland Security and Emergency Management to reflect its new duties. In July 2013, HSEMD became a stand-alone department after the Iowa General Assembly approved legislation that was then signed into law by the governor.

## Structure of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in Iowa

The structure of homeland security and emergency management in Iowa begins with the governor, who holds the responsibility for protecting Iowa's citizens. The governor appoints the Iowa homeland security advisor and the director of the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Currently the HSEMD director also serves as the governor's homeland security advisor. The HSEMD director relies on State- and

### HSEMD Organizational Chart



# About HSEMD

local-level advisory bodies, executive-level State policy makers, State and local agency points of contact, local first responders, regional representatives, and other community organizations and representative bodies, for information to assist in shaping policy and making decisions.

## Department Structure

The Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management is the coordinating body for homeland security and emergency management activities across the state. The Department is led by Director John Benson, and is comprised of a Recovery Division and a Response Division. The director is supported by Chief of Staff Katie Waters.

*Response Division: Jacob Nicholson, Administrator*

The Response Division coordinates the State of Iowa's response to disasters and emergencies. The Response Division is comprised of three bureaus: Preparedness, Communications and Technology, and Non-disaster Grants and Administration. The Division maintains and oversees the readiness of the State Emergency Operations Center at Camp Dodge in Johnston where the state's response to disasters is coordinated. Other responsibilities of the Response Division include resource and volunteer management, radiological and emergency preparedness, capabilities assessment and strategic planning, communications, 911 system administration, special security operations, critical infrastructure protection and information sharing, special response teams, statewide mass notification and emergency messaging, geographic information systems (GIS) activities, financial management of non-disaster grants, accounting and financial transactions, procurement, strategic communications, and legislative and congressional relations.

This division also is responsible for State comprehensive emergency plan development and support,

coordination of local planning, training coordination and support, and exercise coordination and support.

*Recovery Division: Dennis Harper, Administrator*

The Recovery Division coordinates short- and long-term recovery and hazard mitigation activities related to Iowa disasters. The Division is comprised of three bureaus: Hazard Mitigation, Public Assistance, and Disaster Grants and Administration.

The Recovery Division administers the federal Public Assistance Program, Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs, and provides technical and administrative support to the Iowa Flood Mitigation Board for the implementation of tax increment and State funding under Iowa Code Chapter 418. Following a disaster, this division coordinates damage assessment of disaster-impacted individuals, businesses, and public infrastructure to support State of Iowa requests for federal disaster assistance.

In addition, the Recovery Division coordinates the State's implementation of recovery assistance programs for disasters that have been declared at both the State and federal levels, works closely with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to fulfill recovery operations responsibilities following a disaster, and maintains Iowa's Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan and the Iowa Recovery Plan.

HSEMD is involved in numerous programs and initiatives to benefit Iowa's citizens, communities, businesses, and governments. In this report we will highlight a few of the Department's activities as they relate to the emergency management cycle, which consists of preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. With the advent of homeland security, detection and prevention are often included as a fifth phase, which we will highlight as well.

# Preparedness

The preparedness phase of emergency management requires HSEMD to ensure the Department, our State and local government partners, and the citizens of Iowa are prepared for disasters.

## Planning, Training, and Exercise

Planning, training, and exercise are the foundation of Iowa's emergency preparedness efforts.

HSEMD's Planning, Training, and Exercise Program has a goal to better prepare partners at all levels to respond to disasters. Planning for emergencies ensures that emergency services, local authorities, and other organizations better communicate and coordinate efforts, improving disaster response and post-disaster recovery. Federal, State, and local planning provides safety and security for the public for a full spectrum of potential disasters. HSEMD takes a strategic, all-hazards approach to planning. The Department is required by Iowa law to prepare a comprehensive plan for disaster response, recovery, and mitigation. The Iowa Comprehensive Emergency Plan is comprised of four separate plans for emergency response, hazard mitigation, disaster recovery, and critical asset protection. HSEMD regularly updates these plans to ensure they remain timely and relevant for Iowa's hazards.

Successful planning is built on partnerships. HSEMD works closely with county emergency managers to complete yearly updates of key components of local response plans, promotes and provides training to support those plan components, and conducts exercises that test the plans and training. The Department also engages with local partners on recovery and hazard mitigation planning efforts. HSEMD is involved in planning efforts with other State agencies, including the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship for

animal disease response, the Iowa Department of Public Health for health-related hazards, the Iowa Office of Secretary of State for election security, and the Iowa Department of Education for school safety.

Training prepares State and local first responders, local officials, school personnel, and others to prevent, protect, respond to, and recover from a variety of emergency situations. HSEMD has worked with its many partners in the delivery of courses to thousands of people at all levels of government throughout the state. In SFY 2022 more than 800 people trained on a variety of topics in order to prepare for a wide array of hazards.

