

2022 Annual Report

Our Vision

A resilient and sustainable community

Our Mission

Build, sustain, and improve Sedgwick County's capabilities in disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery through whole community collaboration, innovative planning, training, and exercise activities



March 1, 2023

SEDGWICK COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Emergency Management Staff

Julie Stimson
Director

Jonathan Marr
Deputy Director

Cody Charvat
Operations/Training

Reagan Bender
(former) Planner

Kenji Brooks
Logistics

Sedgwick Co. Emergency Management Volunteer Teams

Roger Teachman
Radio Officer, RACES

Wayne Leach
K9 Team Lead

John Crosby
Historical Consultant, Former Deputy Director



Our staff attending the KEMA conference along with our partners

Our Commitment to Partnerships and Collaboration

Sedgwick County Emergency Management coordinates the creation of our Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) with you, our partners. It is not just *our* collective plan, it is your plan. We engage with over 50 agencies to build an honest and functional emergency operations plan so we can be ready for the large events. This effort requires partnerships and collaboration, which are not easy. It requires a willingness to participate with an open mind as well as time and consistency. By building relationships based on mutual trust and respect, we reduce the potential for conflict and that makes our outcomes more sustainable. If we are to meet the challenges ahead, we need fresh ideas from the widest possible variety of stakeholders. We need to capitalize on local knowledge and information. We need you. Our staff will continue to make strides to build and strengthen the relationships necessary to build a “whole community” approach to Emergency Management.

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Our Award Winning Staff

Julie Stimson, CEM, Director

Julie is actively working on her PhD in Emergency Management and earned the prestigious title of Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) by the International Association of Emergency Management in August this year. This CEM designation is incredibly challenging to obtain and just under 2200 people in the world currently hold it. Julie led the county's response and recovery to the April 29th tornado. She actively served as part of a committee to evaluate our response while also serving on the recovery committee with other agencies to assist with making decisions regarding the unmet and uninsured needs of those affected by the disaster. Her leadership has also allowed her employees to flourish in their positions.

Jonathan Marr, Deputy Director

Jonathan had a breakout year with Emergency Management. This year he was awarded the Excellence in Public Service Award by the Devore Foundation, the Col. Mahlon G. Weed Outstanding New Emergency Management Professional Award by the Kansas Emergency Management Association, and earned his mini-MPA from the Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs. Jonathan also designed a cost-effective Capital Improvement Project to completely overhaul our flailing outdoor warning system, all but rescuing our budget. He also reimagined and revitalized our dormant Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and continues to lead and improve the K9 Search Team and R.A.C.E.S. Team.

Cody Charvat, KCEM, Operations & Training Officer

Cody is starting his 25th year as a county employee and his 40th year in Public Safety. Cody continues to be the foundation of our department. He was awarded Instructor of the Year by the Kansas Emergency Management Association. Cody taught or coordinated over 40 classes and training sessions to educate our county partners. This year Cody took the lead in participating in an FCC Wireless Emergency Alert Study which will provide us greater insight to how well cellphone alerts work in our area. Cody manages the Emergency Operation Center, our in-house Emergency Management Training Programs, Teaches Storm Spotter training to our partners, and manages our IPAWS and mass communication programs.

Reagan Bender, EM Planner

Reagan served the majority of the year as our Emergency Management Planner. He had the enormous task of updating our Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP). His efforts led the Kansas Division of Emergency Management to expressing they planned to use our LEOP as an example for the entire State. This is an incredible accomplishment and one that required extensive communication with numerous partner agencies. Sadly, Reagan left our department and now serves as the Senior Emergency Management Coordinator for Cowley County. We know he'll do well.

Kenji Brooks, Logistics Manager

Kenji coordinates our logistics and administrative operations. He manages our preparedness supply warehouse by utilizing Fishbowl Inventory System and Lily Pad ecommerce programs. Likewise, Kenji keeps our department on task with regard to purchasing, grant tracking, and budgetary discipline. He is also a Veteran retired from the United States Air Force as an Aerospace Maintenance Craftsman with a strong background in Global Mobilization of people, equipment and hazardous material. Kenji is working on certifying as an Emergency Manager.



