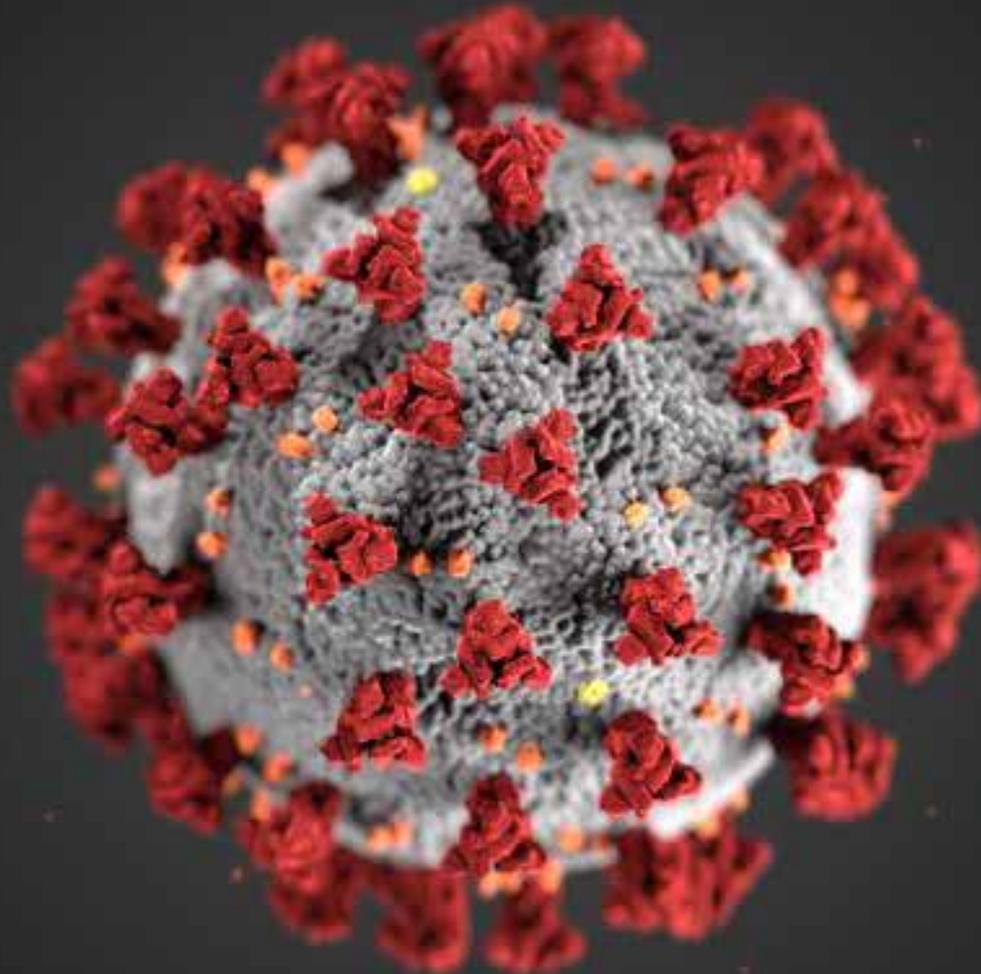




SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2020

# Idaho Office of **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**



Read more about the  
**STATE OF IDAHO'S COVID-19 RESPONSE**  
on pages 3-6!

Greetings,

As we entered into Spring 2020, the entire country faced a new challenge in the form of COVID-19, more commonly known as the Coronavirus. Thankfully for the state of Idaho and our citizens, we have leaders that prioritized safety and preparedness for all Idaho residents and quickly took the necessary steps to mitigate and slow the spread of COVID-19.

The IOEM team, as well as our partners at Health and Welfare, local Public Health Districts and our emergency support function agencies have been working day and night to ensure Idaho health care organizations have the PPE supplies necessary to provide care during the pandemic. I encourage you to look through this edition of the IOEM newsletter to see what IOEM and our emergency management partners have been up to since the beginning of the year.