Exercises are designed to test the ability of participants to respond to a variety of hazards, use equipment, and test skills learned through planning and training. HSEMD conducts, participates in, and/or supports many exercises each year that are designed to test and refine local, State, private sector, and federal response to emergencies. During SFY 2022 HSEMD staff participated in 11 exercises to test response plans and to identify areas for improvement. These exercises focused on key components of response, including communication, search and rescue, hazardous materials, public information and warning, mass care services, and public safety.

## Citizen Preparedness

Citizen preparedness is an important component of Iowa's overall preparedness. Each year, HSEMD public information staff conduct awareness campaigns to educate Iowans on the hazards that impact our state and how to prepare for them. These campaigns provide information on general emergency preparedness and how to prepare for specific hazards, such as winter weather and severe



# Preparedness

storms. HSEMD's public awareness initiatives also focus on informing citizens about the importance of reporting suspicious activity and how to properly use 911. In SFY 2022 HSEMD public information staff developed and delivered six public awareness campaigns using social media, traditional media, radio public service announcements, and the Department's websites to disseminate information to citizens statewide. Through the use of multiple message delivery methods, the Department was able to provide information to large segments of the public to encourage them to be more prepared for emergencies and disasters. HSEMD's preparedness website, Ready Iowa ([ready.iowa.gov](http://ready.iowa.gov)) provides Iowans with easy-to-understand information to help them be better prepared for any emergency or disaster.

## School Safety

In June 2022 Gov. Kim Reynolds announced a \$100 million school safety initiative for Iowa's public school districts and nonpublic and independent schools. The initiative is being carried out by HSEMD, the Iowa Department of Public Safety, and the Iowa Department of Education, with funding from the American Rescue Plan Act and Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund. The funding will be used for facility vulnerability assessments, digital critical incident mapping technology, two-way radios, threat reporting and monitoring software, and capital improvements for security enhancements through the School Safety Improvement Fund.

Due to the Department's expertise in critical infrastructure protection and threat assessments, HSEMD was given oversight of the initiative's school vulnerability assessments. In order to carry out the assessments, HSEMD, in conjunction with federal and private-sector experts, developed as-

essment methods and tools. The assessments began shortly after the initiative was announced and were scheduled to be completed by the end of 2022.

In addition, HSEMD was tasked with administering the capital improvement grants provided through the School Safety Improvement Fund. Schools may apply for up to \$50,000 per school building to implement the recommended safety measure capital improvements identified through the vulnerability assessment process. The deadline for schools to apply for these grants is Dec. 31, 2024.

## Radiological Emergency Preparedness

Regulatory guidance from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and Federal Emergency Management Agency directs state and local authorities to develop, implement, and maintain plans and procedures to prevent the public from being exposed to harmful radiation. HSEMD's Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) program ensures that emergency preparedness, planning, training, and exercise activities are in place for the nuclear power facilities near Iowa. The REP program ensures the facilities meet or exceed standards and guidelines set by the federal government for the protection of the citizens of the state.

Nuclear power facilities are required by the NRC to support local and state preparedness activities and are required to hold full-scale exercises that involve state agencies every other year. In SFY 2022 HSEMD planned and prepared for a July 2022 full-scale exercise and participated in multiple nuclear power plant drills and table-top exercises. Currently, there are two nuclear facilities operating near Iowa; the Quad Cities Generating Station in Cordova, Ill., and the Cooper Nuclear Station near Brownsville, Neb.

# Response

## Disaster Response

During the response phase of emergency management, the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management serves as the coordination point for the deployment of State resources. When disasters strike, HSEMD is prepared to provide assistance to impacted communities through county emergency management agencies. HSEMD's response activities range from full activation of the State Emergency Operations Center, where the Department works with other government and private-sector partners in support of State and local response efforts, to monitoring of incidents by the HSEMD 24/7 duty officers. Response activations may last for only a few hours in a small incident, or may extend for several weeks or months for large-scale disasters.

## Response Process

Because disasters start locally, county emergency management agencies have a vital role in preparation for, response to, and recovery from disasters. The county emergency management coordinator facilitates local government and volunteer response operations such as sandbagging, traffic and access control, resource management, clean-up efforts, and sheltering for citizens affected by a disaster. County emergency management agencies provide coordination of local resources and work in partnership with HSEMD to ensure local emergency response partners have adequately planned and are well equipped, trained, and exercised for a response. County emergency management agencies work for, and act on behalf of, their local emergency management commissions. When a community's ability to respond to a disaster exceeds its capabilities, the county emergency management coordinator may request assistance through the Iowa Mutual Aid Compact (IMAC), an intrastate mutual aid agreement. IMAC provides the mechanism for political subdivisions and



Linn County EMA staff monitoring severe weather.

emergency management commissions to share resources with one another during a disaster that has been declared either by the local jurisdiction or the governor. If local mutual aid is not sufficient, the county emergency management coordinator will work with local officials and HSEMD to request a governor's proclamation of disaster emergency.

