



ANNUAL REPORT 2016



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This executive summary provides highlights of accomplishments in 2016 by Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security (FCEM&HS).

2016 Franklin County Risk Assessment: To maintain a state of readiness and ensure our first responders and decision makers remain aware of the risks facing Franklin County, FCEM&HS updated the Franklin County Risk Assessment in 2016. The document ranks the hazards in relation to each other allowing responders to prioritize efforts based on the highest risks. The project was funded through a Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant. The new rankings can be found on our website at www.fcemhs.org.

2016 Severe Weather Spotter Training: The National Weather Service (NWS) depends in part on eyewitness information from citizens, public safety and emergency management personnel trained to recognize and report potentially life-threatening severe weather conditions. In March, FCEM&HS in concert with the NWS, OSU Emergency Management and the Central Ohio Severe Weather Network (COSWN) conducted the annual Severe Weather Spotter Training at the OSU Fawcett Center. The half-day training seminar educated more than 200 participants on how to spot, report, and prepare for tornadoes and other severe weather.



*Jeffrey J. Young
FCEM&HS, Director*

FCEM&HS welcomes Jeffrey J. Young as the new Director of Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security (FCEM&HS). Director Young was appointed by the FCEM&HS Executive Committee on October 13, 2016. He brings a history of steady leadership and extensive experience in public safety including preparing for and responding to a wide range of local and national disasters.

Prior to joining FCEM&HS in November, Director Young served as the Fire Chief of Upper Arlington. During the course of his fire service career, he served as a certified Paramedic, Rescue and Hazmat Technician. For six years, he was a member of the Ohio Task Force 1 and a founding member of the Central Ohio Strike Team, an Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team for the Ohio Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Region 4 and all of Ohio.

Director Young has a strong belief in developing and maintaining solid working relationships with all jurisdictions and partner agencies that serve Central Ohio. As part of those working relationships, Director Young serves as a committee member of the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC), InfraGard, the Central Ohio Trauma System (COTS) as well as the Chemical Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council (CEPAC) and provides monthly updates during the Franklin County Chiefs of Police and Franklin County Fire Chiefs meetings. In addition, he serves on The Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3).



Severe Storm Response: On June 22, 2016, Franklin County experienced high winds and localized flooding after severe storms hit Central Ohio. A Tornado Watch, four Severe Thunderstorm Warnings, three Flash Flood Warnings and a Flood Warning were issued by NWS. FCEM&HS activated the Joint Emergency Operations Center (JEOC) and worked with local partners to assess and monitor the situation. FCEM&HS remained in constant contact with NWS and officials from Sharon Township who were impacted by flooding as well as Delaware County EMA regarding the minimum release at the Delaware Dam. At the request of Sharon Township Police, FCEM&HS alerted residents of Mount Air to seek higher ground through ALERT Franklin County as flooding was imminent.

2016 Statewide Tornado Drill: Over 78,000 Franklin County citizens participated in the 2016 Statewide Tornado Drill on March 23rd at 9:50 a.m. At that time, the Franklin County Outdoor Warning Sirens were activated for three minutes. The test tone was the same "tornado warning" tone that is used during an actual tornado warning. The annual drill was part of Ohio's Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week, March 20 – 26, 2016. Tornadoes are the number one risk for Franklin County.

FCEM&HS

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Register
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Warning

The FCEM&HS Warning Program coordinates, among other things, the Franklin County Outdoor Warning Siren System. This system consists of 196 outdoor warning sirens which are activated when the National Weather Service (NWS) issues a Tornado Warning for Franklin County. The outdoor warning sirens can alert residents with tones and/or a spoken message. Once activated, the outdoor warning sirens will sound with a tone for 3 minutes followed by 7 minutes of silence, this sequence will continue until the warning is cancelled.

The primary function of the Outdoor Warning Siren System is to warn individuals who are outdoors to seek shelter and monitor local media outlets or a NOAA weather radio for rapid weather changes.

Beyond sounding the sirens, the FCEM&HS Warning Program is charged with testing the sirens, scheduling siren maintenance, siren technological upgrades, complying with FCC mandates and strategic planning on the addition of sirens to improve coverage throughout the county.

Other components of the FCEM&HS Warning Program include the Siren Watch Program, emergency notifications through Lamar Digital Billboards, Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS), NOAA Weather Alert Radios, ALERT Franklin County and the Indoor Early Warning System.

