

# KAUAI CIVIL DEFENSE AGENCY/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

FY 2014 Annual Report

*A Hawaii capable of preventing, responding to, and recovering from any threat to the freedom, lifestyle, and safety of its people with properly equipped, well-trained responders, and prepared communities through committed local, State, and Federal leadership.*

The vision statement from the Strategy for Hawaii Homeland Security

While no one can prevent many disasters, particularly weather or nature related, the Kauai Civil Defense Agency's (KCDA) emergency management goal is to ensure the efficient coordination of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.

## I. Mission Statement

To protect lives, property and environment on Kaua`i by coordinating efforts among agencies at all levels of government and the private sector to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies, hazards and disaster events.

## II. Program Description

The Kauai Civil Defense Agency has the responsibility for administering and operating the various local, State and Federal emergency management programs for the County. This includes planning, preparing, and coordinating operations in meeting disaster situations and coordinating post-disaster recovery operations involving Federal and State assistance. The agency is responsible for coordinating Federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS) grant funds for first responders. This agency is the point of contact for the State Office of Homeland Security and the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency as provided by the 2014 Hawaii Laws Act 111 (H.B.849).

## III. Department Goals

1. Increase public awareness and emergency preparedness for residents and visitors.
2. Improve the operating efficiency and effectiveness in the Emergency Operations Center.
3. Enhance the operational readiness of Emergency Operations Center staff as well as emergency responders via an effective and comprehensive training and exercise program.
4. Ensure emergency responders have dependable and trusted communications in all types of weather and disasters.

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5. Improve the timeliness and efficiency of the local disaster warning and notification procedures to the public we serve.
6. Promote public awareness, education and outreach of the emergency preparedness programs through public presentations, public relations news releases, the “storm ready / tsunami ready community” program, maintenance and updating of the Civil Defense web page, and distribution of emergency preparedness literature.

## IV. Program Measures – Accomplishments/Evaluation

The agency has “Storm Ready / Tsunami Ready” community program status. The County meets the criteria for the designation by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA). The status is renewed every three years and Kaua‘i will be up for renewal in 2016.

Managed, implemented and/or coordinated various Federal Emergency Management Administration/ Department of Homeland Security (FEMA/DHS) related grants to: enhance mitigation/prevention, as well as emergency response and recovery capability in the event of natural and man-made disasters – in an all-hazards approach. This involved assisting in the coordinated development of a State Homeland Security strategy, the coordination of requirements, administration, and tracking of grant funding for KCDA and partner agencies.

The Department of Homeland Security (through FEMA) provide grants for training/exercise programs that continue to support the enhancement of emergency management, our public safety first responders and multi-hazard stakeholders. With these grant funds, we have continued to gain capabilities, equipment, and training. These are some of the training that has been funded from outside sources for KCDA staff and partners: Emergency Management Operations (EMOPS), NG911 training, Regional Resiliency Assessment Program Partner Training, Community Emergency Response Teams-Train the Trainer, Incident Command System (ICS) 300/400 (offered twice), National Oceanographic and Aeronautics Administration (NOAA) Weather Spotter, Senior Executive Emergency Management Training, WebEOC, EMAC Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

Exercises and drills are part of our “hands-on” training for County, State, private industry, and non-governmental agencies. This provides all participants with simulated “real world” disaster preparedness and response. This year, KCDA and its partners participated in tabletop, functional, and full scale exercises for a CBRNE, Tsunami (Pacific Theater Engagement), and Catastrophic Hurricane (Makani Pahili) events. The Makani Pahili exercises included over 85 participants over six full days. This proved to

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be a great learning experience for preparing for a real world – Hurricane Iselle – that was forecast to affect all Hawaiian Islands.

The Kauai Civil Defense Agency (KCDA) also conducted preparedness education, training, and outreach activities with public school, community/neighborhood associations, visitor industry stakeholders and non-governmental agencies. KCDA participates in school evacuation drills, invites school children into the EOC, and conducts numerous community information and preparedness/resilience activities.

The Kauai Civil Defense Agency(KCDA) updated the 1992 Tsunami Evacuation Zones utilizing advanced computer modeling and a multi-disciplinary committee. KCDA has worked with Public Work’s Highways and Roads Construction Division and State Department of Transportation’s Highway Division to install “Evacuation Route” signs and “Entering and Leaving Tsunami Hazard Zone” signs on all major State and County highways and roads. The materials were funded by a small grant from State Civil Defense.

Hawaii Legislature, House Bill 849 was enacted into law as Act 111 on July 1, 2014. Act 111 improves emergency management by clarifying authority, roles and responsibilities relative to County Mayors and the Governor and likewise County and State government. It defines clear lines of authority and responsibility for emergency management for the protection of the people of Kaua’i and Niihau, and represents a modernization and consolidation of Hawaii Revised Statutes relating to emergency management.

In 2013-14, a dedicated telecommunications officer was added to the KCDA staff to assess and evaluate the communications/radio sites/siren systems. The locations of these systems make them prone to weather, salt water, and general use degradation. Repairs and overdue maintenance of these sites have been identified and are being addressed. Maintenance of these sites, towers, and equipment; upgrades and retro-fits for sirens; and upgrading of P25 compliant equipment will improve public safety.

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	CFY 2013 Actual	CFY 2014 Actual	CFY 2015 Appropriation
Equivalent Personnel (E/P)	4.0	4.0	5.0
Salaries & Wages	457,675	471,919	601,349
Operations	135,590	793,689	1,004,968
Equipment/Furniture	10,091	10,318	22,000
Vehicle	15,289	43,030	13,900
Program Total	618,645	1,318,956	1,642,217

	CFY-2013 Actual	CFY-2014 Actual	CFY-2015 Estimated
Total Sirens & Simulators Installed	48	48	48
Total Sirens Upgraded	0	48	11
EOC Activation	4	14	10
Disaster Threats Monitored	100	157	100
CD Exercises	5	6	4
CD Training Sessions	7	8	7
Total Count of Personnel Trained (includes exercises)	137	380	200
CD Public Presentations	16	38	25
Blackboard Connect (BBC) Notifications	4	13 KCDA ( 39 DoW 1 false alarm)	15
Total Count of BBC Notified	74,767	330,575 KCDA (15,665 DoW)	150,000
Number of Public Shelters	19	19	19
Disaster Publications Distributed	3	5	3