A governor's proclamation of disaster emergency enables State resources to be used at no cost to local jurisdictions. State resources may include equipment, personnel, technical guidance, supplies, and assistance for missions such as debris removal, traffic control, levee patrol, security, and transportation. During SFY 2022 the governor issued 16 proclamations of disaster emergency that allowed State resources to be used to respond to and recover from severe weather in multiple counties. The proclamations of disaster emergency activated the Iowa Individual Assistance Grant Program for residents in those counties impacted by the severe weather. This program, administered

# Response

by the Iowa Department of Human Services, provides grants of up to \$5,000 for households with incomes of up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level to be used for home or car repairs, replacement of clothing or food, and for the expense of temporary housing. These proclamations also activated Iowa's Disaster Case Management Program through which disaster case managers work with those impacted by disaster to create a recovery plan and provide guidance, advice, and referral to obtain a service or resource.

Also during SFY 2022 the governor issued 10 proclamations for the State's response to highly pathogenic avian influenza, and eight proclamations for the continuing COVID-19 pandemic public health disaster emergency.

When a disaster or incident goes beyond the capabilities of State government, the governor may request response resources from FEMA and/or from other states through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact. If the impacts of the disaster are beyond the State's capability to recover, a Presidential Disaster Declaration may be requested. If granted, this declaration can provide financial assistance to eligible individuals and public entities.

## SFY 2022 Disaster Response

HSEMD coordinated the State's response to several severe weather incidents during SFY 2022. A Dec. 15, 2021, derecho was the first recorded in December anywhere in the United States and caused damage across multiple Iowa counties. HSEMD also provided resources and assistance to communities impacted by the March 5, 2022, tornadoes, in which six people were killed in Madison County and one person in Lucas County. Also in March 2022, highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) was detected in Iowa. Over the next few months, HPAI was confirmed at 15 commercial

poultry sites and four backyard flocks throughout the state and affected 13,374,204 birds. HSEMD assisted the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and other State agencies in the coordination of the response to HPAI, including mobilizing two department-owned mobile foaming units to depopulate infected birds. HSEMD also monitored and shared incident information with State and local public and private-sector partners and provided information to the public.

## COVID-19 Response Ends

In SFY 2022 HSEMD continued to play a key role in the State's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Beginning in March 2020, Iowa's State Emergency Operations Center was the hub of the State's COVID-19 pandemic response, and was where HSEMD coordinated with, and supported, the governor's office, the Iowa Department of Public Health, and multiple State and private agencies to identify emergency needs, provide resources to impacted communities, and project future needs. This work, which continued through February 2022, included personal protective equipment (PPE) and vaccine supply procurement and delivery, warehousing support, coordination of testing resources, and responding to requests for information and other types of resources and equipment.

During SFY 2022 HSEMD completed 430 pandemic-related missions, with more than 135 of those missions related to procurement and delivery of PPE. In addition, the Department coordinated 269 deliveries of PPE totaling 3.5 million individual items in the fiscal year.

In total, from the beginning of the pandemic response in March 2020 through the end of SFY 2022, HSEMD completed 5,730 missions, of which 2,990 were for PPE, and made 3,552 deliv-

# Response

eries of 35.4 million items of PPE. These resources were provided to county emergency management agencies and other partners involved in the pandemic response, and delivery of these items ensured badly needed resources were available in communities throughout the state. During the pandemic, HSEMD also worked with the governor and other government and private-sector partners on the Feeding Iowans Task Force to assess unmet needs and identify the resources available to fill those needs.



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

## Pre-Positioned Equipment

Over the past several years, HSEMD has improved the State's disaster response capability by pre-positioning vital equipment. At the end of SFY 2022 69 pumps, which are pivotal tools for fighting floods, were staged and ready to be deployed

at locations throughout the state. In addition to the pumps, HSEMD has pre-positioned 20 generators throughout Iowa to increase the accessibility and timely deployment of these resources during times of disaster. The Department also maintains three sandbag machines and a supply of sandbags and portable flood barriers that are immediately available for use by local jurisdictions.