Recently, in cooperation with the Idaho Board of Education and the Department of Education, IOEM delivered no-touch thermometers and hand sanitizer to all school districts and higher ed institutions in need. We will continue to work with our education groups to provide necessary COVID supplies as much possible. IOEM is also working with county emergency managers to stock up supplies of PPE at the local level.

As coverage of COVID-19 dominates our news cycles, it is important to remember that other disasters can strike at any time. Idaho is still in the middle of prime fire season, and while we have had minimal fires this year, it is important that we all remain diligent in our efforts to prevent, and protect against wildfires in our state.

Finally, I would like to extend a hand of gratitude to all of the emergency management professionals and first-responders across the state of Idaho. The coronavirus pandemic has tested all of us. I appreciate all the dedicated professionals across the state, as well as our federal partners, whom have worked diligently to respond to the needs of our citizens.

May the coming months bring more stability, certainty and peace to everyone.

Stay safe and healthy.

**Brad Richy**  
Director, IOEM



This is the official newsletter of the Idaho Office of Emergency Management. This quarterly publication produced in Boise, Idaho is intended for use by the State of Idaho's emergency management community, legislators, government officials, and others who are interested in learning about Idaho's emergency management operations and procedures around the Gem state.

Brad Little, Idaho Governor

Brad Richy  
Director, Idaho Office of Emergency Management  
(208) 422-3001

Janice Witherspoon, Editor  
(208) 258-6585

Dori Topholm, Design Editor  
(208) 404-1027



# COVID-19 RESPONSE AT IOEM

IOEM has been hard at work since March on supporting the COVID-19 response.



One of the first activated components of COVID-19 response was public information. In an effort to streamline access to information, an Idaho specific webpage was created at <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/>



The State of Idaho declared a state of emergency on March 13th and sprung into action to respond to and prepare for larger outbreaks of COVID-19. Testing facilities were opened up and the Idaho Emergency Operations Center (IDEOC) began coordination with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW), Public Health Districts, and local healthcare providers.



Getting the message out to citizens across the state was vital. With the partnership of ESF 1 (Transportation), the state of Idaho Joint Information Center (JIC) crafted messages to be displayed on reader boards across the state that related to health and safety in the time of COVID-19.



Team members from IOEM staffed the IDEOC immediately. The IDEOC is still active and responding to requests for assistance at this time, and is preparing for the next steps of this emergency response.



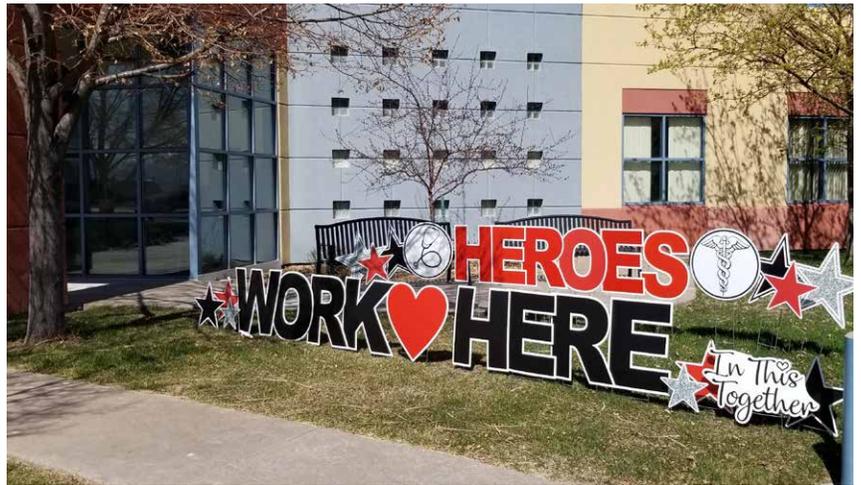
In partnership with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, one of IOEM's main goal is to facilitate the purchasing and receiving of PPE. Fulfilling requests for assistance is an imperative function of the IDEOC during COVID-19.



