The University of Georgia Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) provides a comprehensive emergency management program for the University of Georgia in order to save lives, protect property, promote continuity of operations, and reduce the overall effects of large-scale disasters. This annual report reflects major programs, initiatives and training during fiscal year 2021 (July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021).

Major Accomplishments

- Developed and facilitated two in-person COVID-19 Pandemic tabletop exercises for the campus Medical Oversight Task Force and the COVID Triage Team members in preparation for fall semester
- Successfully completed the renewal process with the National Weather Service to continue UGA’s national Storm Ready Campus certification
- Assisted with the overall planning and coordination efforts for the University’s response to the COVID-19 Pandemic including the development of mandatory faculty/staff training modules, drafted the return to campus safety guidelines, served as the campus liaison to state public health officials, facilitated several weekly, administrative touchpoint calls, assisted the University Health Center to prepare for mass vaccinations, and facilitated several claims for reimbursement through the Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Added 111 new members to the UGA Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) program, and OEP coordinated the use of the MRC volunteers for local and campus COVID response activities (368 members overall)

Program Initiatives

- Coordinated 10 new Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) units on campus
- Hosted 30 student ambassadors for the academic year who participated in National Preparedness Month virtual activities and shared information about LiveSafe with student organizations
- Completed the updates to the UGA Athletic Association’s golf course, soccer, softball, baseball and tennis venue emergency action plans

Service and Outreach

- Distributed nearly 162,000 pieces of personal protective equipment (PPE) to campus departments and local entities
- OEP staff participated in over 20 campus, community and regional boards and committees
- Continued to market the LiveSafe mobile safety app by adding over 1,000 new users (6,153 total registered users)
- Provided training to over 3,400 students, faculty, staff, and parents through 108 training sessions
- Conducted 26 CPR/AED certification classes and 11 bleeding control classes resulting in nearly 400 trained campus volunteers
- Expanded the Stop the Bleed program with the addition of 32 bleeding control kits (total of 622 kits on all campuses)
- Partnered with the UGA Disability Resource Center (DRC) to create a comprehensive emergency preparedness checklist for students who utilize DRC services
- Managed the Kassinger Scholarship application process and awarded one $3,000 scholarship to a graduate candidate from the UGA Police Department

Note: Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, many of OEP’s normal activities, training and initiatives were suspended during the fall and spring semesters, which reflects a decrease in overall training and other activities when compared to previous years.