



2021 ANNUAL REPORT



A grayscale background image of a modern building with large windows. The text "BOONE COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION CENTER" is visible on the building's facade. The image is slightly blurred and serves as a backdrop for the text overlay.

“

*Our mission is to provide a
comprehensive and integrated
emergency management system
that coordinates community
resources to protect lives, property
and the environment through
mitigation, preparedness, response
and recovery from all natural and
man-made hazards that may
impact our county.*

”

2021 was the year that gave our community a combination of surges of COVID-19 case positivity and vaccines. We are very proud of our Boone County communities who have continued to handle the global COVID-19 pandemic, coming together as neighbors, and rallying around our first responders and health care workers.

The Boone County Office of Emergency Management was able to stand down from daily COVID-19 business and start back towards our regular missions of community preparedness outreach, planning and building partnerships in the Boone County community.

As always, we would like to encourage every resident of Boone County to make preparedness personal by getting involved in their community and to maintain a state of preparedness at home. Our office offers the Boone County community the chance to get involved by joining our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) with its goal to educate people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact them and to train them in basic disaster response skills. A more prepared community will ultimately be a safer and more resilient community.

The Boone County Office of Emergency Management will be here for you if you need us.

Regards,

Chris Kelley

Deputy Director

Boone County Office of Emergency Management

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

ABOUT OEM

In April 2013, the citizens of Boone County voted to establish a 3/8th sales tax to fund the development of a dedicated emergency management department and expand the existing 911/Joint Communications department and services.

The Boone County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is identified by the Boone County Commission to perform emergency management functions for the county. The goal of the office is to save lives, protect property and conserve the environment from all-hazards using a comprehensive whole-community approach.

Protecting our community from disasters is not accomplished alone. The OEM works with a vast network of local, regional, state and federal partners. Additionally we work with non-profit and private groups to ensure all facets of our community are prepared.

Emergency management is a continuous cycle with four phases—preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation. Most activities performed by the office fall within the preparedness phase, including emergency planning, grant management, resource and equipment acquisition and maintenance, training and exercises, and community outreach and engagement. The best way to protect our community from the impacts of disaster is empowering our citizens with the skills and knowledge needed for individual preparedness.



During the response phase of a disaster, OEM works directly with first responders and other community partners in the Emergency Operations Center to coordinate incident prioritization, resource management, situational awareness and information sharing to increase effectiveness and efficiency.

Following the response phase, the focus shifts from response to recovery activities. Did you know the recovery phase of a disaster can last years? During this time, OEM uses information gathered during the response phase to secure possible state and federal assistance for the jurisdiction. They will also coordinate with community organizations to fulfill unmet needs of individuals in the areas of housing, social services and human services.

After a disaster strikes, there is always an opportunity to improve. This is where mitigation comes in, which aims to reduce the impacts of disasters. Mitigation solutions can be simple or complex but all yield the same results—a safer, more resilient community.

In this report, you will learn about what OEM accomplished through each of these phases in 2021.

FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS • BUILDING RESILIENCY

OEM STAFF

OEM is comprised of seven full-time employees and one part-time specialist. In addition to the dedicated funding provided by the Boone County sales tax, fifty percent of salary costs for approved positions are funded through the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) program.

The office welcomed Matt Brown to the office who was hired as the Training & Exercise Specialist July 2021.



CHAD MARTIN

ECC Director*



CHRIS KELLEY

Deputy Director*



ELIZABETH THOMPSON

Planning & Preparedness Specialist



HANNAH WICHERN

Mitigation & Recovery Specialist



MATT BROWN

Training & Exercise Specialist



SHERRIL GLADNEY

Part-Time Specialist



DELLA LUSTER

Admin. Coordinator*



BARTON MESSER

Admin. Assistant

**Indicates EMPG funding eligible position.*

GRANT MANAGEMENT

2021 AWARDED FUNDS

Due to the continuing pandemic, some federal grant cycles were extended. EMPG was extended for 6 quarters to include the first two quarters of 2021. This change will also extend into 2022. Below is a description of the grants OEM applies for each year.

Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) - \$213,075.50

The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) is the largest grant received by OEM. This grant program is integral to supporting the National Preparedness System and achieving the National Preparedness Goal by ensuring state and local governments have access to the resources required to prepare for all-hazards. EMPG funding in Boone County is used to cover 50% of payroll and benefits of EMPG eligible personnel and 50% of outdoor warning siren maintenance.

