

CNMI HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

FY 2022

CITIZEN CENTRIC REPORT



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EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS



ABOUT US

About CNMI HSEM

In 2005, Public Law No. 14-63 created and established the Office of Homeland Security under the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Office of the Governor. It was not until 2013, when Public Law 18-4 reorganized the Office of Homeland Security and the Office of Emergency Management, unifying them to create the CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

MISSION

Our mission is to protect lives and property by effectively preparing for, preventing, responding to and recovering from all threats, crimes, hazards and emergencies by coordinating the efforts of the first response community to effectively manage incidents, and to collaborate with public, private, and community partnerships.

VISION

Through efficacious, collaborative and island-wide partnerships dedicated to securing the islands from the many threats we face, we seek to advance a safer, more prepared CNMI.

LEADERSHIP & PROGRAMS

Special Assistant
Dennis. C. Mendiola

Finance and Administration Section

Plans Section

Grants Section

Operations Section

Logistics Section

Emergency Management

Marianas Regional Fusion Center Node





PERFORMANCE

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Rota Municipality Operations Center

In 2022, CNMI HSEM opened up the Rota Municipality Operations Center (MOC) which will serve as the main operations center when disasters strike. The Rota MOC allows for all response and recovery efforts to take place in a central location.



CNMI HSEM Building Renovations

CNMI HSEM completed the renovation of four of its offices to enhance preparation and response efforts. The office provide a more conducive work environment for personnel and visitors and vendors alike.

CNMI Emergency Operations Center Enhancements

CNMI HSEM has enhanced the CNMI Emergency Operations Center (EOC) furniture functionality and upgraded its current floor plans to mimic its operations during a disaster or incident activation. The new furniture and layout will allow for response personnel to work in a conducive and operationally-functional setting.



COVID-19 Recovery Efforts

CNMI HSEM has taken an active role in the COVID-19 recovery efforts in the CNMI. CNMI HSEM has been responsive to the everchanging needs of the territory during the response and recovery phase of the global pandemic. The operational and logistical needs of the CNMI have been addressed through the procurement and distribution of necessary personal protective equipment. The CNMI continues to enhance its preparedness efforts through lessons learned and updating its protocols.



Non-Profit Organization Assistance Projects

Through federal funding, CNMI HSEM assisted Non-Profit Organizations such as American Red Cross and Karidat in their efforts to harden and enhance physical security of their facilities. Each organization was able to procure video surveillance cameras and access control systems to mitigate against terroristic activities.



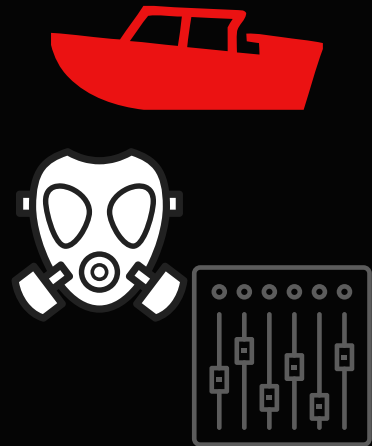


PERFORMANCE

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Law Enforcement and First Responder Support

CNMI HSEM assisted the Department of Public Safety with the repair and restoration of their communication consoles. The repair and restoration of their communication consoles ensured that emergency communication equipment is in optimal condition during steady-state and emergency conditions. CNMI HSEM also purchased self-contained breathing apparatuses (SCBAs) for the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (DFEMS) to allow first responders to respond to incidents safely. Additionally, CNMI HSEM assisted DFEMS with the repair and restoration of their boat and trailer that is utilized for search and rescue missions within the CNMI.



Nationwide Cybersecurity Review Completion

CNMI HSEM completed the Nationwide Cybersecurity Review (NCSR) in January 2022. The NCSR is an annual self-assessment to measure gaps and capabilities of the government's cybersecurity programs and is based on the National Institute of Standards and Technology Cybersecurity Framework (NIST CSF).

Communication Radios Cache

CNMI HSEM purchased additional handheld radios to better equip the CNMI first responder community before, during, and after disasters strike. The additional radios will allow better communication flow for activations and local incidents.





FINANCES

LOCAL FUNDS

Through House Bill 22-116, HD2, SS1, CCS1 entitles "to make appropriations for the operations and activities of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, its agencies, instrumentalities, and independent programs, and to provide budget authority for government corporations for Fiscal Year 2023; and for other purposes," which was passed by the Twenty-Second Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature became Public Law 22-22, CNMI HSEM was budgeted a total of \$584,463 in local funding.