Governor Little visited the IDEOC on March 25th, when he also announced the Idaho Stay At Home Order. Governor Little had an opportunity to see the IDEOC in action, understand its processes, and incorporate that into his decision making.



Generosity poured into Idaho from around the world during the COVID-19 response. To support Idaho's efforts, over 250,000 pieces of PPE were donated directly to IOEM from individuals, private corporations, and even foreign governments. IOEM teamed up with United Way to ensure these donations were quickly distributed throughout our communities.



Private partners stepped up across the nation to assist the COVID-19 response efforts. This picture was taken outside of a Rite Aid in Meridian, where testing had been set up for citizen access as needed. We have strong partnerships with the private sector and grateful for their help to protect their communities.

COVID HELP NOW LINE  
CALL OR TEXT (986) 867-1073  
TOLL FREE (866) 947-5186

**STRONG**  
**IDAHO**

 Idaho Strong  @StrongIdaho  @StrongIdaho  [www.ioem.idaho.gov/covidhelpnow](http://www.ioem.idaho.gov/covidhelpnow)

# IDAHO RECEIVED FEMA ASSISTANCE FOR CRISIS COUNSELING

IOEM and the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare's Division of Behavioral Health Services collaborated on a grant funding request in late April. This grant funds an Immediate Services Program (ISP) to provide greater access to Crisis Care Counseling in the state of Idaho. IOEM received approval on this grant in early June.

The Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program (CCP) is a federally funded supplemental program administrated by FEMA. The mission of the CCP is to assist individuals and communities in recovering from the effects of natural and human-caused disasters through the provision of community-based outreach and psycho-educational services. The CCP supports short-term interventions that involve assisting disaster survivors in understanding their current situation and reactions, mitigating stress, developing coping strategies, providing emotional support, and identifying other resources that help survivors in their recovery process.

The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, acting as a subgrantee, is operating the care counseling line. IOEM will be taking the lead on a larger media campaign, and has brought on a small media team to promote the campaign and identify other resources for individuals and agencies as they take on their recovery and coping process. Read more about the IOEM team below!

Want to learn about how you can get involved with helping to promote this new crisis counseling resource? Email [amiller@imd.idaho.gov](mailto:amiller@imd.idaho.gov), and we will make sure to get promotional information and resources to you right away!



Asia Miller is the lead for IOEM's new media team for the state of Idaho's COVID Help Now line. Asia recently graduated from Boise State University with a bachelor's degree in Health Science and a minor in Biology. Through college, she worked in various positions within the health care field and has developed an in-depth knowledge of the field in general.



Sam Haskell is a new media content producer. She is a graduate student at Boise State in the Communication department specializing in media studies. After four years of competing on two national winning speech and debate teams, Sam has a passion for public speaking and dramatic works.



Randi Wichman is a new ISP content producer for the COVID crisis response team. While still a Montana resident, Randi is living in Boise to complete her Master's in Communication Studies. During the academic year, Randi is a graduate teaching assistant, instructing Introduction to Oral Communication and aiding with Intercultural Communication and Interpersonal Communication. During the summer months, she works with non-profit summer camps counseling and coordinating programs for diverse communities of campers, including children from low-income families and group homes.

# COVID-19 RECOVERY EFFORTS

## Recovery Resources developed for Disaster DR-4534 (COVID-19)

As we continue our response to COVID-19, we are continuing to build out our recovery efforts. One of the tools that we have built is a webpage full of information regarding COVID-19 recovery in the state of Idaho.

If you are a state, local, tribal, taxing entity, or a private non-profit providing critical or essential services you may be eligible for FEMA Public Assistance. Public Assistance is a reimbursement grant program for extraordinary eligible expenses associated with COVID-19 response and recovery activities.

The IOEM Recovery Team, in partnership with FEMA, is ready to help your organization navigate the process to apply for Public Assistance. Several documents available on the IOEM website provide information, guidance, and additional resources for your organization.