## Social Media

HSEMD public information staff use social media to widely disseminate and receive information during disasters and emergencies and on a day-to-day basis. Social media is an especially vital tool during disaster response. HSEMD public information staff and duty officers utilize social media to gather local situational awareness for Department staff who are monitoring emerging emergency situations. This information helps HSEMD operations staff to better understand local conditions and the type and extent of damage that has occurred to public and private property. HSEMD also utilizes social media to disseminate information to the public during the response to a disaster, including the State of Iowa's response to the pandemic. During SFY 2022, 592 Facebook posts reached a total of 1.3 million people. More than 305,000 people were reached by 443 Tweets issued by HSEMD in that period. Those messages provided information and resources related to Iowa's response to COVID-19 and severe weather incidents, highlighted programs and initiatives of HSEMD and our partners, and promoted preparedness actions Iowans can take for all hazards.

# Recovery

During the recovery phase of emergency management, HSEMD activities focus on providing assistance to affected communities and citizens. Recovery begins immediately after, and sometimes during, response to a disaster. HSEMD staff work closely with local officials to determine the extent and amount of damage. If damage is sufficient, the governor may request federal assistance through a Presidential Disaster Declaration and if granted, HSEMD administers the federal recovery programs that are activated by a declaration. At the close of SFY 2022 Iowa had received 47 Presidential Disaster Declarations since 1990.

## December 2021 Historic Storm

On Dec. 15, 2021, a derecho struck Iowa, the first time a derecho had struck in December anywhere in the United States. In addition, that record-breaking day saw 63 tornadoes, the most in a single day ever recorded in Iowa, and broke the all-time December record high temperature for the state. This severe weather event caused significant damage to public infrastructure and private property.

As a result of the damage sustained from the derecho, Iowa requested, and received, a Presidential Disaster Declaration. The declaration made federal funding available for eligible local and State government and certain private nonprofit organizations for repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the severe storms, straight-line winds, and tornadoes. Counties covered by the declaration were Appanoose, Audubon, Buena Vista, Calhoun, Cass, Cherokee, Davis, Emmet, Floyd, Franklin, Greene, Guthrie, Hamilton, Hancock, Howard, Humboldt, Mills, Mitchell, Palo Alto, Pocahontas, Sac, Van Buren, Webster, Worth, and Wright. The Presidential Disaster Declaration also provided funding for hazard mitigation measures statewide.

The Department is involved in all facets of recovery, from assessing damage and formally requesting federal assistance, to ensuring applicants meet all State and federal regulations when developing and completing projects. HSEMD also works with other State and federal entities to secure recovery assistance, including the Iowa Individual Assistance Grant Program, Iowa Disaster Case Management Program, and loans through the Small Business Administration.

At the end of SFY 2022 HSEMD was performing recovery work for eight Presidential Disaster Declarations issued for Iowa. Recovery is a lengthy and complex process and because of that, it can take many years for HSEMD's work to be completed. A major milestone for the Department during SFY 2022 was completion of its work for the 2008 disaster that began with tornadoes in the north-central part of the state and culminated in flooding that made record impacts to Cedar Rapids and Iowa City, including the University of Iowa campus. Eighty-five counties were included in the 2008 Presidential Disaster Declaration.

The 2008 disaster is the largest single disaster in Iowa, with federal funding for repair and replacement of infrastructure (Public Assistance) and for mitigation measures to reduce disaster losses (Hazard Mitigation Grant Program) exceeding \$1.6 billion. Recovery work from the 2008 disaster included the largest Public Assistance project ever obligated in Iowa of more than \$220 million for the replacement and relocation of the Hancher-Voxman-Clapp complex on the University of Iowa Campus, as well as the largest single Hazard Mitigation Grant Program award of more than \$18.8 million for the Cedar Rapids Water Pollution Control Facility flood protection project. With the completion of work for this disaster, HSEMD has now successfully closed all related funding programs granted under the federal James T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

# Mitigation

During the mitigation phase of emergency management, HSEMD focuses on activities to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural hazards and their effects. Hazard mitigation activities are dedicated to breaking the cycle of damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage.

Since 2008 more than \$549 million has been spent on hazard mitigation projects throughout the state of Iowa. Hazard Mitigation Assistance Programs have focused efforts on three primary areas: acquisition and relocation of structures in flood hazard areas; infrastructure projects for flood control and storm water management; and hardening of rural electrical infrastructure to better withstand ice, snow, and wind storms.

The Department's property acquisition projects have resulted in millions of dollars in avoided loss from subsequent flooding. With federal funding granted to Iowa as the result of Presidential Disaster Declarations since 2018, 323 properties, including residential and business structures, have been permanently removed from the floodplain and an additional 181 properties have been approved for acquisition and conversion to open space. Damage from the 2019 Missouri River flooding was reduced by an estimated \$38 million, and 1,096 properties avoided damage, due to property acquisitions in the impacted areas. In addition, in 2021 \$1.57 million in damage was avoided to 51 properties as the result of property acquisitions. Since 2008, 3,352 structures have been permanently removed from the floodplain.

