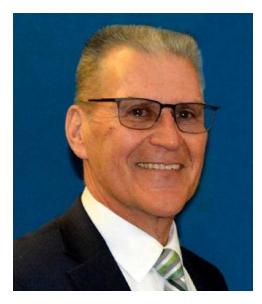


2021 Annual Report

Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



William F. Vedra, Jr. Chairman On behalf of the Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Executive Committee, I am pleased to present the 2021 Annual Report for Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security (FCEM&HS). This report reflects the dedication and exceptional service the Agency provides to all 42 Franklin County jurisdictions every day as our nation continued to be challenged in new ways we never anticipated.

The announcement of the emergency use and FDA approved COVID19 vaccinations offered the much-needed encouragement to each one of us that there was finally a light at the end of the tunnel and the end of the pandemic was within reach. Sadly, our optimism was short lived due to the COVID19 variants and the resulting highly transmissible rates. Unfortunately, 2021 would not be the end of the pandemic, rather a continuation of 2020, an unprecedented time in history.

Throughout the year, the Agency continued to serve our community through the countywide resource request system. In collaboration with Franklin County Public Health and Columbus Public Health, the Agency distributed nearly 10 million pieces of PPE and COVID19 test kits to local agencies and the public. Members of the Franklin County & Columbus Medical Reserve Corps supported 12 volunteer missions, filled over 4,000 roles and donated 14,000 hours of time.

In addition to working through the pandemic, the Agency conducted Central Ohio's largest ever public safety full scale exercise. In August, the Franklin County Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack (CCTA) Full-Scale Exercise was held to allow local public safety agencies to test and validate their emergency plans to ensure that Franklin County is better prepared to respond to the emerging threats that exist today.

The members of the Executive Committee who represent all 42 Franklin County jurisdictions are dedicated to achieving the highest level of preparedness for the safety of our citizens as our community returns to a new normal with COVID19. We offer our sincere gratitude to the entire staff at FCEM&HS. In 2022, we look forward to in-person training classes resuming, implementing a countywide notification keyword "FCREADY", and new technology to ensure Franklin County remains prepared for and ready to respond to any hazard, both natural and manmade, at any time.

William F. Vedra, Jr. FCEM&HS Executive Committee Chairman

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

As the Director of Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security, I am privileged to present my fifth Annual Report to our communities, jurisdictions, and partner agencies. To say that I continue to be amazed at the variety, scope, and volume of work that this report represents would be an understatement.

Within these pages you will find information regarding our collective work not only on year two of our COVID response, but on our volunteer programs, alerting and warning, homeland security, radio communications, and grant projects to highlight just some of the broad categories of the work undertaken by the entire staff.

I would also like to highlight a new strategy we endorsed last year with the adoption of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Community Lifelines within our 2021 Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). These Community Lifelines are a structured way for Emergency Managers to track and assess the impacts of community wide incidents and disasters.

Evaluating these lifelines and understanding their impact upon a local community is part of our response process to help local jurisdictions stabilize a community, understand their resource needs, and to begin the recovery process.

Jeffrey J. Young Director

As we proceed through the upcoming year, there will be the kick-off of our periodic update to the countywide Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan. This update will provide an opportunity for each community's service providers, leadership and the general public to provide input into the type and prioritization of the strategies we can utilize to mitigate the impacts of climate and natural hazards upon our communities and neighborhoods. Including possible projects and strategies into this plan is important for transparency, collaboration, and a common understanding. The plan is submitted to FEMA and may have potential for federal programs that could benefit Franklin County prior to any disaster as well as part of the recovery process.

I would like to close this welcome letter by thanking all of the staff and partners to the Agency who make the collaborative nature of Franklin County and Central Ohio something we can all be proud of. Please stay safe and take a moment to consider your own personal preparedness plans.

Jeffrey J. Young FCEM&HS Director

2021 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security Executive Committee is comprised of 14 representatives from various municipalities, townships and villages in Franklin County. The committee oversees the overall operations and policies for the Agency.