ALERT Franklin County



FCEM&HS continued working with local jurisdictions to utilize the county's mass notification and warning system, ALERT Franklin County. Two training workshops were held for jurisdictional representatives to learn to manage system capabilities. FCEM&HS staff was on site at Red, White & Boom and the Franklin County Fair to register residents into ALERT Franklin County. The system has over 15,000 citizens registered. In 2016, the system issued 14 Severe Thunderstorm Warnings, 4 Flash Flood Warnings, 2 Tornado Watches, 2 High Wind Warnings, 2 Wind Chill Advisories, 1 Heat Warning, 1 Heat Advisory, 1 Freezing Rain Advisory and 1 Winter Weather Advisory.

FCEM&HS also began working with a local marketing firm to develop a county-wide marketing plan for ALERT Franklin County. The campaign will feature enhanced social media messaging, graphics and short videos designed to increase citizen awareness and encourage registration. All jurisdictions and emergency partners will receive the digital toolkit in early 2017 to help promote ALERT Franklin County to their residents.

Indoor Early Warning System

In 2016, FCEM&HS launched an Indoor Early Warning System project. FCEM&HS partnered with several large indoor venues and sporting facilities to provide indoor warning receivers to effectively communicate with the at risk populations who are unable to hear the outdoor warning sirens. The system operates on the same network as the 196 outdoor warning sirens and upon activation, these systems will sound an alert, flash an LED light, and display a text message indicating the threat or urgent event. The 42 receivers are programmed to alert facilities for several of the risks identified in the 2016 Franklin County Risk Assessment. The project was funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the Fiscal Year 2015 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP).





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Planning

The FCEM&HS Planning Program is responsible for countywide emergency planning, including the continuous maintenance of the Franklin County Emergency Operations Plan and all associated Emergency Support Functions and Annexes, using a risk-based all-hazards approach. The Planning Program Staff are responsible for filling the Planning section roles as well as developing incident specific plans during activation of the Emergency Operations Center.

Dangerous Wild Animal Plan

The Dangerous Wild Animal Plan for Franklin County was updated and submitted to the Ohio Department of Agriculture ahead of the deadline during the summer of 2016. The Franklin County Dangerous Wild Animal Response (DWAR) Plan describes how Franklin County will plan and provide resource support before, during, and after a dangerous wild animal emergency within Franklin County, Ohio.

This plan addresses the legal statute found in [Ohio Revised Code \(ORC\) Chapter 935: Possession of Wild Animals and Snakes](#) and fulfills the requirements for a dangerous wild animal county emergency response plan, outlining the duties of Franklin County's Dangerous Wild Animal Response Team (Dwart).

The majority of team members renewed their memberships and continue serving alongside new members with terms expiring in 2019. In addition to FCEM&HS, the following agencies are represented until 2019:

- The Franklin County Sheriff's Office
- Village of Minerva Park Police Department
- City of Columbus Division of Police
- Truro Township Fire Department
- The Central Ohio Trauma System
- The Columbus Dispatch
- The City of Whitehall- Mayor's Office
- Columbus Public Health
- Dangerous wild animal owner in Franklin County

2016 Franklin County Risk Assessment

In an effort to minimize the adverse impact of disasters on people and property in Franklin County, FCEM&HS updated the Franklin County Risk Assessment. The 2016 Franklin County Risk Assessment is a detailed study of the hazards most likely to impact Franklin County. Nineteen threats and hazards – dangerous events such as winter storms, floods and terrorist attacks – were analyzed and ranked according to the potential risk they pose. The assessment of the community's threats, hazards, and risks provides the basis for planning and implementing measures to reduce the negative consequences of a disaster or catastrophic event by strengthening the community's prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery capabilities.

Below is a ranking of the 19 hazards. The lower the numerical ranking, the higher the hazard's likelihood and potential impact on Franklin County:

1. Tornadoes
2. Cyber Threat
3. Infectious Disease
4. Flooding
5. Lone Wolf Terrorist Attack
6. Dam Failure
7. Utility/Energy Interruption or Failure
8. Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear or Explosive (CBRNE) Terrorist Incident
9. Severe Winter Weather
10. Hazardous Materials Incidents
11. Civil Disturbance
12. Severe Summer Weather
13. Transportation Accident- Aircraft
14. Space Weather
15. Extreme Heat
16. Earthquakes
17. Invasive Species
18. Air & Water Pollution/ Contamination
19. Drought

For a summary of the methodology used to complete the Risk Assessment as well as specific details on each hazard addressed, see the 2016 Franklin County Risk Assessment Executive Summary, available on our website at <http://fcmhs.org/Planning/FranklinCountyRiskAssessment.aspx>.