In coordination with the FEMA Public Assistance Program and the Iowa Economic Development Authority's Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program, more than \$41.2 million has been invested to demolish and acquire an estimated 412 private structures following the 2019 Missouri River flood. In response to the 2019 flooding, and in addition to approved FEMA recovery and mitigation projects, the Iowa General Assembly appropriated

\$36 million to the Iowa Flood Mitigation Board to address other flood recovery and mitigation efforts in 10 impacted counties. (For more information see the Iowa Flood Mitigation Board section of this report.)

The Department also manages FEMA's new competitive pre-disaster mitigation grant program, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC). Funding through this FEMA program has the potential to make millions of dollars available for hazard mitigation in the coming years. Using this funding, FEMA and the State of Iowa will focus on large, innovative projects to mitigate multiple hazards and impact various community lifelines. To date, BRIC projects totaling \$810,000 have been implemented for hazard mitigation planning, informing local governments of mitigation best practices, identifying and developing mitigation projects, and providing early warning, shelter, and continuity of local water services during disasters.

## Advanced Mitigation Planning

Iowa is one of only 15 states and territories that has an Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan that has been approved by FEMA. Approval of an enhanced plan qualifies state and local governments to receive additional hazard mitigation disaster funding, which is crucial to funding projects to reduce or eliminate hazards and avoid disaster-caused damage and associated costs.

The purpose of hazard mitigation planning is to identify policies and actions that can be implemented over the long term to reduce risk and future losses of life and property, and economic injury. Iowa's plan is an interagency plan that integrates local and State planning efforts through Iowa's State Hazard Mitigation Team. The plan includes a statewide hazard analysis and a risk assessment of all of the state's hazards. This information is used to develop statewide hazard mitigation goals, objectives, and

# Mitigation

measures for use by State and local jurisdictions to address priority hazards.

## Iowa Flood Mitigation Board

The Iowa Flood Mitigation Board was created by the Iowa General Assembly and signed into law in 2012. The board is comprised of members from the public, State agencies, and ex officio members from the Iowa General Assembly and the Iowa Department of Revenue. The HSEMD director serves as the board chair.

When created, the board was charged with developing a flood mitigation program for Iowa that allows certain governmental entities to submit flood mitigation projects for review and possible approval for funding from sales tax increments or legislative appropriations.

Nearly \$600 million in tax increment financing has been approved for flood mitigation projects by the Iowa Flood Mitigation Board. Although the ap-

plication period for funding closed Jan. 1, 2016, the board continues to work with the communities that were awarded funding through review of project status reports, and making adjustments to time extensions and scope of work or budget changes if necessary. Ten Iowa communities have been awarded sales tax increment funding for flood mitigation projects by the Iowa Flood Mitigation Board. It is projected that investment in these projects will yield a \$6 billion mitigation benefit. The communities' tax increment funding projects have been approved for the following amounts:

- Burlington \$26,200,000
- Dubuque \$98,494,178
- Iowa City \$8,497,249
- Storm Lake \$4,083,060
- Waverly \$5,647,004
- Cedar Falls \$5,658,673
- Cedar Rapids \$269,411,016
- Coralville \$9,769,000
- Council Bluffs \$57,000,000
- Des Moines and Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Authority \$111,100,273

Flooding in downtown Cedar Rapids in June 2008.



# Mitigation

In addition, the Iowa Flood Mitigation Board has distributed \$36 million from the Iowa Flood Recovery Fund for critical recovery and redevelopment projects in communities impacted by 2019 flooding. The board distributed a \$15 million legislative appropriation to the Flood Recovery Fund in September 2019, followed by an additional appropriation of \$21 million in February 2020. Projects eligible for this funding include emergency work to save lives, protect public health and safety, and protect public or private property. The Flood Recovery Fund may also be used as match funding against federal awards. Funding has been awarded for multiple projects, including property buy-outs and levee construction and repair. Details on these projects are available on the HSEMD website: <http://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov>.

## Levee Study

In 2021 the Iowa General Assembly appropriated \$400,000 to HSEMD and directed the Department to conduct a study of the state's levees to identify and recommend where improvements could be made in the governance and funding of levee districts.

In SFY 2022, department staff began work on the study. As tasked by the General Assembly, the study was to evaluate the following:

- The status of present levee district operations, including the structural status of levees, the financial status of the levee districts, and any associated regulatory status
- The future operational and funding challenges for levee district operations

In conducting the study, HSEMD utilized the flood control and water management expertise of a variety of State agencies to develop a more complete picture of existing levees. Included in this work were the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa Flood Center, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Iowa Department of Transportation, and the Iowa Economic Development Authority. Department staff also worked with levee districts to identify their financial and operational challenges and get their input on how to best address those challenges. An important result of the project has been the enhancement of interagency communication and coordination related to levee management.