All staff members belong to the Kansas Emergency Management Association (KEMA). KEMA was formed in 1977 and is a network of leaders dedicated to providing excellence in emergency management and homeland security for Kansas. KEMA is committed to promoting excellence through professionalism, fostering communication and cooperation through teamwork, soliciting input and active participation through responsiveness, and advocating for progressive growth through leadership.

Accomplishments and Highlights

Jonathan Receives Sedgwick County's Excellence in Public Service Award

The Excellence in Public Service Award Program annually honors three public service employees whose work performance and community activities transcend the ordinary. This program, sponsored by the DeVore Foundation, selects three public service employees out of thousands from the City of Wichita, USD 259, and Sedgwick County. Each winner demonstrates some combination of the following attributes essential to excellent public service: extraordinary work delivered with energy, ingenuity and compassion; responsiveness to public needs by developing more effective methods of service delivery; outstanding and reliable performance, both in situations of crisis and under the pressures of daily routine; adherence to high ethical standards in carrying out job responsibilities; and a record of community involvement through participation in civic organizations.

Jonathan lives his life in service of others. As a civil servant his entire career, he is deeply dedicated to his community. As Deputy Director, Jonathan was instrumental with stabilizing the outdoor warning system program as well as our budget. He revived our K9 Search Team, and developed our Community Emergency Response Team Basic Training Program. Outside of work, Jonathan volunteers for Derby Fire & Rescue, serves at the Skipper for Wichita's only Sea Scout Ship, and co-coordinator for Healthy Kids Running Series. Jonathan also serves as a board member for the Arkansas River Coalition and Restoring the Rescuer.



Cody awarded with Instructor of the Year by Kansas Emergency Management Association

At its annual conference, the Kansas Emergency Management Association Awarded Cody with Instructor of the Year! Cody has consistently and passionately maintained our public & partner education programs. This award is designed to recognize an instructor who has performed exemplary service in providing emergency management related education and training programs. Cody taught or coordinated dozens of classes for hundreds of participants; he also facilitates our partner training programs through our Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop (IPPW).



Cody with Kansas Emergency Management Association President Butch Post

Accomplishments and Highlights

Julie achieves International Certified Emergency Manager Designation

In November, Julie attended the International Association of Emergency Management (IAEM) Conference in Savannah, GA. While there, she was awarded the Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) designation. IAEM created the Certified Emergency Manager® and Associate Emergency Manager Programs in 1993 to raise and maintain professional standards. It is an internationally recognized program that certifies achievements within the emergency management profession. AEM and CEM certification is a peer review process administered through the International Association of Emergency Managers. IAEM is the only organization that offers a certification for individual emergency managers. The Certified Emergency Manager designation is a nationally and internationally recognized professional certification. At current time, only 2200 people in the world hold this designation and it's an incredible achievement. Huge congrats to Julie and all of her work.



Jonathan awarded with the 2022 New Emergency Management Professional of the Year by KEMA

In Jonathan's 2nd year as Deputy Director, he was awarded the Col. Mahlon G. Weed New Emergency Management Professional of the year for 2022. The award is given by the Kansas Emergency Management Association in recognition of an emergency management professional who, at the time of the annual conference, has served twenty-four (24) months or less in the position, and who during that time has displayed enthusiasm and made specific accomplishments and/or improvements in the local program.

Kansas National Guard Officer Col. Mahlon G. Weed is the former Deputy Director of the Kansas Division of Emergency Preparedness (KDEP) which later became the Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM).



