



Day One: Tuesday, Feb. 6

7 a.m. Registration desk opens

8 a.m. Welcome

Gov. Tim Walz

Bob Jacobson, commissioner, Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS)

Kristi Rollwagen, director, DPS's Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) division

8:30 - 10 a.m. Keynote address

"The Science of the Positive and Emergency Response Messaging"

Jason Anderson, senior trainer, The Montana Institute

Those of us who work as health and safety professionals can sometimes become too focused on the dangers and problems we are trying to decrease. "The Science of the Positive" reverses this problem-centered frame and focuses on growing the healthy, positive, protective factors that already exist in our communities. When we start to look at the world through this positive, hopeful lens, it has a profound impact on the questions we ask, the data we collect and the way we address health and safety issues.

10 - 10:30 a.m. Break and vendor visits

10:30 - 11:45 a.m. Breakout sessions:

Responding to missing persons reports: A collaborative strategy

Ana Negrete, community planner, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives (MMIR) Office

In this presentation, the MMIR Office will review how it responded to long-term missing persons cases to organize a large-scale search with the support of emergency managers, community members and the family in culturally responsive manner. We will review lessons learned and post search recommendations.



AMEM Weather Radar Workgroup presents 'Grasp the Gap - What's New'

Tina Lindquist, Grant County emergency management director and member of the AMEM Weather Radar Workgroup

Chris Muller, 911 supervisor/emergency management director, Beltrami County

Greg Gust, retired NWS meteorologist

Ace Bonnema, deputy director of Kandiyohi County Emergency Management

The AMEM Weather Radar Workgroup continues to share public education on how the gap in low-level coverage affects public safety in Minnesota.

This breakout session will allow the workgroup to share what has been developed and deployed, including all the new information collected from meetings with many state organizations and associations. This session will allow for discussion on why it is important for local county government as well as the entire state to “grasp the gap.”

Now that the MN55 x-band radar site is in operation, the Minnesota pilot project roll-out and training will be shared. In addition, the C-Band solution for Minnesota has gained a lot of momentum with our lobbyists committee and updates will be shared on legislative support and requests.

This breakout session will also share case studies of the MN55 site and discuss how the data is being used in local protocols, as well as an update to how the data will be integrated into the NWS field offices.

Implementing SRP and SRM with exceptional populations and community partners

Val Rae Boe, superintendent, Northeast Metro Intermediate School District 916

Jamin Wood, facilities and operations manager, Northeast Metro Intermediate School District 916

Dustin Vincent, district safety coordinator, Northeast Metro Intermediate School District 916

Rachel Anderson, executive assistant to the Superintendent's Office, Northeast Metro Intermediate School District 916

Learn how an intermediate school district is implementing Standard Response Protocol and Standard Reunification Method with exceptional populations. Attendees will also come to understand the process and examine the timeline that was used to include multiple agencies and community partners.



Threats to U.S. transportation networks

Joseph Guagenti, field intelligence officer, Transportation Security Administration

This briefing will discuss current and emerging threats to U.S. transportation networks from foreign terrorist organizations, domestic violent extremism, criminals, insider threats, cyber actors and unmanned aerial systems.

A regional response to protecting critical infrastructure during civil unrest

Mark Ray, Public Works director, city of Burnsville

Todd Berg, fire chief, city of Brooklyn Center

Tony Gruenig, police commander, city of Brooklyn Center

This presentation will include speakers talking about their front-line experience with civil unrest at a police department, the establishment and operations of the Fencing Consortium. The function of the Fencing Consortium is to provide anti-scale fencing within hours, not days, around potentially impacted government buildings in response to a critical incident. The goal of the anti-scale fencing is to de-escalate the potential tensions and try to reduce and eliminate the non-tangibles associated with civil unrest. The Fencing Consortium itself is a multiagency, planned, coordinated resource management system to continue efforts to minimize multiple local and state agencies from being overextended. As of Dec. 1, the Fencing Consortium has 32 members from across the Twin Cities Metro Area.

HSEM grants 101

Michelle Turbeville, grants and finance manager, HSEM

Brian Olson, preparedness and recovery bureau director, HSEM

This presentation will be an overall discussion of the grant programs offered and managed by HSEM on the preparedness side, as well as public assistance, recovery and mitigation. We will discuss best practices for grant management from application to closeout, key guidance points and important tips to remember throughout the life of your grant.