State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) - \$5,218.00

The State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) grant is one of the three grant programs provided by the Homeland Security Grant Program created to support the National Preparedness System. Funding is utilized for deployable equipment and resources to support our county, our region, or nationally. This year, SHSP funds were used to purchase generator accessories and provide annual generator load testing.

The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) is comprised of two representatives from each of the following disciplines; fire safety, law enforcement, transportation, emergency management, healthcare, hospitals, state and local elected officials, media, community organizations, health and environmental safety, and business owners and operators.

OEM not only sits on the committee as a voting member, but also supports the administrative needs by providing an LEPC Coordinator to assist with meetings, budget, grant application and documentation needs.

Chemical Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) - \$11,111.02

Missouri established the Chemical Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) to help the Missouri Emergency Response Commission (MERC) and Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) meet the guidelines established by the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act and related state and federal statutes regarding hazardous materials. Funding is used to provide training and exercises, conduct flow studies, hazard analysis or purchase response equipment.

OUTDOOR WARNING SIREN SYSTEM EXPANSION

In 2021, OEM installed five new outdoor warning siren sites throughout the County. These sites were selected due to the identified coverage gaps in the area. The total cost for the expansion was \$119,643.00. With these additions, it brings the number of outdoor warning sirens in the county to 93.

The five new outdoor warning siren locations are listed below:

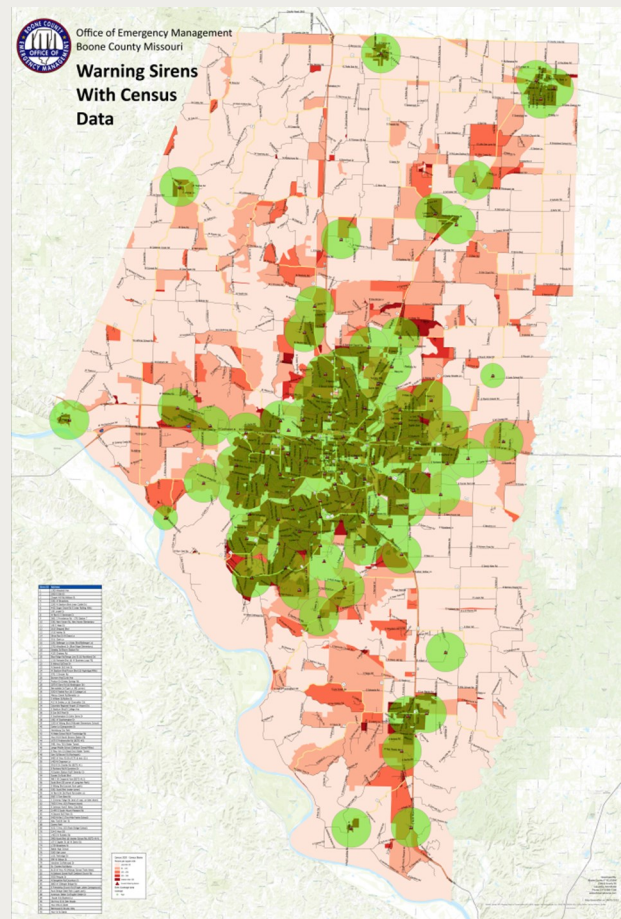
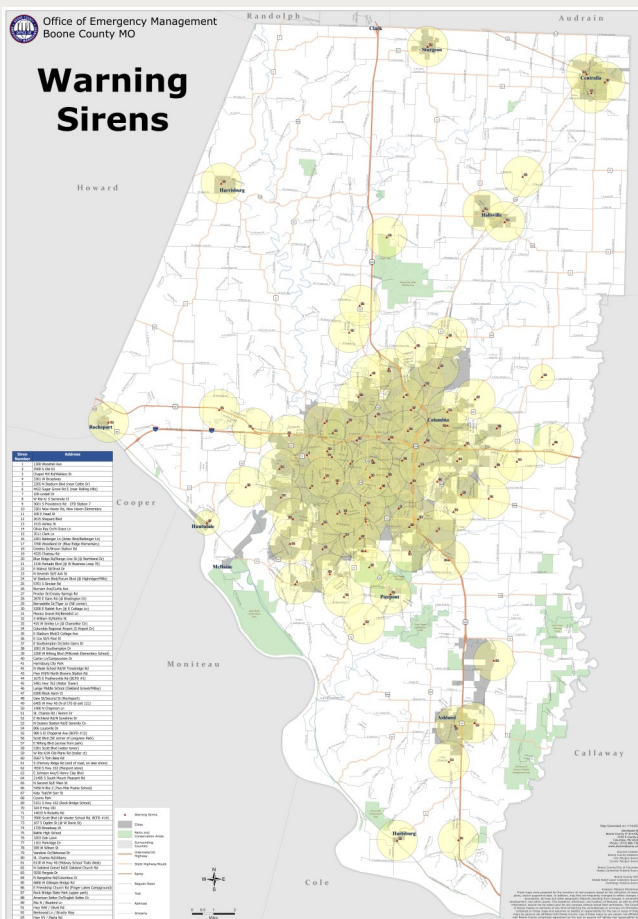
- Bluebird Lane near Route N (site number 89)
- Dee Woods Road near Old Highway 63 (site number 90)
- Olivet Road near Highway WW (site number 91)
- Bentwood Lane near Brushy Way (site number 92)
- Starla Road near Highway VV (site number 93)

