Happy New Year

A new year is upon us, although we continue to face many of the previous year’s challenges. This year, my resolution is to continue to collaborate and communicate with our public safety partners across the state. Together, we can overcome the obstacles ahead.

IDHS Director of Emergency Management

COVID-19 Vaccine Update

As vaccine distribution continues, the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) has added to the list of eligible individuals.

Beginning Monday, Jan. 4, public-facing first responders (fire, law enforcement, emergency medical services, volunteers, reserve officers) whose positions require in-person contact are eligible to register for a vaccine. Beginning Jan. 8, individuals 80-years-old and over may schedule their vaccine.

At this time, emergency management agency staff and dispatch staff are unfortunately not eligible, unless they hold a second position that puts them in the eligible group. A list of eligible groups can be found online at ourshot.in.gov.

IDHS continues to work with IDOH and advocate for our emergency managers across the state and will provide updates as they become available.

Grant Planning for the New Year

The Grants Management section would like to encourage EMAs to begin considering their SHSP grant applications for 2021 and reach out to interested nonprofits about the opportunity to apply for NSGP 2021. Now is the time to begin choosing projects,
industries and encourage them to provide their information.

The information is being viewed by IDHS, Department of Health and Family Social Services Administration to inform decision-making.

### Dates to Know

- **Jan. 11** - **IERC meeting**
- **Jan. 21** - Logistical Staging Area Workshop
- **Jan. 29** - State and Local Aviation Workshop
- **Jan. 31** - LEPC Legal Notices Due
- **Jan. 31** - 2021 HIRA due
- **Jan. 31** - Fiscal reports due for EMPG and HMEP

For other upcoming dates, visit the [IDHS Calendar of Events](#).

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**Dams and Levee Safety Website Launched**

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has launched a new web page focused on safety at dams and levees. The updated page includes references and resources that will assist emergency managers while working with dam owners.

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**Exercise Updates**

**Vaccination exercise starter kit**

A new tool kit for large-scale vaccination implementation exercises is now available on the [IDHS website](#).

**Central/South LSA workshop**

The logistical staging area (LSA) workshop will be held from 9 a.m. to noon on Jan. 21, 2021, via Microsoft Teams. Although this is primarily held as training for the Central and South’s LSA exercise series, this is open to all emergency managers with an interest in learning about LSAs. Included in this workshop will be guest speakers from local and state jurisdictions discussing their experience in planning and utilizing their LSA plans. An LSA plan template also will be provided to jump start emergency managers on LSA plan development. Sign up for “Logistical Staging Area Planning Workshop 2021” on [Acadis](#) to attend.

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**North series in planning stages**

Additionally, IDHS Districts 1-4 will be working with Vantage Point Consulting during the first half of 2021 to plan and conduct a cybersecurity workshop, civil unrest workshop and civil unrest tabletop exercise. For more information or if interested in participating on the
webpage for updates on guidance, trainings and other vital information.

CyberStart America Underway

CyberStart America returns to Indiana for the 2021 school year. Please help encourage high school students in grades 9-12 to participate in this free opportunity.

Registration is open through Feb. 28, 2021.

Students interested in participating can register at cyberstartamerica.org.

Available Training

CPG 101

The national engagement period is coming for the CPG 101, and FEMA is offering several 60-minute webinars to discuss changes to CPG 101. Register online for one of the sessions.

- Jan. 11, 10 a.m. EST
- Jan. 13, 6 p.m. EST
- Jan. 21, Noon EST

Active Shooter Exercise Development

One session of the Texas Engineering Extension Service’s free, one-day virtual training course titled Active Shooter Exercise Development Workshop (PRE-100) remains.

Schedule and registration information can be found at: https://teex.org/class/PRE100/