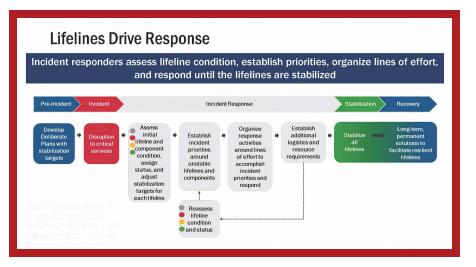


COMMUNITY LIFELINES

Community Lifelines enable the continuous operation of critical government and business functions and are essential to human health and safety or economic security.



In 2021, FCEM&HS adapted the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Community Lifelines as guidance to increase effectiveness in disaster operations and better response to catastrophic incidents. Lifeline services are provided by public, private, and non-profit entities that are organic within the community. They include a range of critical day-to-day services that communities rely on to protect life and property. While most disruptions to these services are directly resolved by the organic lifeline service providers (e.g., power and utility companies), the priority of response operations following an incident is to stabilize the lifeline services by the most effective means available when they are destroyed or significantly disrupted by disasters.



The lifeline structure helps enable FCEM&HS and first responders to quickly assess whether critical services are disrupted and to determine which capabilities are required to deliver and re-establish those disrupted critical services. Simply stated, the lifelines provide a streamlined systematic way to assess a community's critical vulnerabilities in the immediate aftermath of a disaster. This better enables decision makers to do the following:

- Determine severity of the impact on critical infrastructure;
- Identify limiting factors and gaps to addressing those impacts; and
- Quickly prioritize solutions to alleviate threats to life and property.

FRANKLIN COUNTY HAZARDS

The Franklin County Risk Assessment details the hazards most likely to impact Franklin County. Threats and hazardous events such as winter storms, floods and terrorist attacks were analyzed and ranked according to the potential risk they pose. According to their rankings; the lower the numerical ranking, the higher the hazards likelihood, consequences, and potential impact on Franklin County.

The NUMBER ONE hazard for Franklin County is



HOMELAND SECURITY

Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack (CCTA) Plan/Exercise

In 2016, Franklin County was awarded grant funding from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS's) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to prepare communities for Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks (CCTA). The grants were distributed to 28 cities across the country to enhance resilience and build capacity at the local level. Franklin County received \$829,725 to test and validate Franklin County's response to an unfolding terrorist attack spread across multiple locations.

Funding was used to develop a county-wide plan and implement effective, sustainable, and regional approaches for enhancing preparedness for complex coordinated traditional and emerging threats. To validate the plan and test capabilities, FCEM&HS hosted a Full-Scale Exercise on Saturday, August 28, 2021. The large-scale public safety response exercise simulated seven coordinated attacks with volunteer actor "victims" at multiple locations throughout Central Ohio.

This effort represented Central Ohio's largest ever public safety exercise. The exercise locations were supported by an area wide command, providing an opportunity for participating organizations to practice responding to the resource strains inherent to any CCTA large scale response.

The Franklin County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was also activated to provide support to the exercise participants. Command participants were challenged with coordinating policies and procedures across multiple jurisdictions while responding to a variety of the threats and needs.Over eighty participants from public safety, medical, private, and non-governmental sector agencies from across Franklin County participated in the simulated exercise. The After-Action Report (AAR) identified the strengths and areas of improvement to better prepare Franklin County for a terrorist attack.

As the year closed FEMA approved the final close out reports for this grant project and Franklin County was only the 4th jurisdiction out of the 28 recipients to fully complete the requirements for the grant award.



COVID19 RESOURCES VOLUNTEERS

FC&C MRC 2021 COVID19 Response

The Franklin County and Columbus Medical Reserve Corps (FC&C MRC) is a network of local volunteers organized to support the health and safety of the community through public health preparedness. The organization provides medical and non-medical volunteers to support public health threats, public health emergencies, major emergencies, and disasters, and when requested by local officials.

In 2021, FC&C MRC membership increased significantly with a year-end membership of 2,912, an increase of 78.7% from 2020. The members have a variety of occupational backgrounds ranging from doctors to lawyers to food service workers. Our Medical Reserve Corps accounted for approximately 1% of the national response force and is one of only eight programs nationally with a membership of 2,000 or more.



