

B01 – Executive Summary

The Lake County Emergency Operation Plan (LCEOP) is one part of the County's emergency preparedness effort. The LCEOP describes how the County prepares for and responds to emergencies and disasters across the County. The Plan recognizes that coordination and collaboration are cornerstones of effective response, yet allows necessary flexibility in the response.

Lake County works to prevent, prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against emergencies and disasters of all kinds in accordance with the National Response Framework (NRF) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

The LCEOP has several components. The basic (umbrella) plan (B01-B03) provides a framework for response. The Plan includes seven core functional annexes (C01-C07) that are implemented for most incidents, and sixteen additional functional annexes (F01-F16) that may be implemented as needed based on the incident. The LCEOP also contains four hazard-specific annexes (H01-H04) that detail specific roles in narrowly-defined situations, various resource materials (R01-R06), and crosswalk tables to the National Response Framework Emergency Support Functions (X01) and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Plan Development Review requirements (X02).

Lake County and partner jurisdictions have many capabilities and resources that are applied to minimize or eliminate the loss of life and damage to property during emergency or disaster situations. Additional assistance is available through mutual aid agreements, private sector resources, and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA).

The LCEOP assumes that initial and primary response to disasters or emergencies is the responsibility of Lake County Officials, in collaboration with other local jurisdictions. If local resources are overwhelmed, further assistance from the State and Federal Governments is requested. State and Federal disaster assistance efforts supplement local Lake County and partner resources, but do not supplant the responsibility of the local jurisdictions.

When warranted, the County Board Chairman or successor may declare a disaster for Lake County. A local disaster declaration allows the Chairman to suspend the provisions of any County ordinances, rules, and regulations when necessary to improve the response to and recovery from a disaster, subject to certain restrictions as authorized by "The Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act."

All available government and private resources are utilized to respond to emergency and disaster situations. The Lake County Emergency Operation Center (LCEOC) operates as both a Unified Area Command (UAC) for County Resources and as a Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS) to manage resources for Lake County and partner jurisdictions.