The project was funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Fiscal Year 2013 Pre-Disaster Mitigation funds administered through the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA).



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Operations

The FCEM&HS Operations Program is responsible for implementing plans, policies and standard operating procedures developed to respond to and recover from events in Franklin County. Events may range from routine incidents such as receiving and recording reports from hazardous material handlers regarding chemical spills to extraordinary events such as wild animal reports and natural or man-made disasters. The Operations Program oversees the operation of the Assessment Center and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

The Operations Program has a responsibility to ensure response to all hazards events 24-hours a day, 7-days a week. To accomplish this, FCEM&HS incorporates an On-Call system, assigning two staff members to monitor telephone and email after normal working hours. Based on current technology, On-Call Staff are capable of monitoring both from anywhere in the country. This system is vital in responding to after-hour emergencies and the collection of pertinent information.

Last year, FCEM&HS responded to over 20 incidents affecting Franklin County. Many were weather related and warranted just the response of the On-Call Staff. However, FCEM&HS also responded to a US Presidential candidate visit, a large refinery fire, a drinking water advisory, and a flooding event. All events for 2016 were handled by the FCEM&HS staff and did not exceed Crisis Action System Level 1 Assessment.

When not responding to all-hazards events, the Operations Program collaborates with emergency management programs within FCEM&HS as well as outside partners to support planning, training and exercises.

Recovery

The FCEM&HS Recovery Program is responsible for working with stakeholders and local jurisdictions to coordinate the immediate and long-term recovery of the community following a disaster. This includes the provision of local, state, federal and private sector disaster assistance for those with unmet needs. The program is also responsible for coordinating the state and federal public assistance and individual assistance programs. The Recovery Program Staff are responsible for filling the Recovery section roles during activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Franklin County Recovery Plan

Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security released the final version of the Franklin County Disaster Recovery Plan (DRP) in October. The DRP is intended to be a pre-disaster recovery planning document as well as a guide for post-disaster recovery procedures. The DRP is intended for local officials who will be involved in implementing disaster recovery efforts in Franklin County. It will also be of interest for members of the public, stakeholders and others with general or specific interest in disaster recovery efforts.

The purpose of the DRP is to coordinate recovery efforts with the goal of returning communities to normal, or a new normal, following a disaster. Recovery allows for the prompt restoration of essential services, reconstruction of damaged property and the resumption of normal activities. Mitigation also plays a key role in recovery operations and will be implemented simultaneously. Mitigation activities are those actions taken to lessen or eliminate future loss due to a disaster. The DRP addresses all three phases of recovery: Preparedness, Short-Term Recovery and Long-Term Recovery.

The DRP provides a scalable mechanism for a whole community approach by coordinating support with local governments, nongovernmental organizations, the private sector and impacted citizens to enable recovery from large-scale disasters. This plan may be activated for events to address significant long-term impacts on the community (e.g., businesses, infrastructure, environment, government operations, healthcare, housing, social services, etc.) to foster sustainable recovery. Additional plans and programs guiding the activities of county functions, agencies, departments, and resources will be implemented and will overlap with the DRP.



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Public Information

The FCEM&HS Public Information Program is responsible for coordination of the agency's internal and external organizational communications and for overseeing the agency's outreach to the public and key stakeholders in the traditional three phases of emergency public information: pre-incident preparedness, incident/emergency response information and post-incident/recovery.

The Public Information Program conducts activities to educate the public about local hazards, prevention and protection, family preparedness and response-level activities through traditional and social media. In 2016, FCEM&HS launched public information campaigns for Severe Weather and Flood Awareness Week, Statewide Tornado Drill, Lightning Safety Awareness Week, National Preparedness Month and the Great Central U.S. Shakeout Earthquake Drill. FCEM&HS continued to conduct a robust marketing campaign to encourage registration for the county-wide mass notification system, ALERT Franklin County.

In an effort to increase agency transparency and improve public preparedness, FCEM&HS enhanced its social media content. Graphics were streamlined to have a common "look" and topics were expanded to cover all aspects of emergency management including the top hazards facing Franklin County as well as additional preparedness information.