14,000 Hours DONATED

4,000 Roles

- 12 Missions PERFORMED

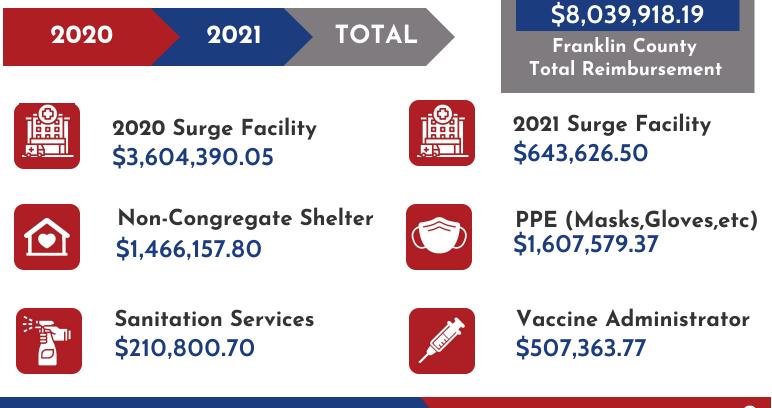
The FC&C MRC conducted a total of twelve broad missions in 2021 including administrative support, medical & nonmedical volunteer credentialing, vaccine points of dispensing clinics, personal protective equipment (PPE) and COVID19 test kit distribution logistics, Central Ohio Trauma System (COTS) ventilator assembly, Ohio Department of Health's vaccine kit assembly, Ohio Health's urgent care support and swabbing stations, medical staff with the Community Shelter Board as well as assisting other surrounding counties with vaccination efforts.



COVID19 PANDEMIC 2020-2021

	РРЕ Туре	2020	2021	PPE Distribution Totals
PANDEMIC PPE DISTRIBUTION TOTALS	Masks	710,670	3,700,310	4,410,980
	Gloves	468,000	4,832,000	5,300,000
2020-2021	Gowns	60,977	122,030	183,007
	Face Shields	38,500	75,300	113,800
	Thermometers	428	2,487	2,915

Subsequent to the President's March 13, 2020 Nationwide Emergency Declaration for the Coronavirus Disease (COVID19) and in accordance with the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, eligible protective measures taken to respond to the COVID19 emergency could be reimbursed under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Public Assistance program. FCEM&HS worked with the Franklin County Board of Commissioners to submit eligible expenses for reimbursement.



COVID19 PANDEMIC 2020-2021

FCEM&HS COVID19 PPE RESPONSE OPERATIONS



ALERTING/WARNING

Franklin County Alerting and Warning Program

As an all-hazards and threats agency, FCEM&HS actively assesses a myriad of man-made, natural, or technological hazards that could pose potential public safety impacts. When a situation reaches or has the potential to impose critical life safety concern to the public, FCEM&HS actively assesses and has a variety of ways to alert or warn the public of the need to take immediate action.

Franklin County Outdoor Warning Siren System

The Franklin County Outdoor Warning Siren System is one of the largest siren networks in Ohio and the country. The system consists of 196 outdoor warning sirens located throughout all 42 jurisdictions and Franklin County. The system is divided by four warning zones (NW, NE, SW and SE) to more closely align siren activations with warning polygons issued by NWS or the actual location of tornadic activity in Franklin County.

FCEM&HS tests the system each Wednesday at noon (weather permitting) to ensure the system is functioning properly. Results of the weekly testing showed a 99% fully operational rate.





ALERT Franklin County

ALERT Franklin County, a county-wide mass notification and warning system, is a vital element of the Franklin County Warning Program. The system is used to digitally alert residents of severe weather and selected incident notifications on their electronic devices by phone, text, or email. FCEM&HS maintains the system, which is available to all 42 jurisdictions in Franklin County.

In support of our public safety partners, FCEM&HS utilized Alert Franklin County to integrate automatic internal HazMat alerts for Columbus Division of Fire. FCEM&HS also provided training to several local police and fire departments who now utilitze the system internally. The staff supported Grove City with ALERT Franklin County during its annual exercise as well as other annual events throughout the county including July 4th Celebrations in Upper Arlington, Hilliard and Whitehall, as well as the Columbus Marathon.

RECOGNITIONS

National Medical Response Corps Community Response & Mentor Award

In 2021, the Franklin County and Columbus Medical Reserve Corps was recognized by the National Medical Response Corps with the Community Response Award. This award was presented for COVID-19 Logistics Support that significantly contributed to disaster and/or public health emergency response efforts in 2021.