Outdoor warning sirens are funded through the taxpayer approved sales tax passed in 2013.

All of Boone County's outdoor warning sirens are tested the first Wednesday of each month at 12:00 PM weather permitting.

For a full list of Boone county's siren locations visit:

<https://www.showmeboone.com/oem/resources/sirens.asp>



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)



Boone County Office of Emergency Management proudly adopted the Online CERT hybrid learning model developed by the University of Utah School of Medicine in 2020 to continue offering CERT Basic Training despite pandemic limitations. In 2021, an additional 13 individuals completed the online training.

The team completed 450 collective hours of service and training throughout the year. The team distributed preparedness information to pet stores, veterinary offices and clinics around the County as part of the “Are you P.E.T Ready” preparedness campaign; assisted the Columbia/Boone County Public Health & Human Services Department raise awareness for community vaccine clinics, and served as ushers at the funeral for Boone County Fire Protection District Assistant Fire Chief Bryant Gladney.

CERT covered a variety of training topics this past year including:

- Disaster Medication Operations
- Storm Spotter Training
- Disaster Psychology & Psychological First Aid
- Disaster Response for Animals

The team also completed a disaster medical operations exercise, and recertified in core skills training such as CPR and Stop the Bleed training.

In July, Elizabeth Thompson (CERT Program Manager) and CERT member Tish Dwiggins attended the National CERT Conference in Springfield, MO. During the conference, the State Emergency Management Agency Director, James Remillard and Governor Mike Parson thanked CERT members for their commitment to helping their communities prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters.

The team is looking forward to doing more in 2022. To follow along with CERT’s activities or get involved, visit:



Photo credit: <https://www.facebook.com/profile/100044594582173/search/?q=CERT>

DISASTER RESPONSE & RECOVERY SUPPORT

In 2021, the OEM continued to support community response and recovery efforts for the Covid-19 pandemic. The focus shifted from mass testing to mass vaccine clinics early in the year. OEM coordinated with the State Emergency Management Agency, the Missouri National Guard, AmeriCorps and the Columbia/Boone County Public Health & Human Services Department to support multiple vaccination clinics.



FEMA Disaster Declaration # DR 4490:
2021 costs reimbursed for equipment usage, vehicle mileage and overtime costs totaled \$83,610.33.

Boone County mass vaccination clinic held at the Columbia Sports Fieldhouse in March 2021.



Boone County experienced an unprecedented rainfall event in June 2021 which flooded many areas of the City of Columbia including Providence Rd. and Twin Lakes Recreation Area. The event was declared a presidential disaster due to the widespread flooding across the state. The Declaration was received on September 14th, 2021. No reimbursements were received in 2021, but will be disbursed in 2022.

Twin Lakes Recreation Area after significant rainfall resulted in flash flooding.

Boone County closed out Disaster Declaration # DR 4451 for flooding experienced in 2019. 2021 costs reimbursed under DR 4451 included materials, equipment and labor totaling \$71,390.45 for the year.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & EDUCATION

OEM was excited to get back to their community outreach and education programs after the hiatus through the pandemic. In 2021, OEM attended 14 outreach events to teach the community about emergency preparedness. This totaled 212 outreach hours in the community. OEM sponsored the Splat Jr. event for the first time ever and estimates a reach of 1,300 adults and children due to participation.

As part of the 2021 outreach education program, OEM developed and distributed information on pet preparedness to pet stores, veterinary offices and clinics around the County with the help of the Boone County CERT during National Pet Preparedness Month in June. OEM was able to reach out to 63 pet organizations.

