



Confluence serves as an intersection where we share events, interests, and important information about our Center and the state’s all-hazard emergency management pathway programs.



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## WEBSITE REDESIGN FOR [www.coehsem.com](http://www.coehsem.com)

The Center of Excellence for Homeland Security Emergency Management decided to revamp the design of our current website to create a better user experience. By optimizing our website’s theme, speed, and technology, visitors will be able to view the updated site with its new design layout and easy access to information on volunteer/work experience, women in leadership resources, pathway



resources and programs offered by the community and technical colleges.

Our goal for the website redesign is to keep our stakeholders in mind with simplifying navigation, streamlining menus, building a responsive layout for all platforms and providing more resources and information to on our services and pathway programs. Our design team is working to condense information on the current website, write up notes on the layout design to eliminate any sort of information that is too repetitive.

Through discussions, our design team has come up with a new theme to use called Avada. During the construction process, we will be able to reorganize our information that is currently on the online and make it manageable to navigate. By using the Avada theme, we will also be able to have a more mobile-friendly website.

## CENTER’S 2019-2020 PLAN

The Center works to grow and sustain Washington State’s economic advantage through statewide leadership in the industry of Homeland Security Emergency Management. Our annual work plan compromise of activities in areas such as partnerships/collaborations with other Centers of Excellence, career connected pathways, women in leadership, and public safety/criminal justice program enhancement. Each of our activities are required to meet certain expectations and outcomes for our stakeholders, workforce development and industry partners.

The Center is currently developing its 2019-2020 work plan, which consists of focus areas in economic development, sector strategy, education innovation/efficiency, along with supply and demand.



## RE-ESTABLISHING THE HOMELAND SECURITY INSTITUTE



Dramatic changes in society, the economy, and technology are altering Higher Education. These changes affect how students obtain an education and career. Non-traditional learners now outnumber traditional ones. This has made the non-credit arena explode with more program models, technologies, and audiences. As a result, the Center is looking to reestablish the HSEM Institute, which will provide education and training to faculty, industry professionals, and students. The HSEM Institute will assist in the facilitation and coordination of trainings/workshops. The goal is to enhance education in the All-Hazards Emergency Management field (Criminal Justice, HSEM, Occupational Health and Safety, EMT/EMS, Fire Command/Fire Services and Cybersecurity). The Center will collaborate with Pierce College Community and Continuing Education in establishing credit and non-credit courses in areas such as Business Continuity Planning, Food Defense & Security, and Volunteer Coordination in Disaster Management, Crisis Communication, and Mental Health in Disaster Management. These courses will help students, faculty, and industry professionals gain awareness of industry needs, while staying current, and leveraging existing strengths and partnerships. Instructors will be industry experts that can provide a well-developed course and/or trainings that will benefit to those participating.

## SECURING THE SUPPLY CHAIN FORUM

This year, the Center will collaborate with the Global Trade & Supply Chain Management and Allied Health Centers of Excellence to put on the Securing the Supply Chain Forum on October 15 at South Seattle College Georgetown Campus. The theme of this year's Forum is healthcare and the supply chain related to healthcare products. The Forum will help participants understand and discuss supply chain issues and their impact to the public, our healthcare providers, as well as to state and local public health/emergency management officials.





## TURNING VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE INTO WORK EXPERIENCE

Many young people finish college successfully only to find that their resume doesn't have everything they need to land a job in their field. New graduates are advised to remember that their volunteer experience is a great thing to include when building their resume. People who volunteer and/or intern should remember that unpaid work is a valid and helpful thing to exhibit as part of their work experience history. Volunteers are advised to think about what specific list of qualities applies to their history of experience and then gear it towards the field that they are hoping to go into. Someone who is volunteering in their career pathway to gain experience can document their volunteer hours both in long-term weekly volunteer commitments which count more like a part-time job as well as projects over a period of time which could be counted more as an internship.



Disaster volunteer management best practices have changed as volunteer expectations and the reach of nonprofit organizations evolve. The ultimate goal has always been, and will always be, to provide great experiences to volunteers and affect the community in an organized and efficient way. Organizations that have successful advantage trends, utilize technology and adjust to changes have the best chance of recruiting volunteers, retaining them, making a bigger impact and positively touching the bottom line.

When disaster – natural or manmade – strikes a community, specific emergency management and nonprofit organizations automatically respond according to a pre-established plan. Each of these designated organizations has a specific role to play in ensuring an effective response to and recovery from the disaster's devastation. Yet one element within the present system continues to pose a challenge: spontaneous, unaffiliated volunteers. The paradox is clear: people's willingness to volunteer versus the system's capacity to utilize them effectively. The Center will be putting together a work group of experienced Disaster Volunteer Managers to plan/organize a DACUM for the Disaster Volunteer Management Certificate.

This area could be developed for a Certificate or Concentration Topic for a degree program (e.g. HSEM, OSH, Fire Command, EMT/EMS, etc).