

# Annual Report 2009

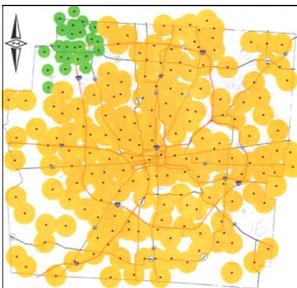
February 2, 2009

## Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security



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Countywide map of outdoor siren coverage as of December (page 3)

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: 2009 Progress, 2010 Plans

This executive summary provides highlights of the annual report for 2009 for Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security (FCEM&HS), the local government agency that coordinates county-wide planning, education, warning, response and recovery to minimize the adverse impacts of emergencies and disasters.

With new leadership and higher expectations, the agency made progress quickly and steadily in 2009 and made plans for more successes in 2010. The examples of progress below reflect our determination to establish FCEM&HS as a center of excellence and influence for emergency management and homeland security in Franklin County. Some highlights:

**Recovery Funding:** In the months following the September 2008 wind storm, we helped local communities (governments, schools, and private nonprofits) recoup nearly \$6 million in approved projects to recover from their damage. Also, we

are obtaining greater amounts of emergency management grant revenues for local communities, expected to increase 34% in 2010.

**New Warning Sirens:** The addition of 17 new outdoor warning sirens in 2009 brings to a record 172 the number of outdoor sirens in the county's warning system. FCEM&HS will use geographic information system data to talk with local jurisdictions in 2010 about how to optimize coverage, part of the agency's effort to upgrade the outdoor warning system.



Director Pannell with reporters at risk assessment planning meeting in August

**Updated Risk Assessment:** FCEM&HS drafted the first comprehensive update in 15 years of the official Risk Assessment for Franklin County. The report estimates which hazards – from tornadoes to terrorism – likely pose the greatest risk to the county's residents and workers. The report is due out in 2010.

**Major Training Exercises:** The agency helped design and execute two of Franklin County's largest and most important emergency response training exercises in 2009: a hazmat/dam emergency release/flooding scenario with Delaware County in April, and an improvised explosive device (IED) scenario with Madison County in September.

**Emergency Operations:** FCEM&HS helped local public health officials respond to an outbreak of H1N1 influenza in April and May, activating the Emergency Operations Center for several days to coordinate situation assessments and interagency communications.

### FCEM&HS

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### BUDGET & OPERATIONS: Increasing Agency Capabilities

The agency made confident strides in 2009 in improving our abilities to serve our constituent jurisdictions.

We played a key coordinating role in helping local communities (governments, schools, and private nonprofits) recoup nearly \$6 million in approved projects to recover from dam-

age caused by the September 2008 wind storm.

We revamped the agency's on-call procedures and built redundancy into our internal emergency notification system, increasing after-hours response capabilities and agency productivity.

We upgraded our external

agency communications and community outreach program, and more stakeholders used our facility for trainings at no cost – a 22% increase from 2008 – adding value to our interagency relationships.

We were able to both add

(Continued on page 2)



**Severe Weather Spotter training class hosted by FCEM&HS in March**

**The 9/17 exercise ‘validated the counties’ emergency operation plans and allowed participants to evaluate current response concepts, plans and capabilities in the event of a terrorist incident.’**



**Director Pannell and volunteer interpreter Jibril Hirsi (left) at a Somali community outreach meeting in September**

## BUDGET & OPS

*(Continued from page 1)*

new outdoor warning sirens and hold the line on siren costs while acquiring mapping technology through federal grant funds to allow for better maintenance and upgrading of the sirens.

The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is being revitalized as well with new technology paid for by federal grant funds, expected to help make the EOC more functional and efficient for all-hazards assistance to the jurisdictions.

The agency’s 2009 revenues and spending are outlined in the accompanying chart.

## FCEM&HS 2009 CASH ANALYSIS (unaudited)

<b>OPERATIONAL FUND</b>		
BEGINNING CASH BALANCE JAN. 1, 2009		\$ 723,605
<b>2009 REVENUE SOURCES</b>		
Emergency Management Performance Grant	\$ 270,240	
Local Proportionate Shares	806,766	
Other Income	<u>35,179</u>	
		\$ 1,112,185
<b>Pass-Through Revenue Received in 2009</b>		
Hazardous Materials Recovery Fees	\$ 1,721	
Other Grants	8,040	
Federal Homeland Security Grants	<u>746,724</u>	
		<u>756,485</u>
Total Operational Revenue Received in 2009		1,868,670
<b>2009 EXPENDITURES</b>		
Salaries	\$ 573,749	
Benefits	188,717	
Operations	368,713	
Pass-Through Expenditures	<u>575,978</u>	
Less Total 2009 Expenditures		<u>(1,707,159)</u>
ENDING CASH BALANCE DEC. 31, 2009		\$ 885,117
Less Pass-Through Distribution from OEMA		<u>(225,352)</u>
AVAILABLE CASH BALANCE DEC. 31, 2009		\$ 659,765
<b>WARNING FUND</b>		
BEGINNING CASH BALANCE JAN. 1, 2009		\$ 236,925
<b>2009 REVENUE SOURCES</b>		
Annual Warning Fees	\$ 182,400	
Purchase/Installation/Removal Reimbursement	208,694	
Other Revenue	<u>9,220</u>	
Total Warning Revenue Received in 2009		400,314
<b>2009 EXPENDITURES</b>		
Warning Maintenance Expenditures	\$ 116,050	
Overhead Relegated to Warning	8,459	
Loan Repayment to General Fund	25,000	
Pass-Through—New Sirens, Installs, Billable Purchases	<u>344,000</u>	
Less Total 2009 Expenditures Warning		<u>(493,509)</u>
ENDING CASH BALANCE DEC. 31, 2009		\$ 143,731