HSEMD will compile and submit a report to the General Assembly containing the results of the study, along with recommendations for the future governance and funding of levee districts and implementation of improvements. That report is due Dec. 31, 2022.



# Prevention and Detection/Technology

A fifth component of the emergency management cycle is prevention and detection.

## Infrastructure Protection

Critical infrastructure contains systems and assets, both physical and virtual, so important to the functioning of our society that their incapacitation or destruction would greatly affect vital services provided to citizens through the public and private sectors. HSEMD's Threat Information and Infrastructure Program (TIIPP) enhances the overall security and resiliency of Iowa's critical infrastructure by offering services to reduce vulnerabilities and manage risks to critical assets. Partners in the public and private sectors seek guidance and collaboration with HSEMD's TIIPP, especially when establishing emergency preparedness, planning, training, exercise, and response activities associated with critical infrastructure protection.

During the COVID-19 pandemic the TIIPP collaborated with partners in the public and private sectors to identify needs and coordinate resources so Iowa's communities could continue to receive services essential for safety and security. When Iowa's critical infrastructure was impacted by the August 2020 derecho, the TIIPP aided with response efforts and collaborated with the public and private sectors to restore power to communities as safely and efficiently as possible.

## Technology

In order to most effectively carry out its many duties, HSEMD must leverage available technology.

From its administration of the state's 911 program, to implementation of a statewide emergency notification system, the Department utilizes technological tools to improve the delivery of our services.

## Iowa's 911 System and Next Generation 911/GIS

Iowa's 911 system consists of 112 public safety answering points (PSAPs) across 99 counties. The PSAPs answer wireline, wireless, and voice over internet protocol (VoIP) emergency calls, as well as Text-to-911 messages, from across the state. The wireline 911 system was launched in Iowa in 1988. The wireline capability is funded through a wireline surcharge on wireline phone users' monthly bills and is managed by local 911 service boards. Wireless 911 capability was added to the system beginning in 1998. This wireless capability is funded through a wireless surcharge on wireless phone users' monthly bills and is managed by the Iowa Department of Homeland



## Prevention and Detection/Technology

Security and Emergency Management. Recently, the Department converted the 911 network from analog technology to an emergency services internet protocol (IP) network (ESInet) referred to as a Next Generation (NG) 911 network. From July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, the NG911 network processed 1,113,449 wireless 911 calls, 109,299 wireline calls, and 5,061 texts to Iowa's PSAPs.

Iowa's entire Iowa 911 system is undergoing a significant upgrade to a fully end-state, NENA i3 911 system (i3 is an ANSI accredited, commonly recognized standard used throughout the nation). The first phase of this multi-phase effort into the NG911 network has converted analog/copper trunking into the local PSAPs to a statewide, IP-based Ethernet network. The IP-based backbone was completed in November 2012 and leverages the Iowa Communications Network (ICN). The second phase of the network upgrade is nearly complete and includes updating individual PSAPs to IP-enabled call-handling equipment and logging recorders. Ninety-eight percent of the state's PSAPs are fully end-to-end IP-enabled. All but one of the local 911 PSAPs were capable of receiving Text-to-911. Work has been progressing toward the State's virtual consolidation efforts, technologically merging the legacy wireline network with the Next Generation IP-based network, as well as sharing technology for call processing equipment at the PSAPs. A fourth phase in the progression to a fully functioning i3 system will include behind-the-scenes upgrades to the way a caller is located and to ensure the call is more accurately delivered as well as decommissioning of legacy selective routers. This phase could continue for several years.

A critical component of NG911 relies on geographical information system (GIS) data. The data is the foundation of Next Generation call routing,

location validation, and emergency response. Information sharing is essential to building statewide GIS datasets, as more than 100 different data owners need to share information for the NG911 system. Data sharing work starts with the local jurisdictions updating their master street address guide, road centerlines, and site structure address points to have a seamless, statewide GIS data set. HSEMD entered into a second five-year contract with Geo-Comm to continue the existing statewide aggregation portal, ensuring the data is up-to-date and accurate is a critical local responsibility.



Legislation passed in 2017 by the Iowa General Assembly allowed HSEMD to provide local GIS grants to assist local 911 service boards in the creation, improvement, and maintenance of their NG911 GIS information. For SFY 2022, HSEMD granted \$1,266,000 to PSAPs for local 911 services to help facilitate this critical local data.

# Prevention and Detection/Technology

## Alert Iowa

HSEMD administers the state's emergency notification system, Alert Iowa. The system is available for use by all counties and provides those that choose to participate with access to a single state-wide notification system that gives local control of how and when to disseminate emergency and public safety information to residents.