East Palestine Train Derailment

Peggy Clark, director, Columbiana County Emergency Management Agency

Keith Drabick, fire chief, East Palestine Fire Department

This session will provide an overview of the response and remediation of the train derailment that occurred in East Palestine, Ohio.



2024 GOVERNOR'S HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

February 6–7, 2024

Expanding your toolbox: Free GIS tools to understand your community and support grant applications

Benjamin Rance, project lead on Resilience Analysis and Planning Tool, FEMA

This session will provide clear, specific information on three of FEMA's free, easy-to-use tools that are designed to help emergency managers better understand their community dynamics, analyze equity and support grant applications. In this session, attendees will participate in real-world scenarios and examine how FEMA GIS tools support analysis for all phases of emergency management, from community outreach to planning, from mitigation grant applications to response and recovery, and for identifying vulnerabilities to future climate conditions.

HSEM hot topics

Caleb Sturgill, public assistance program coordinator, HSEM

Randy Johnson, director of Training and School Safety, HSEM

Chad Hanson, REP/WebEOC administrator, HSEM

Andrew Tepfer, Critical Infrastructure Coordinator, HSEM

Chris Marnell, EPCRA program administrator, HSEM

Join us to engage with HSEM program staff, receive basic information about programs and learn what is new in these four HSEM divisions. You will have the opportunity to learn and understand the functionality of tools and important program take ways during this session.

Securing Minnesota's elections in 2024

Bill Ekblad, election security navigator, Minnesota Office of Secretary of State (MN OSS)

Kyle Jenner, election physical security navigator, MN OSS

MN OSS collaborates closely with multiple federal, state, nonprofit, vendor, and academic partners to assist Minnesota counties in delivering secure elections to Minnesota voters. This presentation will provide a general overview of the 2024 election threat environment and how MN OSS works to raise awareness of security threats to elections and highlight available resources to lower the risks.



11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. HSEM awards luncheon

1:15 - 2:30 p.m. Breakout sessions

These breakout sessions will be a repeat of the morning offerings. Please reference the session descriptions above for more information.

2:30 - 3 p.m. Break and vendor visits

3 - 4 p.m. Updates from AMEM President Erin Hughes and HSEM Director Kristi Rollwagen



Day Two: Wednesday, Feb. 7

7 a.m. Registration desk opens

8 - 8:30 a.m. Welcome

Kristi Rollwagen, director, HSEM

Tom Sivak, regional administrator, FEMA Region V

Dan Hawblitzel, meteorologist in charge, National Weather Service

8:30 - 10 a.m. Keynote address

Combating contested information during disaster response and recovery

Kristy Roschke, News Co/lab director, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Arizona State University

Monica Schoch-Spana, research professor, Department of Environmental Health and Engineering, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

This presentation will offer insights and recommendations for communicating credible, trusted information to communities during emergency events.

10 - 10:15 a.m. Break and vendor visits

10:15 - 11:30 a.m. Breakout sessions:

Mass attacks in public spaces: 2016–2020

Jeff McGarry, supervisory social science research specialist, U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center

Robert Grooms, domestic security strategist, U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center

In this training event, NTAC staff discuss important findings from our research on mass attacks perpetrated in public and semi-public spaces, including businesses, restaurants, bars, retail outlets, houses of worship, schools, open spaces and more. This training will provide guidance



on how communities may develop or improve existing violence prevention programs utilizing a behavioral threat assessment model.

Train derailment response: The good, the bad and the lucky

Stephanie Felt, director, Kandiyohi County Emergency Management

Ace Bonnema, deputy director, Kandiyohi County Emergency Management

In March of 2023, train cars carrying ethanol and corn syrup derailed and caught fire near Raymond, Minn. This presentation will be on lessons learned from evacuations, sheltering, agency coordination and media response.

Buffalo Allina clinic shooting: Overview and lessons learned

Matt Treichler, chief deputy, Wright County Sheriff's Office

On Feb. 9, 2021, at 10:53 a.m., Gregory Ulrich entered the Allina Crossroads Clinic in Buffalo, Minn., with a handgun and four pipe bombs. Over the next several minutes Ulrich shot five clinic staff members and detonated two bombs. This presentation will cover the multi-agency response from initial arrival, identifying and handling multiple scenes, navigating investigative challenges and lessons learned.

How can the MPCA assist during a natural disaster?