## OUTDOOR WARNING SIRENS: Upgrading the County System

The addition of 17 new sirens in 2009 brought to a record 172 the number of sirens installed and operable in the county’s outdoor warning siren system. (The count does not include City of Dublin sirens, which are not part of the county’s system.)

FCEM&HS conducted a study using geographic information system mapping soft-

ware that shows the current placement of outdoor warning sirens.

The agency kept the jurisdictions it serves updated on the status of sirens across the county, including information and recommendations about upgrading certain sirens.

The agency will follow up by providing additional information specific to each jurisdiction

regarding their current siren coverage, any gaps in coverage and recommendations on optimizing coverage. The information is part of a continuing agency effort to maintain and upgrade the outdoor warning siren system in Franklin County.

The agency is responsible for the strategic planning, installation, operation and maintenance of the system.

## RISK ASSESSMENT: First Update in 15 Years

FCEM&HS worked over eight months in 2009 to research and draft an update of the official Risk Assessment for Franklin County, the first such revision since 1996.

The document outlines natural, human-caused and technologically caused hazards – dangerous events such as snowstorms, floods and terrorist attacks – that Franklin County

may face and estimates which likely poses a greater or lesser risk to the county’s residents and workers.

The purpose of the assessment is not to predict the occurrence of a particular hazard but to provide a sense of hazard priorities. Risk assessment provides the basis for local planning to reduce impacts of disasters by reducing hazards

or vulnerability or both.

Local subject-matter experts helped determine how certain risk factors – such as the number of people killed, injured or displaced by a hazardous event – should be applied to each hazard, then ranked the hazards in order of their likelihood and potential impact.

The agency will release a final document in early 2010.

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### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As the appointing authority for the director of FCEM&HS, the public officials from across the county who comprise the Executive Committee take a keen interest in how this essential local government agency pursues its mission of coordinating countywide planning, education, warning, response and recovery to minimize the adverse local impact of disasters.

I am pleased to report that under its new management team, the agency made tremendous strides forward in performance and professionalism, especially in the areas of managing agency finances, upgrading the outdoor warning siren system, and updating the county's risk assessment.

These and other good works by this agency are covered concisely in this report and in more detail on the FCEM&HS Web site at the address below. The Executive Committee looks forward to another year of progress and leadership in our county's emergency management in 2010.

Virginia Barney  
City Manager, City of Upper Arlington  
FCEM&HS Executive Committee Chair

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### TRAINING & EXERCISES: Testing Emergency Plans

The Franklin County Chemical Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council (CEPAC) conducted a combined full-scale exercise on April 29 with the Delaware County Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC), one of several exercises and trainings FCEM&HS coordinated or hosted in 2009.

The scenario was a transportation accident involving hazardous material and extreme flooding conditions in both counties due to the Delaware Dam releasing water through its emergency

spillway.

The exercise demonstrated the emergency responders' capabilities to apply their emergency response plan to a hazardous material release, activate the County Emergency Operations Center and coordinate emergency actions between the counties during a natural disaster.

An evaluation by the state praised FCEM&HS's improved relationships with partner agencies, adding: "The agency has made major changes to the EOC operations. These changes have

improved the capability of the EOC to coordinate county resources."

On September 17, Franklin and Madison counties conducted a regional improvised explosive device full-scale exercise, developed and conducted in cooperation with local, state and federal agencies.

The exercise validated the counties' emergency operation plans and allowed participants to evaluate current response concepts, plans and capabilities in the event of a terrorist incident.



*Victim, responder role-players in IED field exercise in September*

### EMERGENCY OPERATIONS: Communications and Coordination

Besides assisting in H1N1 influenza response in the spring, FCEM&HS performed similar situation assessment, interagency communications and resource coordination functions to help agencies respond to other local emer-

gencies, including:

- A high-wind event on Feb. 11 and 12 that left numerous homes without power.
- An apartment complex walkway collapse on Feb. 11 that displaced several fami-

lies, leaving them without food and other necessities.

- An industrial plant hazardous materials release (of hydrogen sulfide) on Dec. 14 that forced the evacuation of thousands of workers.