PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT (PHEP) PROGRAM



AMERICAN SAMOA

15 Years of PHEP

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. It is now 15 years since CDC initiated the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program.

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 2017, PHEP provided \$612 million across public health departments to improve response readiness. About 40% of funds went to support epidemiologists (disease detectives), lab staff, planners, and other preparedness staff on the ground.

In the future, CDC will continue to support PHEP awardees 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 www.cdc.gov/phpr/map.htm.

AT A GLANCE

In American Samoa

► 55,519 residents

Emergency Operations Center Activations

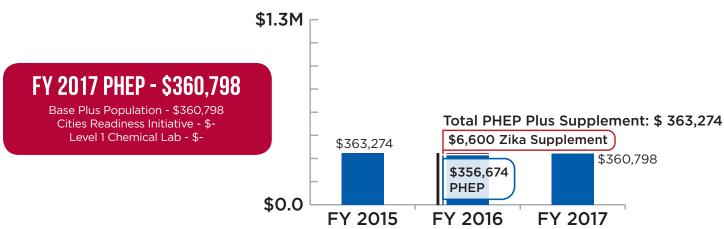
- ▶ 2014: Severe Storms, Flooding, & Landslides
- ▶ 2015: Tropical Cyclone Tuni

Frequent Public Health Emergencies

- ► Tsunami
- ▶ Flooding
- ► Tropical Storms/Hurricanes

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

Preparedness and Response Funding Snapshot





AMERICAN SAMOA

PHEP IN ACTION — REDUCING ZIKA TRANSMISSION



The Zika virus outbreak began in American Samoa in January 2016. The territory has used PHEP funds to conduct mosquito control activities and staff a response team to help stop the spread of the virus. PHEP funds also supported distributing Zika Prevention Kits, outreach to pregnant women, and clearing of standing water from communities to prevent mosquitoes from laying eggs.

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

TOP PHEP CAPABILITY INVESTMENTS

- 1. Community Preparedness
- 2. Information Sharing
- 3. Emergency Operations Coordination
- 4. Emergency Public Information and Warning
- 5. Medical Countermeasure Dispensing
- 6. Medical Materiel Management & Distribution

For a complete list of all 15 public health preparedness capabilities, visit https://www.cdc.gov/phpr/readiness/capabilities.htm.

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

who need them most during an emergency.	
KEY STRENGTH	KEY CHALLENGE
Close relationship with healthcare partners	Lack of plans for the health needs of critical infrastructure staff

PHEP funds support staff who have expertise in many different areas.		
PHEP-Funded Staff		
CDC Field Staff	2	
Educators	-	
Epidemiologists	_	
Health Professionals	_	
Laboratorians	_	
Other Staff	4	

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	2014	2015	2016
Conducted call-down drills to document the ability to contact	Yes	Yes	Yes
responders to activate the emergency operations center			