Jonathan and Julie at the KEMA conference in September

Emergency Management Volunteers

Since the early 1950s, in the old duck & cover days, our civil defense predecessors managed incredibly robust volunteer programs. Our ability to combat the threats of the day relied solely on citizens rolling up their sleeves and getting involved. With Sky Spotters, air raid siren volunteers, neighborhood wardens, amateur radio volunteers, heavy rescue, auxiliary police officers and more, WE ARE, at our core, built around the idea of volunteerism. We learned a valuable lesson during our response to COVID-19 and the April 29th Tornadoes: Sedgwick County **NEEDS** healthy and robust volunteer teams that are trained, capable, and ready to fill-in the gaps of disaster response and recovery. Our county will never be able to mobilize enough paid professionals to muster a proper sustained response to a long-term disaster. Spontaneous volunteers are always great to have, however, a ready team of individuals who are trained to fill specific and critical roles within response and recovery is vital to our resiliency as a community and our mission. Internally, we have declared every year, “The Year of the Volunteer.” We have focused our efforts to remove barriers to volunteerism by supporting the vital work they do and empowering them through education and other means. Based on figures from the Non-profit Leadership Center, Emergency Management’s volunteer programs have saved Sedgwick County about \$150,000 in costs. Emergency Management doubled its volunteer work force in 2022.



LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)

The mission of the Sedgwick County LEPC is to fulfill the requirements of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, commonly known as SARA Title III. In addition, the LEPC is an all-hazards planning committee to include information sharing, community planning, exercise design/implementation, the critique of emergency incidents—real or exercised, other activities aimed at efficient, compassionate, and rapid

response to disaster survivors’, caregivers’, and workers’ needs in times of disasters. As required by the Emergency Planning and Community-Right-to-Know Act (Public Law 99-499) and K.S.A. 65-5701 et seq., the LEPC ensures that Emergency Operations Plans, Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) and Tier II forms are submitted annually by the regulated business entities within Sedgwick County and are available for inspection upon request at Sedgwick County Emergency Management. The committee is led by volunteer Chairperson Ann Houk who is the Administrator at Home Health & Hospice of Kansas, LLC. Ann volunteers hundreds of hours per year to lead the committee made of up nearly 50 active community members through all-hazard planning, training and exercise activities. Ann spent countless hours working with state and local response agencies to identify exercise and training needs for first responders. Funded through the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness grant, Ann was able to secure 6 courses to enhance response capabilities in the county. Ann’s hours of dedication to community preparedness and public safety earned her the nomination as the Support Person of the Year at the Kansas Emergency Management Association annual conference.



SEDGWICK COUNTY RADIO AMATEUR CIVIL EMERGENCY SERVICE (R.A.C.E.S.)

R.A.C.E.S. volunteers logged over 1200 volunteer hours in 2022. Through the twenty members of our R.A.C.E.S. Team, Sedgwick County Emergency Management maintains a backup radio communication system consisting of four repeaters and many radio operators. HAM Radio infrastructure nationwide has served as a reliable primary and secondary communication system in times of disaster and war. When activated, the R.A.C.E.S. team provides radio communications for us in times of emergency. These volunteers and the infrastructure they maintain are a critical backup when our primary communication goes

down. R.A.C.E.S. meets every Tuesday evening for training and they perform radio checks every Sunday. Our R.A.C.E.S. Team also receives advanced storm spotter training; when storms approach, they deploy into the field to report on severe weather. Our R.A.C.E.S. Team is a critical part of our resilience.

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SEDGWICK COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT K9 SEARCH TEAM

Our K9 Search Team (SCK9) has logged over 2000 hours of volunteer service in both training and deployments this year. Our K9 Handlers serve as part of our disaster response team to help search for people who have gone missing in the wake of a disaster. Because disasters don't happen every day,

they often keep up on their skills by supporting our local law enforcement partners to search for lost or missing adults and children. This year, SCK9 was requested and deployed to assist the following agencies with their investigations: **Wichita PD, Sedgwick County Sheriff, Wichita Fire, Butler County Sheriff, Sumner County Sheriff, Chase County Sheriff, McPherson PD, the Kansas Highway Patrol, and the Nebraska State Patrol.** Our K9 team provides services including, air scent, trailing, water search, and human remains detection by request. We currently maintain the largest vetted and organized team of K9 handlers in the region. Although this is a disaster team, by extension, it allows us to further build relationships with our partner agencies. The development of these relationships is critical to our ability to respond to disasters under a unified command structure.



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM RETURNS!