Chris Williams, the program coordinator, was also presented the Mentor Award for successfully collaborating with other members of the MRC network over the past year to share practices, participate in activities, and carry out initiatives that have strengthened individual and collective groups of medical volunteers.



Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) Silver Award

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) developed The Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) to be a secure, nationwide network for sharing sensitive but unclassified (SBU) information in real-time for all levels of Homeland Security and their partner agencies. Participating agencies can access Homeland Security data, send requests securely between agencies, manage operations, coordinate planned event safety and security, respond to incidents, and share the information they need to help keep their communities safe.

In 2020, FCEM&HS adopted the HSIN platform as a county-wide tool for information with public safety and private partners. Franklin County was the first county in the nation to be granted "super-user" status by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and granted a Community of Interest (COI) portal to further enhance collaborative efforts. Franklin County has over 200 HSIN contributors, representing over 100 organizations at all levels of government and corporate presence who utilize the platform.

As the year came to an end, FCEM&HS was recognized with a Silver Award for its collaboration with the Central Ohio Trauma System (COTS) for the Incident Support. The Incident Support category was defined as "demonstrating operational use of HSIN for incident response operations, such as those involving COVID-19, civil unrest, active shooters, hurricanes, floods or wildfires". The Best of HSIN Annual Awards honor HSIN communities and users who have applied HSIN in innovative ways to achieve mission success.



OPERATIONS

The Operations Program is responsible for implementing plans, policies and standard operating procedures (SOPs) developed to respond and recover from events in Franklin County. The program oversees the operation of the Assessment Center and the Franklin County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The Franklin County EOC provides a central location for multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional coordination and decision-making to better manage disaster response and recovery in our community.

Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MACC)

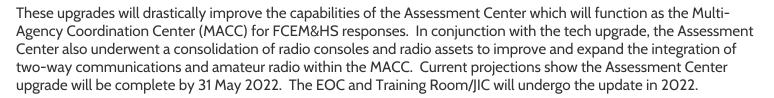
The FCEM&HS EOC has always worked to collaborate and coordinate between multiple agencies, jurisdictional EOC's, and government entities, but COVID-19 highlighted the requirement to perform those functions in a virtual environment. To better document how FCEM&HS functions as a whole, and due in no small part to the necessity to respond to COVID-19, FCEM&HS has updated its documentation to more clearly explain the Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MACC) philosophy of the EOC.

Essentially, the MACC recognizes jurisdictional EOC's and works with each EOC to ensure widespread collaboration and coordination amongst the multiple EOCs within the county boundaries. FCEM&HS maintains an EOC to conduct these activities with a focus on the ability to operate virtually.

Assessment Center Technology Upgrades

To support the more virtual environment, and to address aging technology, FCEM&HS embarked on a comprehensive technology update of the EOC, Training Room/Joint Information Center (JIC), and the Assessment Center. Work began on the Assessment Center in 2021 and will continue into 2022. The new upgrade will feature:

- Three separate displays
- Integrated video conference ensemble
- In-ceiling maximum sound speakers
- New control panel to distribute display options





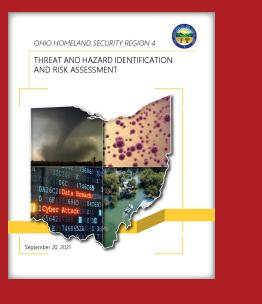
PLANNING

The Planning Program is responsible for countywide emergency planning, including the continuous maintenance of the Franklin County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and all associated Emergency Support Functions and Annexes, using a risk-based, all-hazards approach. During an emergency, staff are responsible for the creation of all incident-specific plans, development of a Situation Report, and the utilization of Geographic Information Systems information. Throughout the year, staff provide expertise to Franklin County partners and review school emergency plans for all private and public schools in Franklin County.

Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA)

In an effort to minimize the adverse impact of disasters on people and property in Franklin County, FCEM&HS updated the Franklin County Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment in 2021. The assessment is a detailed study of the hazards most likely to impact Franklin County. Seventeen 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.

A complete list of the 17 hazards and their ranking can be found on page six. The lower the numerical ranking, the higher the hazard's likelihood and potential impact on Franklin County.