If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to your Area Field Officer or the IOEM Recovery Team at [IOEMRecovery@imd.idaho.gov](mailto:IOEMRecovery@imd.idaho.gov).



**Heidi Novich**  
Southwest/South Central  
Area Field Officer  
[hnovich@imd.idaho.gov](mailto:hnovich@imd.idaho.gov)



**Josh McIntosh**  
Northeastern  
Area Field Officer  
[jmcintosh@imd.idaho.gov](mailto:jmcintosh@imd.idaho.gov)



**Rob Feeley**  
Southwest/South Central  
Area Field Officer  
[rfeeley@imd.idaho.gov](mailto:rfeeley@imd.idaho.gov)



**Darin Letzring**  
Southeastern  
Area Field Officer  
[dletzring@imd.idaho.gov](mailto:dletzring@imd.idaho.gov)



**Ryan Bender**  
North Central  
Area Field Officer  
[rbender@imd.idaho.gov](mailto:rbender@imd.idaho.gov)



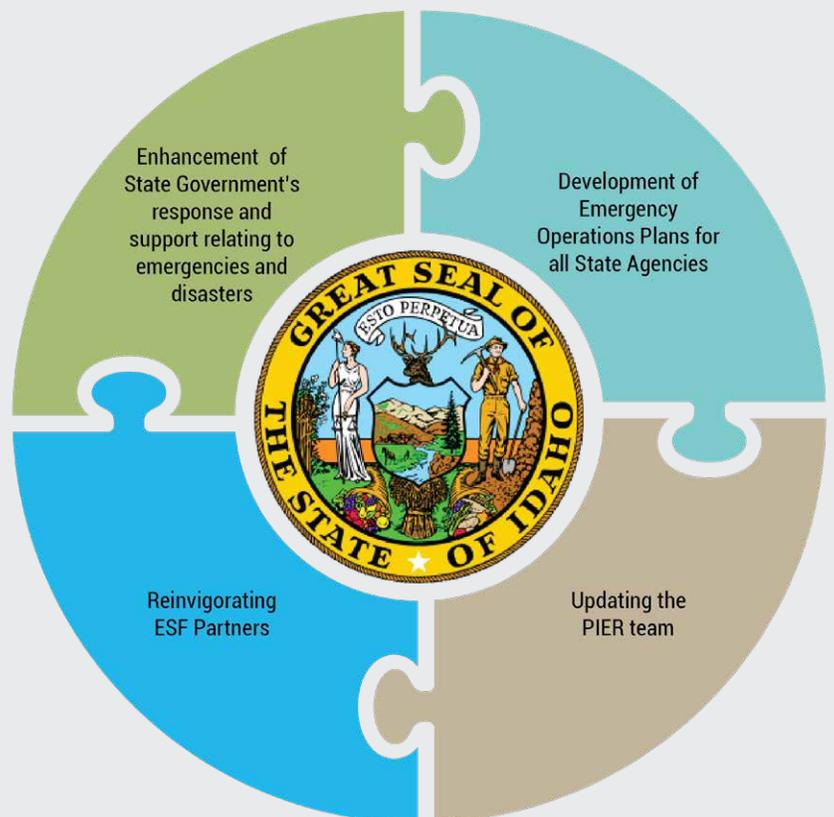
**Jay Baker**  
Northern  
Area Field Officer  
[jbaker@imd.idaho.gov](mailto:jbaker@imd.idaho.gov)

# IDAHO UPDATES ALL-HAZARD PREVENTION, PROTECTION, MITIGATION, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY FUNCTIONS

As we said goodbye to 2019, we also said hello to an update of Idaho Law in the form of all-hazard preparation in the state of Idaho. On December 31, 2019, Governor Brad Little signed into law Executive Order No. 2019-15 which assigned emergency prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery functions to all state agencies. Highlights of this executive order include:

