

Public Safety and Homeland Security

CRCOG Homeland Security & Grant Initiatives

Work on the FY 19 SHSGP has commenced. All open grants include funds for training and exercise, contractual support and sustainment and maintenance of regional equipment. There are also set asides for the Hartford Bomb Squad, Capitol Region HAZMAT team and Metropolitan Medical Response System. Applications for the FY 21 SHSGP, MMRS and HAZMAT grants were recently approved by DEMHS.

CRCOG Completed a virtual monitoring visit with DEMHS on the FY 18 grant and various equipment purchases.

The Statewide Homeland Security Working Group (Cheryl Assis is the COG representative) met to reallocate unspent FY 19 funds and it was determined that our region would receive an additional \$60,000 in funds.

CRCOG staff is working to initiate a complete After-Action Review of the region's response during the Covid pandemic as well as one focused solely on local public health.

CRCOG public safety staff have been working with communities on vaccination planning efforts.

COVID-19 Support Activities

The Regional Emergency Support Plan was activated on March 18th, 2020. The Regional Coordination Center was open during much of the pandemic. Coordination is being done by the ESF-5 (Emergency Management) and ESF-8 (Public Health and Medical Services) duty officers.

We are utilizing our Regional Distribution Site Standard Operating Guide. Our Regional Distribution Center in West Hartford was opened on March 25th and the three day a week operation ended at the end of August. The site is currently now open on an as needed basis and was utilized several times in February.

Finally, our Medical Reserve Corps remains a very valuable asset. There are close to 200 members of the CR-MRC who volunteer their time in both medical and non-medical roles. Through June 30th there were 107 activations with 18,375 volunteer hours logged.

Other Highlights

Staff attended the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association Annual Meeting and the CT Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation luncheon to honor fallen officers.

A bi-monthly Capitol Region Citizen Corps Council meeting was held via Zoom. Our CERT teams found creative and innovative ways to help during the pandemic and reported out on their activities. The Preparedness Committee has determined that we will hold off on the Annual CERT Field Day for the foreseeable future.

Working with the Department of Public Health to act as the fiduciary agent for local public health emergency preparedness funds. Our 24/7 coverage forms, MCM Action Plan and Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plans have been submitted. CRCOG is in the process of completing programmatic and financial reports for the first quarter of BP3. We continue to have monthly ESF-8 meetings and bi-weekly meetings with the local Public Health Directors.