Franklin County Sheriff Dallas Baldwin and members of the Winter Weather Planning Group met again in 2021 to discuss snow and ice emergency procedures for the winter season. The coalition was formed to create better situational awareness and improve information sharing among key decision makers regarding snow and other weather emergencies in Franklin County. As a result, FCEM&HS created the Franklin County Winter Snow Emergency Plan to provide a framework and consistent guidance when winter weather may impact area roadways.



During this year's meeting, the group discussed the importance of early notification and ways government agencies may be able to share resources including drivers due to the limited number of available drivers. The three snow emergency levels, Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3, and how they impact schools, businesses and government operations were also reviewed.

REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Franklin County Emergency Communications Radio System Simulcast Expansion

In 2021, FCEM&HS managed the expansion of the Franklin County Emergency Communications Radio System and merged with the State of Ohio Multi Agency Radio Communications System (MARCS). The more robust consolidated system increases local service while providing access to local public safety not only in Franklin County, but the surrounding counties and across the state.

Previously, Franklin County owned and operated a digital radio system that served 3,500 individual devices at public agencies such as the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, Franklin County Jail, Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), and others. The system was last upgraded in 2013, however an increased number of radio system subscribers, presented a need for improved signal strength and channel capacity.

With the support of the Franklin County Administration, FCEM&HS undertook a fresh review of possible collaborative opportunities in 2020. This evaluation identified that the State of Ohio MARCS System could be expanded to an appropriately sized system to serve the combined quantity of subscribers with a noticeable increase in both capacity and signal strength.



GRANT FUNDING

Each year, FCEM&HS administers and distributes grant funding to Franklin County and the additional counties that make-up Homeland Security Region 4 (HSR4). These non-disaster grants are awarded to help improve local government's abilities to prevent, protect, respond, and recover from natural and man-made disasters. The funding is made available through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and awarded by the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA).

Meridian Barriers \$374,153.38 FY19 SHSP Grant



As terrorist activities and events continue to happen across the United States, these large crowd trauma drop bags are for use during a mass casualty incident and will help save lives in the first precious minutes of a mass casualty incident. Bags were purchased for counties within HSR4. The number of bags per county was based upon population and scheduled large crowd events.

These kits contain initial emergency supplies (items such as: Tourniquet, Pressure Dressing, Z-Fold Gauze, 3 Antiseptic Towlettes, Mylar Emergency Blanket, 1pr Nitrile Gloves, Trauma Shears, Black Marker, Instructions for Use) to sustain life as a result of a mass casualty incident including a terrorist and active aggressor event. The equipment will be a resource for use by the general public helping to save lives while waiting for the medical responders to arrive. HSR4 counties routinely host large crowd events and need a way to secure vehicle access to roads or establish temporary road closures. These physical protective barriers are available for events that would qualify as soft targets and placed at a higher risk for terrorism, both domestic and international.

The trailer kits provide complete deployment and operation of a portable vehicle barrier(s) capable of protecting pedestrian traffic and public safety personnel. The trailer/barriers are pre-positioned throughout HSR4 and can be requested by any of the 15 counties in HSR4 if needed.

> citizenAID Kits \$253,537.36 FY18 SHSP Grant

REATMEN

GRANT FUNDING

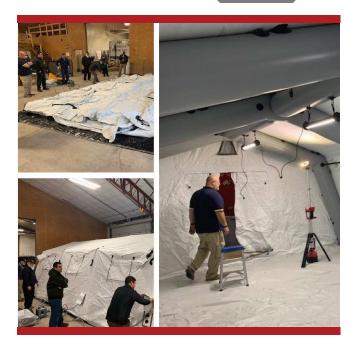
This mass fatality/mass care equipment will be used in conjunction with current resources in counties in HSR4 in the event there is a long term mass casualty, mass fatality, or technical response making for prolonged incidents involving the need for patient care or fatality processing as the result of a terrorism based Weapon of Mass Destruction/Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive materials (WMD/CBRNE) mass casualty incident. This equipment will provide sheltering during triage, initial treatment by medical personnel, and serve as sheltering pending formal transport to the region's hospitals.