With the launch of our CERT Basic Training Academy we can begin recruiting for an Advanced CERT Team of regular volunteers in 2023. Our Advanced CERT Team will be specially trained to fill specific roles within disaster response and recovery. With this team of volunteers, it is our plan to answer some of the areas of improvement identified in the April 29th Tornado After-Action Report

(AAR). These roles could include logistical support, lighting & generator operations, volunteer reception center staffing, damage assessment and data collection, canvassing, communications support, and public education support. Again, because disasters don't occur every day, in-between disasters we are working to develop various support services for our partner agencies to include wide-area search, incident rehab/canteen, power generation, DUI check lane support, scene lighting, and more. It is our goal to build a functional and sustainable Advanced CERT team program.



Community Outreach and Education

Storm Fury on the Plains

In a normal year, Cody gives 25 or more presentations on severe weather safety. This class, while open to the public, is also critical training for volunteer firefighters and others who assist Emergency Management with storm spotting during severe weather. These storm spotter classes came full circle and proved their worth during the April 29th Tornado. Due to its unique characteristics, the formation of the April 29th Tornado did not show up on National Weather Service Radar. In fact, the NWS solely relied on information provided by trained storm spotters when they issued the tornado warning polygon. The NWS trusted these storm spotters to provide the information they needed to fill the gap so they could warn the public and save lives. In 2022, Cody provided 15 offerings, and a total attendance of 424. 2023 should see a return to a full slate of classes.

First Responder Education

In addition to weather, Cody facilitated the delivery of 14 other classes in a variety of topics from Hazmat to Healthcare. These classes provided nearly 5000 hours of continuing education for our first responders and assists our first response agencies with meeting the objectives in our Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP). In 2022, Emergency Management hosted the following classes for our partner agencies.



- Grain Engulfment Rescue
- Disaster Prep for Healthcare Facilities
- All-Hazards Task Force Leader
- Tactical Chemistry
- Air Monitoring
- Advanced Hazmat IQ
- Rail Hazmat
- Propane IQ
- Understanding Targeted Cyber Attacks
- Above the line, Below the Line Hazmat Class
- Emergency Building Coordinator for WSU

Business Preparedness Workshop

In April 2022, Emergency Management partnered with the National Weather Service, the Kansas National Guard, and Accuweather Inc. to provide a Business Preparedness Workshop. The workshop was held at the Derby Chamber of Commerce and was designed to build resiliency in the business community by educating business owners on concepts that would prepare them for severe weather and its aftermath, business continuity of operations planning, cybersecurity and more.

Emergency Preparedness Education in Schools

One of the more popular attractions at our community outreach events, especially with children, is our homemade tornado machine, which uses fans, dry ice and water to produce a "tornado" the kids can touch. In this photo from Oct. 2022,



Cody uses the machine to teach tornado safety to the students attending Cheney's Government Day for 7th graders. Our outreach covered higher education as well, as once again we were asked to provide training to WSU's Emergency Building Coordinators to help them understand their roles in campus emergencies.

Storm Shelter Surveys

Every year, many businesses, churches and schools turn to Emergency Management for recommendations regarding where to shelter in their building during severe weather. Due to the pandemic, requests for this service dropped dramatically, however, staff was able to conduct surveys for the High Touch building downtown, Shadybrook Apartments, Rock Regional Hospital in Derby, and the Wichita Marriott. We also conducted weather safety plan reviews with staff at the new Cargill headquarters, and Intrust Bank Arena.

Emergency Management Participates in FCC Wireless Emergency Alert(WEA) Study

On Sept 12, Sedgwick County Emergency Management was one of about three dozen agencies nationwide chosen by the FCC to test several key components of the Wireless Emergency Alerts by sending a targeted WEA to a small area in downtown Wichita. Jonathan and Cody worked diligently to recruit and train a control group of volunteers to participate in the study. To promote public participation, Jonathan and Cody did interviews on KWCH, KAKE, KSN, KMWU and KNSS. The results of this test will give Emergency Management a better idea of how well Wireless Emergency Alerts work in our area. Just before Christmas, the FCC released their data to us where we learned nearly 1000 residents participated in the study, far exceeding our expectations. We plan to process the data in Q1 of 2023.



K9 Search Team participates in Fire Adventure Day at Sedgwick County Zoo

After a two-year hiatus, 5th Grade Fire Adventure Day at the Zoo returned in 2022 and Emergency Management was there with our K9 team. The kids learned what they could do to help themselves and their family be prepared for disaster, including what they should know about dealing with their own pets.