- **Development of Emergency Operations Plans for all State Agencies** – Every state agency within Idaho is expected to have an update to the states all-hazards executive order. With the help of the professionals in the IOEM Planning Section, this tenet should be operational soon.
- **Updating the PIER team** – The Public Information Emergency Response (PIER) team is maintained and updated through this new executive order. The PIER team fulfills the Emergency Support Function 15 – Public Information for the state of Idaho in times of need. The team is staffed by public affairs professionals from every state agency, meets together bi-monthly, and is activated by the Emergency Operations Manager when a Joint Information System or Center needs to be established.
- **Reinvigorating ESF Partners** – A key component of emergency management is the protection of the 7 lifelines that have been identified as high priorities in times of emergency. In order to protect those lifelines, it is imperative to have strong Emergency Support Function (ESF) partners that understand the emergency management process and how they can best assist the state. Through passing this executive order, routes have been codified to establish and reinvigorate our ESF partners.

We are grateful for Governor Little's commitment to protecting the State of Idaho and preparing today for the disasters that may strike tomorrow.

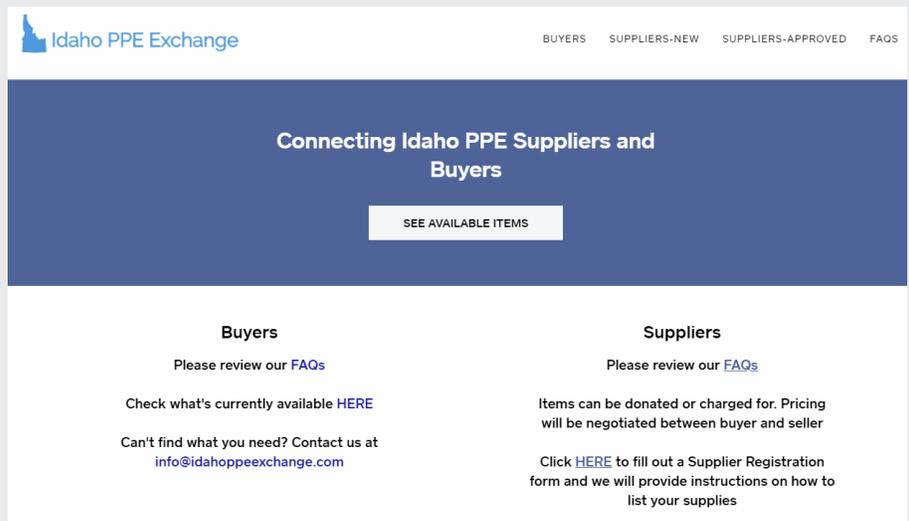


# IDAHO PPE EXCHANGE LINKS IDAHO BUYERS WITH LOCAL PPE MANUFACTURERS

During the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, one of the most immediate needs that every person, business, and entity had was how to get a hold of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Smaller Idaho-based health care professionals and first-responders found it difficult to compete in the acquisition of necessary PPE at a fair price. Likewise, many local suppliers, both commercial and non-profit, had stepped up to meet that need, but did not know how to find buyers. This is where the Idaho PPE Exchange (IPX), a non-profit site, created a forum for these entities to find one another.

“Think of it as a Craigslist-style market place specifically tailored to find PPE for Idaho,” said John Hale, one of the site creators. “If Idaho is the last mile in the supply chain, then my hometown in the Panhandle is at the end of the trail. We needed to improve access, shorten the supply chain, and lower the price. We stood this up to help smaller organizations find reasonably priced, locally sourced PPE.” Hale added that while local suppliers are the site’s priority, the site also lists national firms for larger orders.

The exchange is live and currently lists over 100 PPE or pandemic related items that includes everything from sneeze guards and hand sanitizer to face shields, masks, and thermometers. The site has been active since early April and is updated as new items become available. Hale said the site has already enabled purchases within 50 miles of production at great savings. “There is a lot of price gouging by national firms. We ask the local suppliers to give priority to Idaho and keep the price within reason. Its honor based, with no legal obligation, but the commitment to fairness so far has been incredible.”