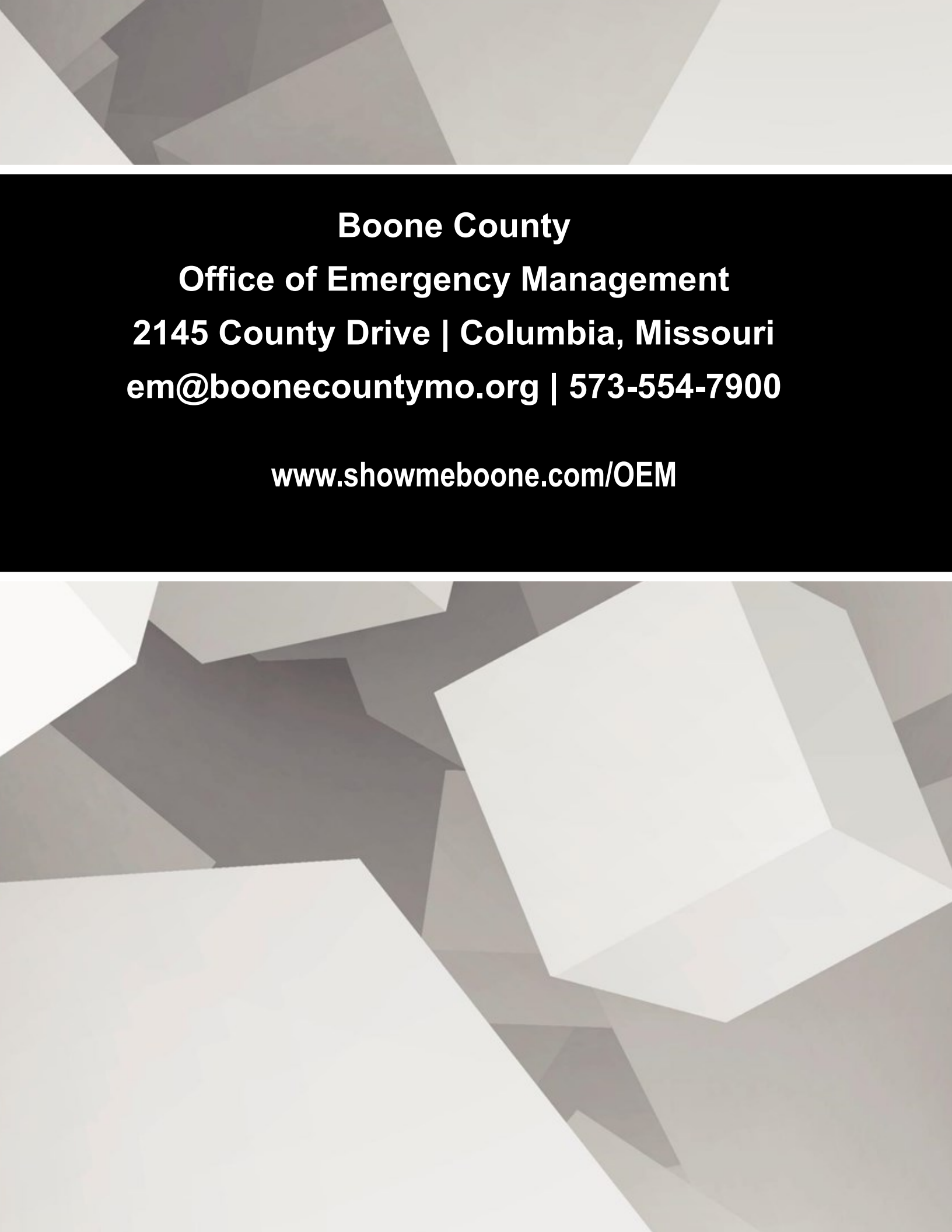


OEM even established their own community outreach event, with the 1st Annual Preparedness Fair on September 11, 2021 to recognize everyday heroes in the response and preparedness fields while fostering preparedness and building resiliency in our community. During the fair, OEM honored the late OEM director, Tom Hurley with the creation of the Tom S. Hurley Public Safety Service Award. The inaugural recipient was James “Jim” Tununik for his contributions to the development of the safety team and emergency operations

plan at the St. Thomas More Newman Center. To learn more about the fair and award, visit: <https://www.showmeboone.com/oem/plan-prepare/festival.asp>



This page is intentionally left blank.



Boone County
Office of Emergency Management
2145 County Drive | Columbia, Missouri
em@boonecountymo.org | 573-554-7900

www.showmeboone.com/OEM