Outreach at McConnell AFB Airshow

Emergency Management teamed up with McConnell Air Force Base Readiness Emergency Management for a booth at the first Wichita Air Show in four years. Hundreds of people stopped by to learn tips on what they could do to be better prepared.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Basic Training Weekend

We relaunched our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Basic Training Program this year and it's been a true collaboration. The CERT program, provided by FEMA, offers a consistent, nationwide approach to volunteer training and organization that professional responders can rely on during disaster situations, allowing them to focus on more complex tasks. In a disaster situation, all of our resources are typically committed immediately. The need for help and emergency services becomes far greater than we're able to initially provide. CERT gives knowledge and skills to community members so they may be better prepared for the effects of disaster and also safely respond to the needs of their neighbors. During the April 29th Tornado, there were few Police, Fire, or EMS rescues that occurred. It was neighbors who largely assisted the trapped or injured. This exact scenario is the gap that CERT Basic Training fills.

CERT Basic Training is a collaborative program led by Emergency Management which includes participation by local police departments, fire departments, EMS, Active Duty Military, and more. This program builds resiliency within Sedgwick County and supplements our emergency response efforts in the early wake of a disaster.



Planning

2022 Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) approved by KDEM & adopted by the BOCC

The State of Kansas requires an updated LEOP every 5 year. 2020 was a revision year with extensions due to COVID. This plan is a living document that outlines how we intend to respond to emergencies and disasters. The LEOP is designed off the National Response Framework and planning standards set forth by FEMA and Kansas Department Emergency Management (KDEM) respectively. With the guidance of our EM Planner Reagan Bender and the immense support of 50 partner agencies, our plan was completed, approved by KDEM, and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. The update to our plan required many meetings, an incredible amount of detailed conversations and a lot of coordination. We want to thank all of our partners who participated in the plans creation and we looking forward to exercising it with you.

Preparedness

Emergency Management Tests the Outdoor Warning System “Attack” Function and continues to maintain system

Emergency Management celebrated the 70th anniversary of the first-ever air raid siren test in Wichita - Sedgwick County at the end of April 2022. In recognition of that anniversary, the “Attack mode” was tested for the first time in seven years. Not only was this a poignant hat-tip to our past but a functional exercise for our equipment. For a review of the sirens history and the functions of the Sedgwick County Warning Systems, visit <https://youtu.be/IOQqOGmFFXU>.

Breaking down our Outdoor Warning System

For decades, we’ve tested our outdoor warning system at noon on Mondays, barring inclement weather and holidays. But why? There are many reasons for us to test our siren system. First on that list is public safety. Our citizens rely on the various methods of warning we provide to alert them of danger. It’s an immense responsibility and one we don’t take lightly. Our system is comprised of 152 sirens with mixed manufacturers and models. The sirens’ components can be broken down into 154 telephone poles, 200 mother boards, 160 Radios, more than 300 batteries, over 200 electric motors, 300 sensors, along with wires, antennas, and nearly 100 electrical accounts. All of these components sit outside in the weather 24/7/365. As with any equipment maintenance program there will always be recurring maintenance and upkeep. We’ve worked diligently to re-strategize the way we maintain our equipment and those efforts have led to a 50% reduction in maintenance expenses while also improving the system overall.

Exercises

Integrated Preparedness and Planning Workshop (IPPW)

Every November, Sedgwick County holds an Integrated Preparedness and Planning Workshop (IPPW) which used to be called the Training and Exercise Planning Workshop. In addition to training and exercises, the IPPW is expected to integrate other aspects into the whole community concept including risk assessments, planning efforts, grant priorities and other preparedness activities. The goal is to document overall preparedness priorities and activities, to maximize efficiency of resources, time and funding and to work towards improving

jurisdiction/organization capabilities. The primary product of this event is the creation of a three-year training and exercise plan for local agencies to build upon. We invited all of our ESF partners to participate in discussion and provide input regarding their training needs.