During SFY 2022 HSEMD completed an upgrade of Alert Iowa, utilizing the newest technology to better facilitate communication during times of emergency. Alert Iowa allows residents to choose to receive alerts by voice call, email, or text message. In some counties, residents have the option to receive alerts in their preferred language or to provide their information to an access/functional needs registry. Alert Iowa messages are easy to

create and send for local officials, who have the option to use social media to deliver emergency information.

Since the system launched in 2014, millions of emergency notifications have been sent to Iowans on a myriad of hazards, including 911 outages, severe weather, and city- or regional-specific incidents. State of Iowa departments and boards also use Alert Iowa to notify employees of emergencies. The system utilizes FEMA's Integrated Public Alert and Warning Systems (IPAWS) to send imminent emergency and public safety messages through the Emergency Alert System, NOAA Weather Radio, and the Wireless Emergency Alerts System. Using IPAWS for State and local alerts is another method to ensure the most urgent information is delivered to as many Iowans as possible when an emergency requires the public to take immediate action.



# Funding

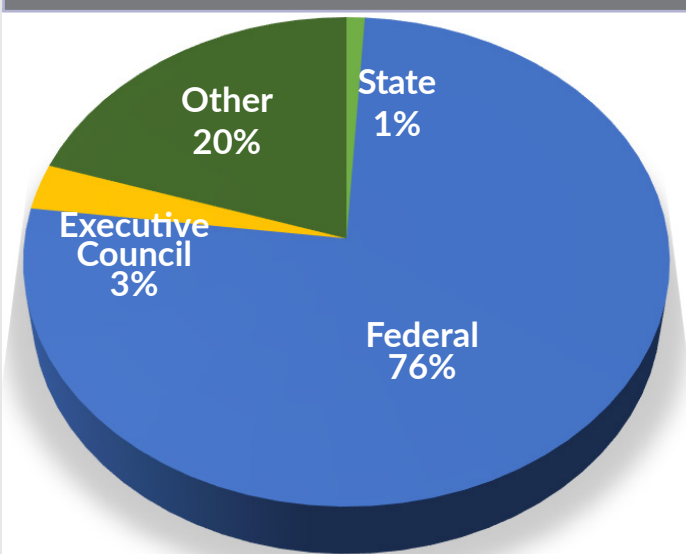
Funding for HSEMD comes from State appropriations, the Executive Council, federal disaster and non-disaster funds, and the private sector. In SFY 2022, HSEMD had revenues totaling \$233,951,938. Of this total, \$2,287,756 was from State Appropriations, \$178,533,346 from federal grants, \$7,145,459 from the Executive Council, and \$45,985,377 from other sources.

State appropriations accounted for 1 percent of revenues, while 76 percent came from federal disaster and non-disaster grants as well as federal 911 grants, 3 percent from the Executive Council for the State share of disaster assistance costs, and 20 percent from other sources, such as 911 surcharges, the Flood Recovery Fund, Coronavirus Relief Fund, nuclear power plants, and the Technology Reinvestment Fund. HSEMD passed through \$200,160,667 or 86 percent to fund local emergency management and recovery activities.

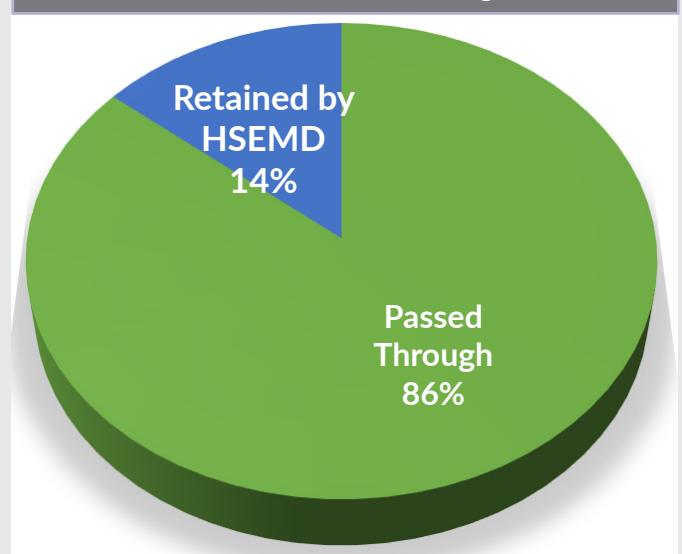
Funding was used by HSEMD for a wide range of projects, including:

- Facilitating and conducting exercises
- First responder training
- State and local response, recovery, and hazard mitigation planning
- Management of grants passed through to local governments
- Administration of Alert Iowa
- Public outreach to promote individual and family preparedness
- Staffing and readiness of the State Emergency Operations Center
- Disaster response and recovery work
- Oversight and administration of 911