## Check here for Today's Available Supplies

Below is an updated list of currently available supplies. Please make sure to scroll to the right inside of the table to see all available information about each product. You can also download the entire list as a .CSV file at the bottom of the embedded database. If you can't find what you are looking for, contact us at [info@idahoppeexchange.com](mailto:info@idahoppeexchange.com).

Current Supplies List												
	Date	Product Description	QTY	Lead	Free?	Loc...	Supplier Co...	Comp...	Contact N...	Email	Phone #	Product Li
1	8/18/...	Boot and Shoe and Hair Covers	100000	7	No	Boise	Bouffant Caps. Please see website for images and details. Many more products ...	Q Branch	Kyle Burzota	tuscan@qbranch.com	Please email	<a href="https://collections/">https://collections/</a>
2	8/18/...	Boot and Shoe and Hair Covers	114000	7	No	Boise	Shoe Cover with Traction. Please see website for images and details. Many ...	Q Branch	Kyle Burzota	tuscan@qbranch.com	Please email	<a href="https://collections/">https://collections/</a>
3	4/16/...	Boot and Shoe and Hair Covers	100000	10	No	Boise	Boot and Shoe and Hair Covers.	Belden Nu'uvalli LLC	Isaac Belden	isaac@bandnsolutions.com		

Buyers and sellers are encouraged to visit [www.idahoppeexchange.com](http://www.idahoppeexchange.com). Potential sellers can apply through the “Supplier-New” portal.

# MEMBERS OF IOEM RECEIVE IDAHO DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL



At the annual Idaho Emergency Managers Association February meeting, Dale Nalder and Mike Clements received the Idaho Distinguished Service Medal. The Idaho Distinguished Service Medal is one of the Idaho Military Division's highest awards and is presented for exceptionally meritorious service. The medal highlights those members who demonstrate excellence in carrying out duties of particular responsibility or significance on behalf of the state of Idaho.

Thank you to both Dale and Mike for your service to Idaho!



# FEMA PARTNERS RECOGNIZED AT THE CAPITAL

## Governor Brad Little recognizes FEMA and IOEM team members for their work on 2019 Spring Flooding

In January, Governor Brad Little recognized members of the FEMA/IOEM Joint Field Office that were integral in the response to Idaho spring flooding in 2019.

In April of 2019, Idaho experienced flooding so extreme that it received a Presidential Disaster Declaration in Adams, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, and Valley counties, and the Nez Perce Tribe. These jurisdictions had been affected by severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides. The declaration made federal funding available for emergency work and the repair to State, Tribal, and local governments, as well as certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged. In addition, FEMA and IOEM set up a Joint Field Office (JFO) to manage the disaster and its aftermath. It was the staff of this JFO that were recognized by the Governor for their service.

"The members of the Joint Field Office recognized today, from FEMA and the Idaho Office of Emergency Management (IOEM), are dedicated public servants that are absolutely deserving of this distinction," said IOEM Director Brad Richy. "I am grateful for their dedication to the citizens of Idaho."

Honorees included Dolph Diemont - FEMA Federal Coordinating Officer, Tom Tobin - FEMA Public Assistance Emergency Management Program Specialist, Frank Evola - FEMA Public Assistance Program Delivery Manager, Jarod Dick - IOEM Recovery Coordinator, and Rob Feeley - IOEM North Central Area Field Officer.

Jarod Dick, Recovery Coordinator for IOEM stated, "It was nice for the Governor and our respective agency leadership to recognize the partnership between FEMA and IOEM to assist our local jurisdictions impacted by disasters. Being able to provide support during times of hardship is rewarding, and having that reinforced by state leaders is much appreciated."



