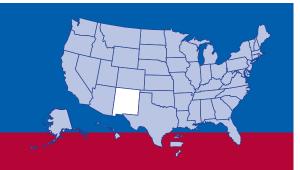
## PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT (PHEP) PROGRAM



## **NEW MEXICO**

#### **PHEP Then**

In response to the deadly events of September 11, 2001, and the subsequent anthrax attacks, Congress established a new program to help health departments across the nation prepare for emergencies. Since then CDC's <u>Public Health Emergency Preparedness</u> (<u>PHEP</u>) <u>program</u> has partnered with state, local, and territorial public health departments to prepare for, withstand, and recover from potentially devastating public health emergencies.

Every year since, the PHEP program has provided vital resources to ensure communities can effectively respond to infectious disease outbreaks, natural disasters, and chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear events.

#### **PHEP Now**

In 2018, PHEP provided \$620 million across public health departments to improve response readiness. Funds are also used to support epidemiologists (disease detectives), lab staff, planners, and other preparedness staff on the ground.

In the future, CDC will continue supporting PHEP recipients by sharing technical expertise, best practices, and lessons learned, along with tools and resources to identify and address gaps.

#### Learn More

For more information about the PHEP Program, visit <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/cpr/map.htm">www.cdc.gov/cpr/map.htm</a>.

#### **AT A GLANCE**

#### In New Mexico

- ▶ 2.1 million residents
- ▶ 44% reside in Cities Readiness Initiative metropolitan statistical areas (CRI MSA). A federally funded program, CRI helps cities effectively respond to large-scale public health emergencies requiring life-saving medications and medical supplies.
- ► N/A\* local public health departments

\*Health department is centralized at the state level

#### Frequent Public Health Emergencies

- ► Fire
- ► Flooding
- ► Infectious Disease Outbreaks

#### **Key Emergency Operations Center Activations**

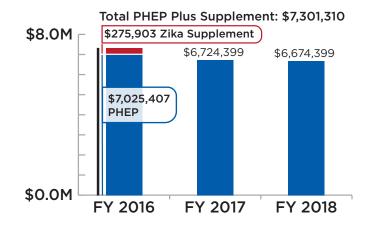
- ▶ 2018: Ute Park Fire/Soldier Fire
- ▶ 2018: Belen Flooding

PHEP funds programs and activities that build and strengthen the nation's preparedness for public health emergencies.

**Preparedness and Response Funding Snapshot** 

FY 2018 PHEP \$6,674,399

Cities Readiness Initiative \$233,399 Level 1 Chemical Lab \$1,096,376





#### PHEP IN ACTION—THROUGH PHEP, NEW MEXICO IS PREPARED TO ADDRESS MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS AFTER SCHOOL SHOOTING



In New Mexico, the PHEP program trains Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers to provide counseling for residents after traumatic events. In December 2017, a school shooting in New Mexico left two high school students and the shooter dead. The health department alerted the PHEP-funded state emergency operations center representative, who coordinated onsite behavioral health interventions for students, families, and responders. MRC volunteers and providers from other partner organizations counseled more than 1,500 people—referring them to additional services if necessary—to decrease the risk of depression, suicide, and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Photo Courtesy of New Mexico Department of Health

CDC identified 15 public health preparedness capabilities critical to public health preparedness.

### 2018 NEW MEXICO TOP PHEP CAPABILITY INVESTMENTS

- 1. Public Health Laboratory Testing
- 2. Community Preparedness
- 3. Public Health Surveillance & Epidemiologic Investigation
- 4. Information Sharing
- 5. Medical Countermeasure Dispensing

For a complete list of all 15 public health preparedness capabilities, visit <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/cpr/readiness/capabilities.htm">https://www.cdc.gov/cpr/readiness/capabilities.htm</a>.

Medical Countermeasure Readiness: Ensuring that medicine and supplies get to those who need them most during an emergency.

States, territories, and localities are required to develop emergency plans covering children,

**KEY STRENGTH** 

KEY CHALLENGE

Updated receiving, staging, and storage facilities

Lack of personnel to staff points of dispensing

pregnant women, and other vulnerable populations.	
Population	2017
Households included children	38%
Respondents who know they are pregnant	4%
Respondents 65 or older	21%

Respondents who reported having diabetes

Respondents who reported a condition that limits activities

Respondents who reported a health problem that required the use of specialized equipment

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PHEP funds support staff who have expertise in many different areas.		
PHEP-Funded Staff	2017	
CDC Field Staff	1	
Educators	15	
Epidemiologists	7	
Health Professionals	5	
Laboratorians	15	
Other Staff	30	

### PHEP PROGRAM-KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURE RESULTS

In an emergency, it is critical that staff can meet quickly to plan for, lead, and manage a public health response. Public health staff serve as Incident Commanders, Public Information Officers, Planning Section Chiefs, Operations Section Chiefs, and other response roles.

Emergency Operations Coordination	2015	2016	2017
Number of minutes for public health staff with incident management lead roles to report for immediate duty	35	23	52

Timely and effective communication between lab and epidemiologic staff can reduce death and injuries in a public health emergency.

# Public Health Laboratory Testing2017Results of communication drills between laboratory and<br/>epidemiological staff completed within 45 minutesDrill 1: Completed drill in time

Laboratory Response Network biological (LRN-B) and PulseNet labs rapidly identify and notify CDC of potential biological health threats to minimize disease outbreaks. CDC manages the LRN-B, a group of public health labs with testing capabilities to detect and confirm biological health threats. CDC also manages PulseNet, a national network of labs that analyzes and connects foodborne illness cases together to identify outbreak sources.

#### Current number of LRN-B public health labs: 1

Public Health Laboratory Testing: LRN-B	2015	2016	2017
Proportion of LRN-B proficiency tests passed	2/2	2/2	2/2
Public Health Laboratory Testing: PulseNet	2015	2016	2017
Percentage of <i>E. coli</i> -positive tests analyzed and uploaded into PulseNet national database within four working days	100% (target: 90%)	100% (target: 90%)	92% (target: 90%)
Percentage of <i>Listeria</i> -positive tests analyzed and uploaded into PulseNet national database within four working days	N/A	100% (target: 90%)	100% (target: 90%)

LRN chemical (LRN-C) labs rapidly identify exposures to toxic chemicals, aid diagnoses, and minimize further human exposures. CDC manages the LRN-C, a group of labs with testing capabilities to detect and confirm chemical health threats. LRN-C labs are designated as Level 1, 2, or 3, with Level 1 labs demonstrating the most advanced capabilities.

#### Current number and level of LRN-C Labs: 1 (Level 1)

Public Health Laboratory Testing: LRN-C	2015	2016	2017
Proportion of core chemical agent detection methods demonstrated by Level 1 or Level 2 labs	9/9	9/9	9/9
Number of additional chemical agent detection methods demonstrated by Level 1 or Level 2 labs	4	4	4
Result of LRN exercise to collect, package, and ship samples	Passed	Passed	Passed



For more information on CDC's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program, visit <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/cpr/map.htm">www.cdc.gov/cpr/map.htm</a>