

# Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Program

Protecting America's health, safety, and security to save lives.



The PHEP Program allows our nation to invest in the people, plans, training, and equipment needed to effectively respond to emerging public health threats.

PHEP-Built Capability	Return on PHEP Investment
 Staff Capacity	Trained first responders who reduce health effects of death and illnesses during public health emergencies
 Public Health Emergency Management Infrastructure	Standardized, scalable response systems that can effectively manage public health responses
 Rapid Threat Detection	Quick detection of life-threatening agents, viruses, and other pathogens
 Supplies & Logistics	Delivery of life-saving medicines and medical supplies during an emergency
 Coordinated Responses	Maximizes effectiveness of responses, use of resources, and the number of lives saved

## A Lifesaving Investment

The PHEP Program, managed by the Division of State and Local Readiness (DSLRL) within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, allows our nation to invest in the critical public health resources that contribute to our overall national security. State and local public health departments are uniquely positioned as the first line of defense - as responders, outbreak investigators, and agents of recovery. Investing in public health preparedness before an emergency occurs saves lives.

## The Challenge

Since 9/11, critical federal preparedness funding has declined by 42%. Cuts to PHEP Program funding have forced PHEP Program awardees to cut specialized positions, staff trainings and exercises, and equipment. A lack of continued, stable, and adequate funding directly diminishes state and local health department capacity to prepare for and respond to emerging threats in the communities they serve.

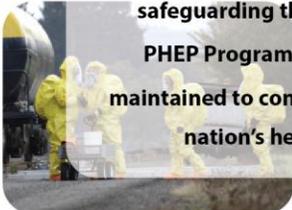
## Improvements in Public Health Preparedness Since 9/11

PHEP Awardees Who:	Then	Now
Can mobilize staff during an emergency	20%	98%
Have an Incident Command System with pre-assigned roles in place	5%	100%
Include collaboration with healthcare agencies in their preparedness plans	8%	92%
Have sufficient storage and distribution capacity for critical medicines and supplies	0%	98%



**The Opportunity**

Now is the time to renew the federal commitment to the state and local public health departments responsible for safeguarding the public's health.



PHEP Program funding must be maintained to continue advancing our nation's health security.

### Stories from the Field

#### 2016 Festival of the Pacific Arts (FestPac)

##### Situation

FestPac, the largest cultural gathering in the Pacific Region was held on Guam, May 22 to June 4, 2016. Over 3,000 delegates from 27 pacific island countries/territories, including Australia and New Zealand, and Taiwan attended, along with thousands of visitors from around the world.



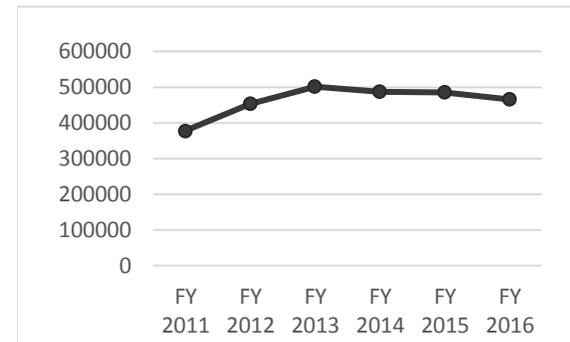
##### Intervention

Enhanced surveillance: epi-surveillance, syndromic surveillance and laboratory surveillance to improve early warning and detection for diseases of public health concern.

##### Impact

Enhanced laboratory capacity (Triplex RT-PCR for 3 arbovirals) resulted in quick turnaround for results and epi-response. One case of Dengue (serotype 3) was detected early in a travel-related case. No major disease outbreak was reported or detected during the festival.

### PHEP Program Funding Received



### The PHEP Program in Action

#### Key responses that saved lives due to PHEP

##### Program support:

- 2010 Mumps Outbreak
- 2010 H1N1 Response
- 2013 Japan Tsunami Watch
- 2013 North Korea threat
- 2016 Ebola Preparedness
- 2016/17 Zika preparedness

### Critical Needs

The PHEP Program supports the following public health and safety functions that are jeopardized when funding is cut.



#### Biosurveillance

Laboratory surveillance would be negatively impacted which is critical to Guam's early warning and detection system. In addition, the Guam Public Health Lab is a regional resource to several US affiliated pacific islands.



#### Countermeasures & Mitigation

Sustainment of resources to operationalize response plans and implement pharmaceutical/non – pharmaceutical interventions. That would be life-threatening!



#### Incident Management

The PHEP Program provides top level public health personnel in any of Guam's incident management responses. Funding cuts will severely impact the response level to any type of incident or event.



#### Community Resilience

From the medical response teams, to the multi- and inter-agency preparedness coordination, funding cuts will certainly have a negative impact on the public health community resilience capabilities with the shortage of staff and expertise.



#### Information Management

PHEP has invested into the public health information management, strengthening its data and health records system over the years. With cyber security a top priority, funding cuts could jeopardize the security of public health data.



#### Surge Management

Guam is already challenged with its surge capacity posture. It would be of even greater a challenge to manage a surge without the guidance and technical expertise provided by the PHEP Program and its stakeholders.