## MAIJA REED NAMED IOEM PLANS SECTION CHIEF



Congratulations to Maija Reed, who was announced as the IOEM Plans Section Chief! Maija has been with the IOEM for 6 years. In her free time she enjoys crafting, learning how to fold new types of paper airplanes, and spending time with her two sons and husband.

"I'm excited to be able to help carry on the great work that's being done in the Plans Section as the Section Chief," Maija stated, "It's an honor and privilege working with an incredible team of IOEM Planners and state agency partners, all doing our part to plan, prepare, and respond to disasters to keep those we love in Idaho safe."

Congratulations to Maija!

## IOEM WELCOMES NEW TRAINING AND EXERCISE SPECIALIST

Janelle Olberding joined the IOEM team in January as the Training and Exercise Specialist. Before joining IOEM, Janelle worked in a variety of fields, including public relations, education, and public health. During her six years as a public health preparedness program coordinator in Montana, Janelle was responsible for developing public health preparedness and response plans, conducting public health training and exercises, and issuing agency communications for some of the state's smallest and largest counties.

Janelle is a graduate of the University of Montana and Norwich University. She spends much of her free time pursuing her passion for history through reading, writing, and research. She published her first book, *Butte and the 1918 Influenza Pandemic* – an exploration of Butte, Montana during the Spanish flu pandemic – in 2019. She's traveled across Montana and the Midwest to present her research at various conferences and workshops. A native of the Idaho Panhandle, Janelle enjoys traveling and exploring the mountains of Idaho with her daughter and their over-energetic dog.



## JOSH MCINTOSH - NEW NORTHEASTERN AREA FIELD OFFICER

Josh McIntosh recently achieved a new position at IOEM as the Northeastern Area Field Officer! Josh has a diverse background with significant experience in both law enforcement and construction facilities inspections both in the United States and overseas, including the United Kingdom, France, and Turkey.

An Idaho native, Josh graduated from Centennial High School and attended Boise State University and the Idaho Post Academy. While working at the Boise County Sheriff's Office, Josh and then Sheriff Ben Roeber started the County's K9 program.

In his new role, Josh works closely with the local emergency managers and facilitate close working relationships between the state, local, and Tribal levels.

When not in the office, Josh spends his free time woodworking and working on residential remodeling projects.

Congratulations Josh!



## RYAN BENDER - NEW NORTH CENTRAL AREA FIELD OFFICER



We are thrilled to welcome Ryan Bender to the IOEM team as the North Central Area Field Officer! Prior to starting this new role, he spent the last seven years at Public Health - Idaho North Central District (PH-INCD) in the Public Health Preparedness Division, both as the Healthcare Liaison and Preparedness Planner. Through that position, he had the opportunity to work with various community partners to help strengthen the local healthcare system's ability to respond to disasters and emergencies.

Before that, he spent six years as the Outreach Coordinator for the University of Idaho Education Division. He moved to Lewiston Idaho in 1999 and graduated from Lewis-Clark State College shortly after. He is married with two children. Ryan and his wife enjoy camping and coaching their children in youth sports activities.

## IOEM WELCOMES NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT!



Hope Allen joined the IOEM team as the full-time administrative assistant! Originally from Texas, she grew up in a military family as the oldest of 5 children and lived in several states before settling in Alaska for 7 years. Hope graduated from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks with a degree in Psychology and a minor in Criminal Justice. She spent her years as a student working in Human Resources and as a Resident Assistant for incoming freshman. Hope recently moved to the Boise area and has enjoyed getting to explore Idaho for the first time. In her free time, she enjoys reading, taking pottery classes, and travelling with her friends and family whenever possible.

Congratulations Hope, we are so excited to have you here with us!

## IOEM WELCOMES NEW PLANS MEMBER!

Delanie Edmunds joined IOEM in the Plans Section this summer, where she is currently participating in plan updates.

Originally from Reno, Nevada, she has made Boise her home and become heavily involved in the Treasure Valley community. During the winter months she is a nationally recognized ski instructor at Bogus Basin. She has worked for IOEM since late last summer in the mitigation section, reviewing county mitigation plans.