PL 22-22

Personnel: \$584,463

Operations: \$4,676

TOTAL: \$589,139



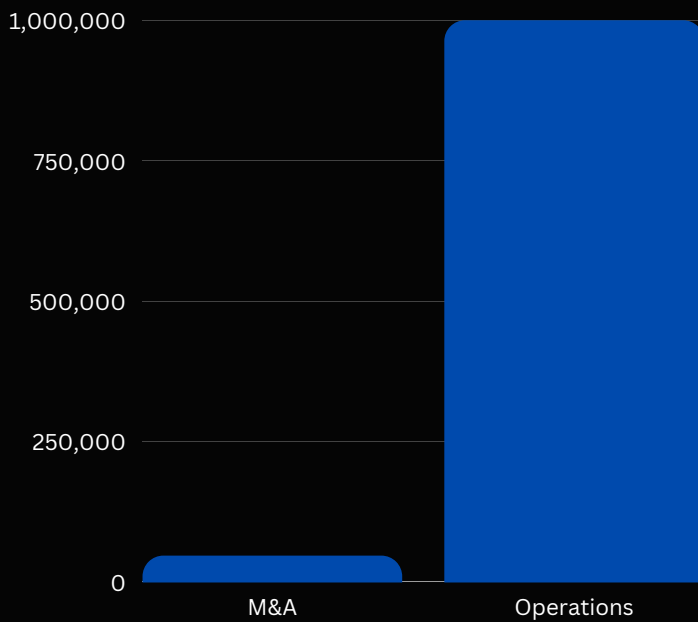


FINANCES

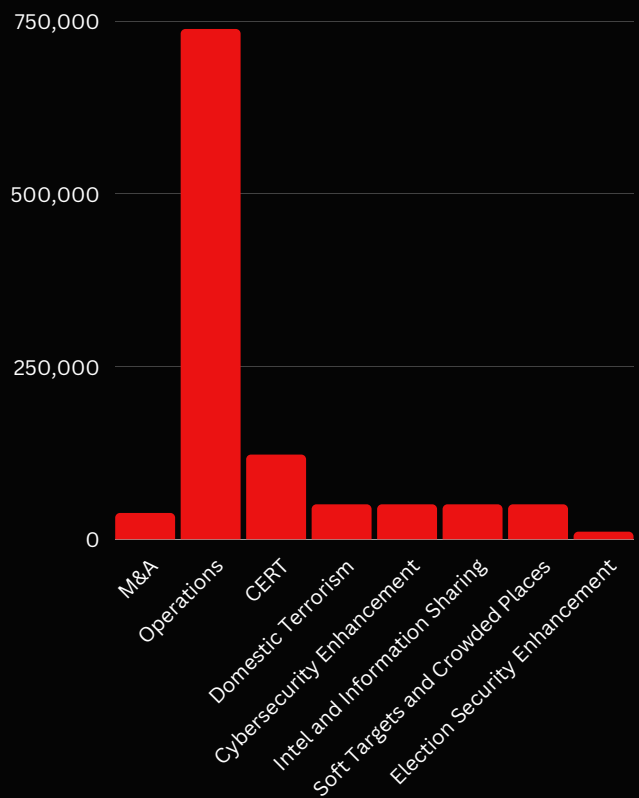
FEDERAL GRANTS

In 2022, CNMI HSEM was awarded over \$2.1 million from the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) and the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP).

EMPG



HSGP





OUTLOOK

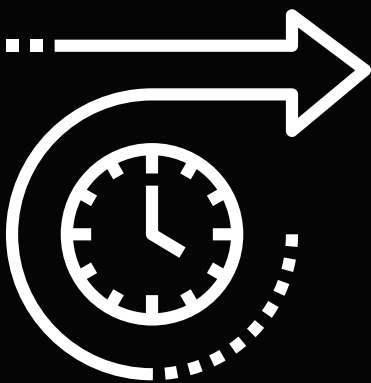
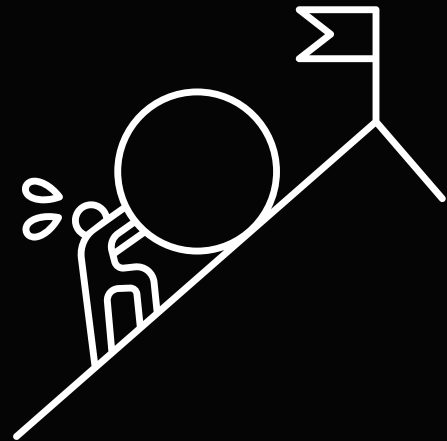
CHALLENGES

COVID-19 Pandemic

- The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact HSEM's priorities, planned events, and training and exercises. A lot of planned preparedness events were cancelled or postponed as a result of the response.

Training Planning and Scheduling

- Throughout the year, the entire Nation has slowly transitioned into a "new normal." The transition has impacted the agency's planned training and exercises because of competing priorities and training institutions' constantly evolving on-site requirements. Because of time and distance, CNMI HSEM constantly struggles with securing training opportunities abroad and on-island.



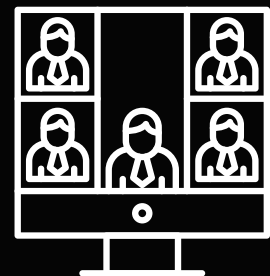
LOOKING FORWARD

Tsunami Evacuation Plan/Annex

- CNMI HSEM has already initiated the tsunami evacuation planning efforts for Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. Assessments will be completed within the next couple of months and town hall meetings will be conducted to gather data and input from the entire community on the proposed evacuation routes. Through this effort, the CNMI will have its first ever Tsunami Evacuation Plan that will be an annex in the CNMI Emergency Operations Plan.

CNMI EOC Audio/Visual Upgrades

- CNMI HSEM has invested funding to enhance its response and recovery infrastructure. The CNMI EOC will be furnished with new audio and visual equipment that will enhance response and recovery coordination and planning.



CNMI Disaster Financial Management Plan & Tabletop Exercise

CNMI HSEM is expected to finalize the CNMI Disaster Financial Management Plan in 2023. The plan will establish and implement sound disaster financial management practices. The tabletop exercise (TTX) will take place in 2023 as well and will test and validate the plan's stated processes and procedures.