Eisenhower National Airport Table-top Exercise

In September 2022, Jonathan and Reagan were invited to participate in a table top exercise at the Eisenhower National Airport. The tabletop was organized by the Airport Police & Fire Dept. and involved a walked-through of response events to an aircraft crash. The airport expressed a desire to improve working collaboration with Emergency Management and asked us to review their Airport Emergency Operations Plan. We will be planning a Full-Scale.

Wichita State University Athletics Table-top Exercise at Koch Arena

WSU Athletics hosts over a hundred events at Koch Arena annually. These events draw thousands of people to their campus. In December 2022, Emergency Management participated in a table-top exercise with Campus Police and WSU Athletics department to walk through various scenarios involving sheltering-in-place or evacuations. The table-top was a success and led to further plan revisions.

Logistics

Finding the Right Balance

Time waits for no one and as time goes by we must now close out 2022. As Logistics Chief, Kenji is charged to account for, acquire, manage, distribute and deliver the must have supplies for any given disaster. So, what did Emergency Management learn this past year about Public Health outbreaks? With the passing of time on our side, it allowed Emergency Management to find the right battle rhythm of personal protective equipment (PPE) supply and demand needs throughout our county's departments to protect our employees.

As we find our new normal through this post public health emergency, we are starting to see the true needs of what is necessary, what is nice to have and more importantly what is a waste of time and money. We had the foresight to automate processes to account for all the different items we would use, which would be key to helping us meet



our objectives by capturing the data with the inventory software called Fishbowl. Fishbowl enabled us to efficiently and effectively follow PPE trends, manage/track resources and eliminate wasteful practices. By using the Fishbowl program we were able to make calculated predictions on how much funding it would take to sustain our County partners for the next few years. Thanks to the hard work of our Finance Department, we were able to work together to strategize a realistic spending plan and with Finance's approval, we were provided a reasonable budget spending plan that meet the needs of the warehouse for the entire year of 2022. Without their help the job would not have been possible. Thanks Finance Team for another year of continued support.

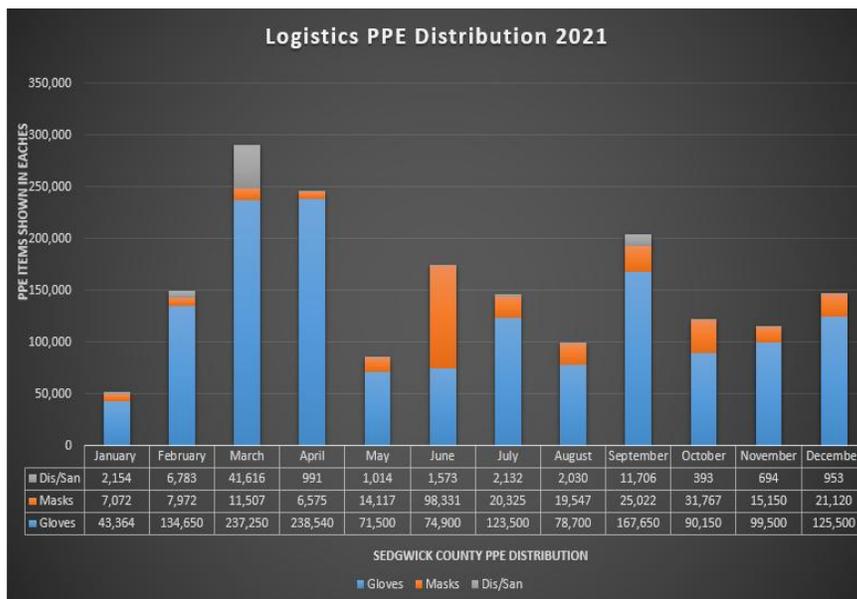
There is a lot of behind-the-scenes stuff that goes on, so to give you a glimpse here is what it takes to run this function. On the previous page is an example of the logistics it takes to restock our PPE supplies. Emergency Management still remains the sole provider of PPE gloves and face masks to the County Jail, JDF, Sheriff’s Office, Comcare and District Court. Risk Management has also played a vital role to fit test all County employees to aid in what type of items Emergency Management needs’ to have on hand. Working closely with Risk Management, we were able to pinpoint their true needs and help support their operation. We thank Risk Management for their partnership.