Franklin County CERT



The Franklin County Community Emergency Response Team (FC CERT) Program is a core volunteer program of FCEM&HS. The program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their community and trains them in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using training learned in the classroom and during exercises, FC CERT volunteers can assist others in their neighborhood following a disaster when professional responders are not immediately available to help.

In 2016, FCEM&HS conducted two CERT Basic Training classes. The training program follows the national curriculum and covers nine units over a nine-week period totaling approximately 27 hours. The training provided participants with the basic skills needed to help themselves, their families and their community in a disaster. FC CERT has over 425 graduates of the training course.

Siren Watch Program

The Siren Watch Program assists FCEM&HS to ensure each outdoor warning siren is operating. Siren Watchers are citizen volunteers who monitor and report on an assigned outdoor warning siren every Wednesday after the noon test to confirm each outdoor warning siren is working properly. The program currently has over 130 volunteers monitoring indoor and outdoor sirens. An interactive Siren Watcher Mapping System enables siren watchers to report their assigned siren results online within seconds. Anyone interested in the Siren Watch Program can call (614) 794-0213 or visit our website at www.fcemhs.org.



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Training & Exercises

The FCEM&HS Training and Exercise Program has worked to establish a regional, integrated Training and Exercise Strategy focused on building response and recovery capabilities tied to identified risks in the region. The Strategy provides holistic guidance for emergency management and homeland security training and exercise planning and programming within the region.

The Strategy is supported by all County Emergency Management Agencies within the Columbus Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) which includes Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Licking, Madison, Morrow, Pickaway, Hocking, Perry and Union counties.

In 2016, FCEM&HS continued to develop the Franklin County and the Regional Training and Exercise Programs stressing collaboration to improve the region's ability to prevent, respond to and recover from all hazards.

FCEM&HS conducted both the 5th Annual Franklin County and the Regional Training and Exercise Planning Workshops. Both the Franklin County and Regional MSA Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plans (2017-2020) were updated to provide a five-year outlook for training and exercises in Columbus, Franklin County and the Regional MSA.

Teamwork '16 CEPAC Exercise

The Teamwork '16 Chemical Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council (CEPAC) Functional Exercise was held on April 28, 2016. The exercise was designed to validate the Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security (FCEM&HS) Joint Emergency Operation Center (FCJEOC) plans and procedures and to provide participants with an opportunity to demonstrate and evaluate current response support concepts, plans, and capabilities for a hazardous materials (HAZMAT) transportation incident. The After Action Report (AAR) affirms Teamwork '16 was successful in validating all learning objectives which included Initial Notification of Response Agencies, Emergency Operations Centers, Resource Management, Population Protective Actions, Emergency Public Information and Public Health DOC Operations.



*Teamwork '16
CEPAC Functional Exercise*

ICS/NIMS Training



MGT-439 Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness Class at FCEM&HS on May 17 & 18, 2016

In 2016, FCEM&HS held 25 Incident Command System (ICS)/National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant training classes for a total of 609 first responders, emergency partners, and volunteers to better prepare Franklin County to respond to all-hazards. Classes included Crisis Management for School-Based Incidents, Pediatric Disaster Response, Biological Incident Awareness, Natural Disaster Awareness for Community Leaders and Caregivers of Senior Citizens and others.



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Damage Assessment Team Kits

In 2016, FCEM&HS created 38 Damage Assessment Team Kits for use by local emergency management agencies to enhance damage assessment capabilities in the region. Each kit consists of a spot light, digital camera, GPS tracker, current FEMA Individual Assistance (IA) Damage Assessment forms and other related documents.

The kits are being maintained by FC CERT Volunteers and housed at FCEM&HS. A signed agreement will be required outlining the guidelines for repair and/or replacement of the kit contents prior to deployment. Each kit has a total value of over \$700.

Funding for the kits was provided through SHSP and EMPG grant funds for the Franklin County Community Emergency Response Team (FC CERT).



Regional Damage Assessment Kit

If interested in borrowing any of these kits for regional damage assessment operations, please contact FCEM&HS at 614-794-0213.

Grants

FCEM&HS is the grant administrator for the State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP), which funds equipment, planning, training and exercises for Franklin County's first responders and response partners. The funding is made available through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and awarded by the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA).