Mass Fatality Tents/Heaters \$57,957 FY18 SHSP Grant

The need for this project was determined based on the need to support and contribute to the building/sustaining by adding a Mass Fatality/Mass Casualty Shelter within the Region for regional deployment to support mass casualty triage and surge should the Central Ohio Region be impacted by terrorism or a large scale natural disaster. By having the unit housed within the Region, faster activation could occur should there be an act of terrorism. Two tent/heater packages were purchased with one staying in Franklin County and the other housed in Union County.



Dynamic Message Boards \$33,648 FY18 SHSP Grant



These deployable message boards allow for public warning of traffic safety issues and includes direction devices to supplement equipment that is already available. The boards were purchased based on the need to support counties, cities, and townships who do not maintain this type of equipment and do not have it readily available. These are intended to provide a resource for Emergency Management Agencies or public safety to be used in the event of an evacuation, mass care/shelter or recovery need.

The message boards meet the Ohio Department of Transportation specifications and were purchased for use by Regional Emergency Management Agencies within HSR4. The message boards are being housed and maintained in Logan County and can be requested by any of the counties in HSR4.

FISCAL

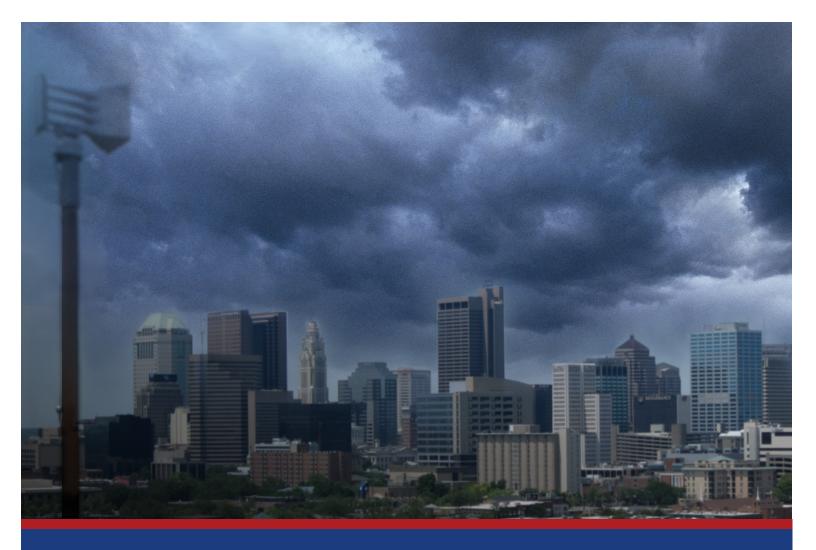
OPERATIONS FUND				
Fund Balance – January 1, 2021		1,377,689		
2021 Revenue Sources				
Emergency Management Performance Grant		21,853		
2021 Local Proportionate Shares		1,226,267		
Chemical Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council (CEPAC)		32,602		
Hazmat Recovery/Misc. Reimbursement		5,858		
Federal & State Grants		712,603		
Franklin County & Columbus Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)		75,387		
2021 Total Revenue Received		2,074,570		
2021 Expenditures				
Personnel Services	\$	(1,010,602)		
Operations	\$	(735,597)		
Pass Through Expenditures				
Grand Funded Expenditures (Materials & Service)		(712,602)		
2021 Total Expenditures		(2,458,801)		
Fund Balance – December 31, 2021		993,458		

WARNING FUND	
Fund Balance – January 1, 2021	\$ 675,907
2021 Revenue Sources	
Annual Warning Fees	\$ 196,000
Purchase/Installation/Removal/Misc. Reimbursement	\$ 2,739
2021 Total Revenue Received	\$ 198,739
2021 Expenditures	
Personnel Services	\$ (86,231)
Maintenance Expenditures	\$ (55,677)
Program Operations	\$ (77,177)
Pass Through – New Sirens, Installs, Billable Purchases	\$ (2,050)
2021 Total Expenditures	\$ (221,129)
Fund Balance – December 31, 2021	\$ 653,517

THANK YOU!



In an effort to express our gratitude, FCEM&HS reached out to Lamar Advertising to display a special "Thank You" message. In July, Lamar displayed the graphic on six different digital billboards as a way to thank FC&C MRC volunteers for their contributing efforts to support the COVID-19 response.



Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security 5300 Strawberry Farms Blvd. Columbus, Ohio 43230 614-794-0213 fcemhs.org



OHIO