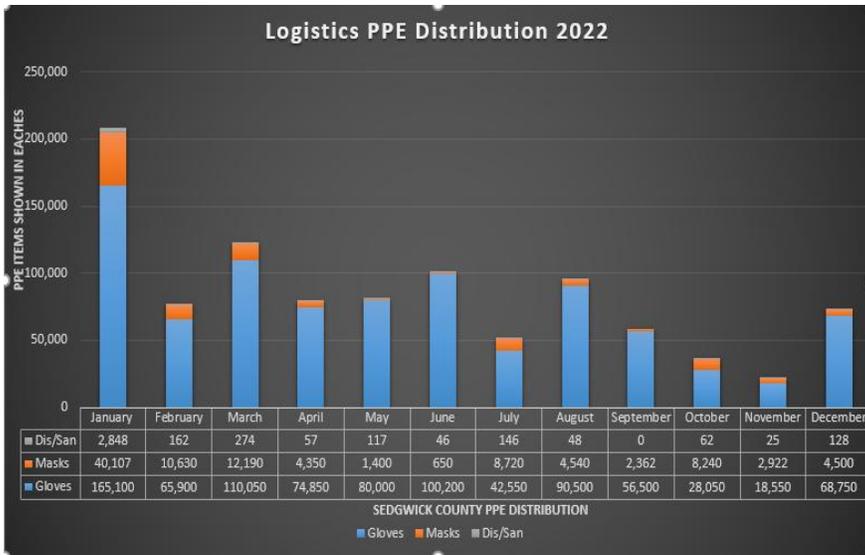
Also shown on this page to the right is an example of what it takes to restock the warehouse to maintain a healthy 90 days of PPE. Without a permanent temperature-controlled warehouse solution in place, this continues to be our biggest challenge going forward in 2023. Emergency Management would like to also recognize Facility Maintenance for their continued support on being available in a moment’s notice each time the aid of a forklift driver was needed, rain or shine. They are the heroes in all things in heavy maintenance support. Emergency Management still lacks a permanent location within the county to store our PPE supplies and we are very hopeful we can come up with a solutions that meets our warehousing needs in the near future. At any time, Emergency Management continues to house an average of over a millions dollars’ worth of supplies in an effort to keeping one step ahead in preparedness.

The Numbers Don’t Lie

The grand total PPE items distributed for 2022 was 1,015,328. Broken down by item that’s, 1,821 cases of gloves, 100,611 individual masks, and 3,917 disinfectant/sanitizer products of varies kinds. For 2022, the total number of requests were 228 valued at \$226,306.10 of CARES/ ARPA spending. Kenji drove 734.8 miles to fulfill the requested needs of our co-workers/customers. Our customers included 31 different County Departments, 4 City of Wichita agencies, and USD 265 Goddard Public School. There were two COVID-19 outbreak emergency requests for PPE items that went out to United Rescue mission and Golden Boomers Home Plus who had a long lead time to get their own supplies. With all of this data collected it gives us a clearer picture of what our true needs are to protect our employees/customers from future outbreaks.



If you recognize this chart from our previous year annual report, you will see we have something to compare it to. 2021 was still very active and 2022’s chart (see page 13) illustrates how we learned to maintain a healthy stock level. As anticipated, the number one most requested PPE items from County Departments were medical grade nitrile gloves as indicated on the charts. Emergency Management’s number two most requested item were N95 masks. Our goal will be to continue to supply N95 masks to all County Employees as long as they can provide us with a current fit test, which is a continuation of the same process we’ve had since the start of the pandemic.



Throughout the year of 2022, Emergency Management began placing large orders of bulk PPE supplies in a single transaction, this enabled us to receive the best possible pricing. Bulk orders allowed us to save significant local and federal grant dollars, while keeping everyone in the County well protected. In addition, we tracked information from media and local partners throughout the year about any rumored supply issues in order to stay ahead of any possible delays or disruption of the supply chain. Having the ability to forecast future disruption will allow us to tighten restriction and seek alternate solutions of stocking and supplying the needed PPE.

