

Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council Newsletter February 2024

Active Attack Integrated Response Training

WRHSAC's series of Active Attack Integrated Response Trainings continues with a session on **Tuesday and Wednesday, March 12 & 13, 2024, in Lee.**

This 16-hour, performance-level, direct-delivery course aims to enhance collaboration among law enforcement, fire, dispatch, and emergency medical services (EMS) during active attack/shooter events. It introduces a model framework for Rescue Task Force (RTF) response.

Focused on elevating the safety and survivability of active attack/shooter event victims, the training also strives to enhance the efficiency, coordination, and resource integration among law enforcement, fire, dispatch, and EMS responders. Aligned with NFPA 3000, the Standard for an Active Shooter/Hostile Event Response (ASHER) program, this training prioritizes adherence to established guidelines.

The training is free. Application is required. Space is limited so apply soon!
The training is appropriate for law enforcement, fire and EMS.

[Click here to learn more about AAIR Training and Register](#)

Call for Candidates

WRHSAC Higher Education Open Seat

The Higher Education representative seat on WRHSAC is currently vacant. WRHSAC is now welcoming letters of interest and resumes for this position. Suitable candidates should be a college or university emergency manager, police chief, or hold a leadership role closely linked to safety and security within their institution. **Letters of interest will be received through Friday, March 8, 2024**, submitted to Raine Brown, Homeland Security Program Manager, raine@frcog.org. Contact Raine if you have any questions.

Notice of Available Funding

WRHSAC expects to receive notification of the availability of FFY2024 State Homeland Security Program funds in March or April. These funds will support projects slated for execution between January 2025 and July 2026. Throughout March, WRHSAC's subcommittees will assess potential projects for inclusion in the FFY2024 Investment Plan.

If your department, specialty team, or agency is aware of a gap or necessity in emergency preparedness, response, or recovery capabilities, please reach out to [Raine Brown](#), WRHSAC's Homeland Security Program Manager, to discuss whether the proposed project aligns with the Department of Homeland Security's mission and qualifies for consideration in WRHSAC's FFY2024 Investment Plan.

Projects may encompass planning, equipment acquisition, coordination, training, or exercises and should address regional needs rather than solely departmental ones. **Project proposals will be accepted through Monday, March 11, 2024.**

EMS Pediatric Care Training Summary

WRHSAC recently conducted EMS Pediatric Care Training, facilitated by Boston Medical Center's Community Outreach Mobile Education Team (COMET). This team specializes in in-situ simulated training, utilizing advanced simulation manikins capable of replicating the conditions of a distressed child which respond accurately to medical interventions. Simulation has proven to be highly effective in educating healthcare providers on medical knowledge, teamwork, identifying system issues, and enhancing patient safety.

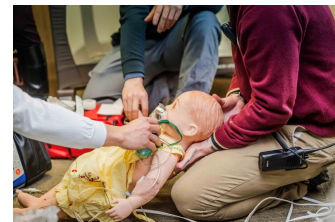
Under the guidance of the COMET team, EMS providers from the region participated in rigorous scenarios aimed at testing their medical and assessment skills as well as critical thinking abilities. Scenarios covered various situations, including difficulty breathing, accidental overdose, and mass casualty incidents.



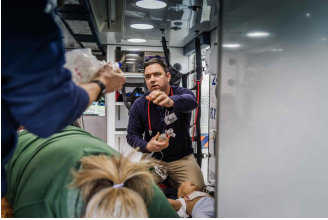
Members of Hampden Sheriff's Office Medical Emergency Response Team (MERT) participated in the mass casualty incident scenario.



High fidelity manikins reacted in real time to medical interventions.



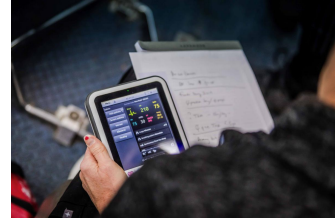
Students utilized basic and advanced life support skills to ready patient for transport.



The scenarios included moving the patient from the response scene, to ambulance, to hand off at the hospital.



Students from different agencies worked together to meet the needs of the patients.



The facilitator could adjust patient reaction to provide realistic yet possibly unexpected responses.



Volunteers from local medical agencies added additional realism by acting as parents or care providers.



The scenarios provided ample opportunity for students to practice advanced medical procedure skills.

Massachusetts Non Profit Security Grant Program

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) Office of Grants and Research (OGR) is now accepting applications to the **Massachusetts Non Profit Security Grant Program**.

This program provides funding for nonprofit 501(c) (3) organizations (such as faith-based institutions, medical and health care facilities, and other human service entities) to competitively solicit one-time grant funding to enhance building safety and security for its members/visitors and staff.

Priority will be given to applicants demonstrating the greatest need (experienced threats and/or incidents of terrorism or hate crimes known or believed to be related to their nonprofit organization's purpose, mission, or services), and propose cost-effective solutions to address high-priority security gaps or weaknesses.

Organizations who have received funding through similar programs offered through the Office of Grants and Research are eligible and encouraged to apply. All questions should be directed to **Vicky Mboka-Boyer** at EOPSS OGR.

For more information about these projects and the work of WRHSAC, please contact Raine Brown, Homeland Security Program Manager. raine@frcog.org. 413.774.3167

Please share this newsletter with your colleagues, departments and discipline associations

WRHSAC
Western Region Homeland
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