In 2016, the SHSGP moved away from a competitive approach towards a regional approach. Ohio EMA used the eight (8) homeland security regions as a way to distribute funds with each region receiving a set amount of funding. Franklin County is part of Homeland Security Planning Region 4 (HSR4). HSR4 consists of the following counties; Crawford, Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Hardin, Knox, Licking, Logan, Madison, Marion, Morrow, Pickaway, Union, Wyandot and representation from the Columbus Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI).

The award was broken into the following categories of funding:

- Communications
- Early Warning/Notification
- Exercise
- Intelligence and Information Sharing
- Planning
- Targeted Sustainment of Specialty Teams (Search and Rescue, HazMat, Bomb)

The Homeland Security Region 4 (HSR4) Committee chose FCEM&HS to be the Fiscal Agent for the Region and submitted seven (7) projects to Ohio EMA for review/approval and received an award to fund five (5) of those projects listed below for a total of \$599,900.75.

2016 Grant Awarded Projects

Urban Search And Rescue (USAR) Team Sustainment	\$59,250.00
Regional Fatality Management Plan	\$200,000.00
Regional Satellite Phone Project	\$48,720.00
Regional SWAT Exercise Series	\$76,333.00
Regional Interoperable Communications (Radio)	\$215,597.75
Total	\$599,900.75



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FCEM&HS Cash Analysis

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

On behalf of the Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Executive Committee, I would like to offer our sincere gratitude to the staff of Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security (FCEM&HS) for another year of commendable service to the citizens of Franklin County.

A year of change best describes 2016 including the addition of our new director, Jeff Young. Director Young has started many new initiatives, including successful engagement of the leadership of all partnering jurisdictions and agencies to ensure FCEM&HS is meeting everyone's needs. Staff also embarked on a marketing campaign promoting our new Alert Franklin County. This state-of-the-art mass notification and warning system enables vital safety alert services to residents about emergencies and other important community news in all 42 jurisdictions within Franklin County. FCEM&HS continues to comply with and maintain its StormReady® Certification for Franklin County from the National Weather Service and your Executive Board has pledged to begin a formal Strategic Planning process in 2017 beginning with a Board planning retreat.

The members of the Executive Committee who represent all 42 jurisdictions are dedicated to achieving the highest level of preparedness for the safety of our citizens. We look forward to another successful year in 2017 as FCEM&HS implements a new Indoor Early Warning System, which will work simultaneously with the Franklin County Outdoor Warning Siren System to further ensure the well-being and a more resilient community for the residents of Franklin County.

William F. Vedra, Jr.

Deputy City Administrator/Public Safety Director
City of Grove City
2016 FCEM&HS Executive Committee Chair

FCEM&HS 2016 CASH ANALYSIS (unaudited)	
OPERATIONAL FUND (9029)	
BEGINNING CASH BALANCE JAN. 1, 2016	\$ 1,179,110
2016 REVENUE SOURCES	
Emergency Management Performance Grant	\$ 450,000
2016 Local Proportionate Shares	1,139,550
Other Income	170,809
Federal & State Grant Revenue	<u>77,954</u>
Total 2016 Operational Revenue Sources	\$ 1,838,313
2016 EXPENDITURES	
Salaries	\$ (565,506)
Benefits	(208,920)
Operations	(654,164)
Pass-Through Expenditures	(170,709)
Grant Funded Expenditures (Materials & Services)	<u>(86,926)</u>
Less Total 2016 Expenditures	<u>(1,686,226)</u>
ENDING CASH BALANCE DEC. 31, 2016	\$ 1,331,198
WARNING FUND (9031)	
BEGINNING CASH BALANCE JAN. 1, 2016	\$ 605,161
2016 REVENUE SOURCES	
Annual Warning Fees	\$ 235,200
Purchase/Installation/Removal Reimbursement	0
Other Revenue	0
Total Warning Revenue Received in 2016	\$ 235,200
2016 EXPENDITURES	
Salaries	\$ (62,025)
Benefits	(24,146)
Warning Maintenance Expenditures	(54,558)
Overhead Relegated to Warning	(5,537)
Pass-Through—New Sirens, Installs, Billable Purchases	<u>(2,605)</u>
Less Total 2016 Expenditures Warning	<u>(148,871)</u>
ENDING CASH BALANCE DEC. 31, 2016	\$ 691,490
<i>Note: all calculations are rounded.</i>	