To sustain our operation we requested and received a budget of \$143,000.00 and our total expenditure of the year was \$129,813.26 in PPE items with an annual software fee of \$5,691. There is a full 48 page detail report of all the PPE items available upon request at logistics@sedgwick.gov.

Operations/Response

Tornado Strikes Southeast Sedgwick County & City of Andover

On the evening of April 29th, 2022, Sedgwick County experienced severe weather with the possibility of tornados. Emergency Management stood up the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to a Level 3 (monitoring), as we typically do for severe weather. Reagan and Julie monitored the storm from the EOC until the all clear had been given by local meteorologists. At 800pm, we began receiving reports from trained storm spotters of cloud rotation in several areas of the eastern side of Sedgwick County. At 0810pm we received a report of a tornado near 39th St. S and 127th St. E, moving to the northeast. The National Weather Service saw nothing on their radar indicating a tornado was present. Based on trained storm spotter information, alerts were sent, sirens were sounded, and Emergency Management personnel began making their way back to the EOC. Upon arrival, Reagan and Jonathan began triaging information and receiving reports from the field. A Wichita Battalion Chief reported Sedgwick County sustained damage to as many as 50 homes before it moved into Butler County. Jonathan sent out a full EOC activation page for all work stations and Julie began the process of obtaining a verbal disaster declaration from the County Commission Chairman David Dennis. After a short time, it was determined that Andover and Sedgwick County’s command posts needed to merge as both communities were competing for the same resources. A Unified Command Post was established at the Andover Dillon’s, which was about the halfway point of the tornado track. The city of Andover received significantly more damage to property as over one hundred homes were destroyed and the YMCA took a direct hit during business hours.



During our EOC activation for this tornado, most of our partners contributed to the response efforts: GIS plotted the boundaries and path of the tornado track, Police, Fire, EMS, and Hospitals learned there were few casualties, and the United Way, Red Cross, and Salvation began ramping their response and recovery efforts.



1: EOC Activated for Tornado Response



Governor Kelly receives a briefing at the Command Post



THANKS TO OUR AMAZING PARTNERS!

The sheer power of our partners was realized in response to the April 29th Tornado. Dozens of agencies and organizations came to our aid and we could not be more grateful. We offer a big Thank You to the United Way, the American Red Cross, The Salvation Army, United Methodists Disaster Response, and the Lions Club, among many others.

You can watch Julie's tornado response after-action report presented to the County Commission here:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/rZd7dv8hOn8?feature=share&t=3387>

Search K9 Maple Locates Missing Child safe in Sumner County

Around 7:30pm on December 5th, 2022, The Mulvane Fire & Rescue Department requested the Sedgwick County Emergency Management K9 Team to assist with the search for a missing child. Units from Sumner County Sheriff, Mulvane PD and Mulvane Fire had searched for hours with little luck. SCK9 arrived with K9 Indy, K9 Cooper and K9 Maple along with Handlers Darren Lawrence, Julie Lancaster, Edie Wiley, and Flankers Lisa Dubray & Caitlin McDaniels. Trailing K9 Indy worked the property, while Air Scent K9 Maple used scent from the child's jacket and went right to work. Within 20 minutes of their arrival, K9 Maple located the child safe in a tree row. Edie and Caitlin encouraged the child to play ball with Maple as they walked her out to the road and eventually back home to her family. KSN covered the find here. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wH-VeFB7ZsI>



In the media

<https://www.ksn.com/news/local/sedgwick-county-emergency-management-k9-and-handler-find-missing-child/>

<https://www.kake.com/story/46609063/sedgwick-county-emergency-management-warns-citizens-of-ongoing-flooding-risk>

<https://www.ksn.com/weather/weather-stories/watch-live-city-of-wichita-on-dangerous-cold-and-snow-in-forecast/>

<https://www.kake.com/story/46563383/sedgwick-county-emergency-management-on-high-alert-for-another-night-of-rain-and-possible-flooding>

<https://www.kwch.com/2022/03/24/sedgwick-county-k9-team-aids-search-missing-person/>

<https://www.ksn.com/weather/weather-stories/storm-track-3-historical-tornado-siren-significance-marking-70-years/>

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