In her free time Delanie enjoys exploring Idaho and participating in a local running group. More recently she has been honing her skills on at home activities like sewing and board games. She tends to be on the move and ready to try new things. We are so excited to have her join us!



## GREAT IDAHO SHAKEOUT

This previous spring the state of Idaho has seen a significant amount of seismic activity. Never has it been more important to prepare yourself for the possibility of an earthquake. Share this learning opportunity with your friends, family, and workplace to prepare the people in your life for the next Idaho earthquake.

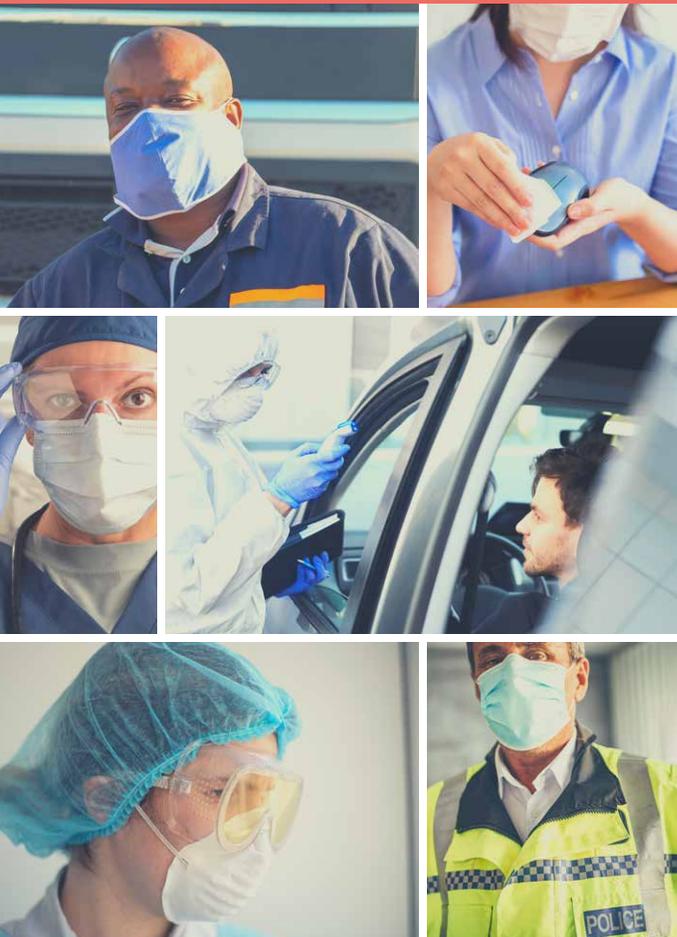
The Great Idaho ShakeOut is on its way! The Great Idaho ShakeOut is taking place on October 15th, 2020. You can register at <https://www.shakeout.org/idaho/register/>.

A promotional graphic for the Great Idaho ShakeOut. It features a blue background with a yellow diagonal stripe at the bottom left. The text "Shake Out. Don't Freak Out." is written in large, bold, white and yellow letters. Below this, "October 15, 2020" is written in white. The website "www.ShakeOut.org" is written in yellow on the yellow stripe. The "Shake Out" logo is in the bottom right corner, with "Shake" in white and "Out" in yellow.



**Idaho Office of Emergency Management**  
4040 W. Guard Street  
Boise, Idaho 83705

## EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER – IDAHO'S RESPONSE TEAM



# THANK YOU

*To all of Idaho's COVID-19 response team that have been hard at work to protect and prepare the state!*

For our **Employee of the Quarter** this time around, we are proud to **recognize all of the essential employees that have been a part of Idaho's response team!** COVID-19 took the world by storm, and Idaho was no exception. Our response efforts rested upon collaboration from essential personnel from all across the state. Without the good faith efforts of these countless individuals, we could not have had the level of response that we did. **Thank you for your continued effort as we respond to COVID-19.**