

Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Non-Profit Security Grant Program, has awarded the amount of \$49,903.00 to The Emanuel Synagogue. The Emanuel was one of just 43 not for profit organizations in the state of CT to receive a FEMA award!

Following this initial notification in September 2021, to be contingent upon certain conditions, The Emanuel had to submit specific procurement guidelines to follow, which have since been accepted as aligned with the State of Connecticut policy.

On December 13, 2021, The Emanuel was notified, that the required Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) review was complete, and if we agreed to comply with the conditions laid out to remain aligned with National Environmental Policy Act, we were approved to move forward with securing vendors to perform work on the following 3 approved projects:

1) EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM INSTALLATION to successfully communicate to those in the building in event of an unfolding threat and/or emergency. Installed system to be used to notify visitors, congregants, designated ushers and staff of necessary response measures to take in the event of an intruder, threat or other emergency, as well as quickly communicate situation to authorities.

2) IMPROVED EXTERIOR LIGHTING to increase protection/ prevention, aid in deterrence. Previous safety survey had determined the parking lot and surrounding areas to main building's 13 access points and the school wing to be poorly lit, due to under-performing fluorescent wall packs and metal halide lamps in these areas. Monies awarded would go towards replacing designated exterior lights with LED lighting to increase visibility in the parking lot, building access points, and driveway illumination

3) ONSITE SAFETY TRAINING: in base-level security techniques and procedures for all staff and members to properly identify and respond in case of an active threat. Training will address the specific building layout, as well as consider the functional needs of a diverse population that includes young children & those with mobility limitations. Plans include specific certification training of designated volunteers in order to provide ongoing training and practice drills after the initial launch.

The Emanuel is honored to be awarded this grant to help us harden our existing vulnerabilities in front-line and immediate deterrence, detection, notification and response. We believe FEMA's investment in the above projects will now provide The Emanuel with a cohesive security response plan. But now the real work begins to implement the actual projects. For more information, contact Security Grant Project Manager Kobi Benita, Executive Director of the Emanuel Synagogue: kobi@emanuelsynagogue.org