Kory Wiech, all-hazard planner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

This presentation will give a brief overview of what the MPCA can assist with during a natural disaster. We will discuss MPCA's debris management, emergency response, wastewater and household hazardous waste services.

Grant County cyber attack

Tina Lindquist, Grant County emergency management director

Troy Johnson, Grant County commissioner

Ashley Hokanson, Grant County Human Resource director

Justin Anderson, Grant County attorney

On Aug. 6, 2023, Grant County became the victim of a sophisticated cyber-attack. This presentation will walk through the initial response all the way through to the ongoing recovery. This will include lessons learned, as well as valuable information regarding cyber insurance coverage and legal considerations.



Current and emerging threats in Minnesota

Deepak Kukade, criminal intelligence analyst, Minnesota Fusion Center

Richard Langan, criminal intelligence analyst, Minnesota Fusion Center

Attendees will receive an overview of the national security threats facing our nation and how these threats are impacting Minnesota. The threats will include but may not be limited to transnational criminal organizations, terrorism, cyber attacks, economic security and counterintelligence.

Tribal roundtable

Kristi Rollwagen, director, HSEM

Kelvin McCuskey, regional program coordinator, HSEM

Troy Christensen, regional Tribal liaison, FEMA

The Tribal roundtable breakout session is for the Tribal emergency managers to gather and engage directly with federal and state partners. Roundtable participants will have an opportunity to talk with leaders from our federal and state agencies, get an update on Tribal initiatives, and review a natural disaster flowchart showing federal treaty and trust responsibility and where HSEM can assist the 11 tribes. The overall objective is to learn how we can build on the relationships that are necessary to improve our state's disaster preparedness and response.

**Only offered during the morning session.*

Why do we press harder on the remote control when we know the batteries are dead? A trauma informed look at how to thrive as a first responder.

Mitchell Radin, psychology manager of Critical Incident Support Team and Adult Psychology Consult Team, Hennepin Healthcare

It is impossible to avoid the stress of working as a professional caregiver; however, it is possible to mitigate the impact of that stress. This session will address the complex experiences inherent to working as a first responder. It will help participants understand some of the mechanisms in the brain and body that can help people understand what works for them to find a state of regulation. Essentially, how do we establish a sense of emotional and physical safety when the main reference point of our everyday lives at work is often the opposite? It will also offer a framework to consider context under which uncomfortable thoughts, sensations, emotions or moods might come to be the dominating principles in our lives at the expense of other more connected ways of being with ourselves and those we rely on for support and comfort.



Empowering resilient communities through local adaptation planning, project implementation and historic new state funding

Sharon Stephens, climate change adaptation coordinator, MPCA

Communities need funding and other resources to expand their capacity for adaptation planning and project implementation. To meet that challenge, Minnesota created the Climate Action Framework, which includes a goal of building resilient communities. The session will share how Minnesota is empowering resilient communities through implementing the framework with historic new state funding; coordinating federal funding for climate pollution reduction planning; and engaging with local governments and community-based organizations to incorporate climate equity and justice. Illustrating important cross-cutting issues, the session will share solutions through funding local climate adaptation and resilience with state grants; using environmental justice data mapping to help integrate climate resilience with equity; and climate action that is collaborative and multi-jurisdictional.

emPOWER 101 training for public health partners

Sue Grafstrom, public health emergency preparedness consultant, Minnesota Department of Health

This training will provide an overview of the emPOWER program which is a federal program that provides data, tools and resources to help communities protect the health of at-risk Medicare beneficiaries who rely on electricity-dependent medical equipment and services.

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Lunch

1 - 2:15 p.m. Breakout sessions

These breakout sessions will be a repeat of the morning offerings. Please reference the session descriptions above for more information.

2:15 - 2:30 p.m. Break and vendor visits

2:30 - 4:00 p.m. Keynote address

“The Trust Edge: How Top Leaders and Organizations Drive Results through Trust”

Dave Cornell, senior consultant, Trust Edge Leadership Institute

David Horsager, the founder of the Trust Edge Leadership Institute, has proven time and again that a lack of trust is any organization's biggest expense. Decades of research and real-world



application show that the “8 Pillar Framework” of the Institute will ensure you measure, grow and solve with trust to achieve the results that matter. In this presentation you will gain an overview of the eight pillars as well as a greater focus on two pillars that can begin to make a difference for your organization almost immediately.

[POST credits](#)

Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST Board) continuing education credits approval is pending for this conference.