

CIP Update

This newsletter is for cities, counties and communities involved in public-private partnerships for joint emergency preparedness, planning and prevention.

Michigan State University through a grant awarded by the Office for Domestic Preparedness, U.S. Department of Homeland Security produces the newsletter through their "CIP-Community Facilitation" Program. Please go to www.cip.msu.edu for more information on the program.

Participating Communities

Allentown, PA / Annapolis, MD / Brooklyn, OH / Carroll County, MD / Easton Area, PA / Evansville, IN / Marquette County, MI / Monroe County, MI / Oakland County, MI / Redmond, WA / Richmond Area, VA / Rockville, MD / Sandy City, UT

CIP Best Practices/Lessons Learned

When MSU works with cities and counties, many of these communities form a working group/committee to take on some task(s) that will benefit the community and participating agencies/businesses in the CIP Program. As an example, some communities start with developing a centralized database or clearinghouse of participating organizations that want to contribute resources to mitigate future disasters in their area.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce (Westminster, MD) created a program that not only benefits their membership but the public sector and Carroll County, as well. A couple of years ago the President of the Chamber was talking with the Mayor of Westminster while participating in an emergency preparedness exercise drill. They were wondering what happens when first responders arrive at the scene in the middle of a night to a business that is closed. Do the first responders know beforehand what's inside? No, they usually don't! With that in mind, the Chamber developed the Carroll County, Maryland Business Emergency Contact Information (BECI) System.

BECI is a secured online, internet based system created as a means of providing a centralized database for local businesses to record vital information to be used by first responders in times of emergency. Businesses create a private user name and passcode to voluntarily enter their information on the secure site. Demonstrating their support of the entire community, the Chamber has extended this service to all businesses in Carroll County, not just the members.

In true partnership style, BECI was created by the Chamber and the Carroll County Public Library with the software program residing on the Library's server and on a backup server at the County's EOC. Emphasis is placed on strict limited access to the information contained in the database; only one Library official, the Chamber President, and 911 dispatchers have access to the information.

Ultimately, when final system tests are complete, police, fire and/or EMS personnel will be able to respond to a business while the 911 dispatcher enters the secured internet website to pull up a detailed profile of the business. First responders will know what they are facing before they arrive on the scene.

Two additional features of the website are areas where businesses can volunteer to provide specific goods and/or services during an emergency. Information can be sorted by company

name, physical address, or the types of goods or services available. The Carroll County Partnership Group elected to use the BECI Program as one of their projects. They are looking to recruit more businesses to participate in the BECI System.

To learn more about BECI please go the website at <http://beci.carr.org/>. Note that the website is still under construction, but feel free to create a pseudo business profile using your home town (so they can filter out what's real and what's not) and try it out.

CIP Best Practices/Lessons Learned

A few weeks ago we were talking with a security director of a large upscale shopping center who is actively involved in his community's CIP Program. From his experience he stated when businesses first start working with the public-private partnership group that generally it is a more of a give, but that in time it can also pay dividends. As a result of his involvement in the CIP program he networked more with the different public sector disciplines and as a result was invited to participate in public sector committees/working groups. He states that recently all of his security staff were issued emergency response pagers through a federal grant! Plus, the shopping center and a few other high-profile businesses in the area have received radio equipment through a grant too!

These two examples not only benefit the participating organization, be it public or private, but ultimately helps the community too. Keep up the great work!

Video on Public-Private Partnerships for Critical Incident Management

MSU produced a video on the value of building a partnership for emergency preparedness, planning and prevention. Some of you have seen it and asked for copies. For those of you looking for a resource, such as this 14 minute video, feel free to download it from our members-only website. If you use it, please do not modify it in any way. When showing others the video we would ask that you would include the ending and credits, so that it honor's MSU's copyright protection.

To enter the "members-only" website, please go to <https://angel.msu.edu> and enter your user/password or use our generic phrase's of "msu.msu@angel" in the User/NetID box and "partnership" in the Password box (both without quotation marks) and log in. Then click on CIP and it will take you to the main menu. Then click on the folder that includes "CIP Video" in its title. Then click on the CIP Video file and on the next page open it up. It is in windows media format.

WMD Training Program for the Law Enforcement Executive

MSU is a Training Partner with the Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP), U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

One of the ODP/MSU programs is the "Leading From the Front: WMD Awareness for the Law Enforcement Executive" which is a 2-day program focusing on planning, deterrence/prevention and/or responding to a WMD event. It is free in various locations around the United States. To learn more about bringing this program to your area, please go to <http://www.cj.msu.edu/%7Eoutreach/wmd/index.html> or contact Michael Morrissey, WMD Training Program Manager at (517) 432-4785 or michael.morrissey@ssc.msu.edu

Recent Postings to Members-Only Website

Some of the items we posted for you in the "BULLETIN BOARD-Information for all Communities" folder are:

"The Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG-2004) is Now Available"

"Hospitals Pool Their Homeland Security Grants in MD for Bio-Terrorism"

"A Practical Approach to Emergency Preparedness, Crisis Management, and Disaster Recovery"
"Paramedics Not Always the Saviors of Cardiac-Arrest Patients"
"Department of Homeland Security Announces \$91.3 Million in Buzzer Zone Protection Program Grants"

Closing

If you have any topics and/or ideas for a future "CIP Update" newsletter, please contact Brit Weber at weberbr@msu.edu or (517) 432-9236 or other MSU staff. About every three (3) weeks you will receive this newsletter via email. If you no longer want to be on this list, please reply to this email.

We thank you for your support.

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