SFY 2022 Revenues



SFY 2022 Pass Through



# HSEMD Performance Plan Results SFY 2022

<b>Name of Agency:</b> Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD)			
<b>Performance Plan Results</b>			
<b>Agency Mission:</b> 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.			
<b>Core Function:</b> Emergency Management, Domestic Security, Public Health Disaster Preparedness			
Performance Measure (Outcome)	Performance Target	Performance Actual	Performance Comments & Analysis
1. Percent of sustainable local governments	94%	97%	What Occurred: Performance standard was exceeded. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>
2. Percent of sustainable state government	92%	97.7%	What Occurred: Performance standard was exceeded. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>
<b>Service, Product or Activity:</b> Emergency Planning			
Performance Measure	Performance Target	Performance Actual	Performance Comments & Analysis
1. Percent of jurisdictions with response plans that meet standards	100%	100%	What Occurred: Performance standard was met. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>
2. Percent of jurisdictions with recovery plans that meet standards	100%	100%	What Occurred: Performance standard was met. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>
3. Percent of jurisdictions with DMA 2000 mitigation plans that meet standards	73%	80%	What Occurred: Performance standard was exceeded. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>

# HSEMD Performance Plan Results SFY 2022

Service, Product or Activity: Emergency Training			
Performance Measure	Performance Target	Performance Actual	Performance Comments & Analysis
1. Percent of Homeland Security & Emergency Management employees trained to standards	95%	91%	What Occurred: Performance standard was not met. Recent new hires have not completed their required training. All employees in this group still have time available to complete this requirement. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>
2. Percent of county emergency management coordinators trained to standards	90%	93%	What Occurred: Performance standard was exceeded. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>
3. Number of responders trained in emergency management & homeland security	15,000	829	What Occurred: Performance standard was not met. HSEMD no longer counts FEMA Independent Study courses (which could be taken by anyone) in its training numbers. Current figures reflect first responder training provided/hosted through our training consortium partners. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>
Service, Product or Activity: Emergency Exercises			
Performance Measure	Performance Target	Performance Actual	Performance Comments & Analysis
1. Percent State government exercises completed as required by rule, regulation or agreement	100%	100%	What Occurred: Performance standard was met. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>
2. Percent of local government exercises completed as required by rule or agreement	100%	100%	What Occurred: Performance standard was met. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>
Service, Product or Activity: Emergency Readiness			
Performance Measure	Performance Target	Performance Actual	Performance Comments & Analysis
1. Percent readiness level of State Emergency Operations Center	100%	100%	What Occurred: Performance standard was met. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>
2. Percent readiness level of the forward command posts	100%	100%	What Occurred: Performance standard was met. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>

# HSEMD Performance Plan Results SFY 2022

3. Percent of Iowa counties participating in Iowa Mutual Aid Compact	100%	100%	What Occurred: Performance standard was met. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>
4. Percent of Iowa municipalities participating in Iowa Mutual Aid Compact	100%	100%	What Occurred: Performance standard was met. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>

Service, Product or Activity: Disaster Recovery			
Performance Measure	Performance Target	Performance Actual	Performance Comments & Analysis
1. Percent of funded Public Assistance projects in open presidential disasters that are successfully completed	80%	91%	What Occurred: Performance standard was exceeded. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>
2. Percent completed FEMA funded hazard mitigation projects	80%	73%	What Occurred: Performance standard was not met. There was a change to the cost share for a large number of hazard mitigation projects from 75% to 90%, which resulted in a delay in FEMA approval. That delay impacted the percentage of projects completed on SFY 2022. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>

Service, Product or Activity: Communications			
Performance Measure	Performance Target	Performance Actual	Performance Comments & Analysis
1. Percent public safety answering points capable of receiving and using wireless phase II 911 calls	100%	100%	What Occurred: Performance standard was met. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>
2. Percent of wireless service customers that have Phase II service in Public Safety Answering Point areas that are capable of receiving and are providing Phase II 911 calls in which they provide service	100%	100%	What Occurred: Performance standard was met. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>

# HSEMD Performance Plan Results SFY 2022

3. Percent of local jurisdictions with interoperable communications capabilities for first responders	85%	100%	What Occurred: Performance standard was exceeded. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>
4. Percent of Iowa first responder agencies with access to the Fusion Center's information system	100%	100%	What Occurred: Performance standard was met. <i>Data Source: Iowa Department of Public Safety</i>

## Service, Product or Activity: Homeland Security

Performance Measure	Performance Target	Performance Actual	Performance Comments & Analysis
1. Percent of five-year Iowa Homeland Security Strategy projects funded and initiated	80%	100%	What Occurred: Performance standard was exceeded. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>
2. Percent of local jurisdictions compliant with the National Incident Management System	100%	100%	What Occurred: Performance standard was met. <i>Data Source: HSEMD</i>