

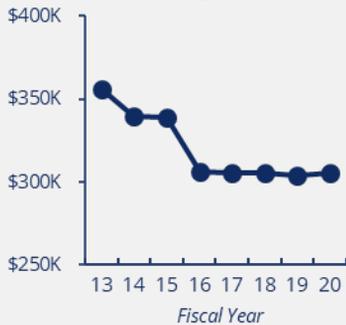


HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

HPP FUNDING

14% decrease in funding
since FY 2013



HIGHLIGHTS

- The U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) uses HPP funding to maintain an emergency preparedness system for the over 100,000 residents of the island chain.
- In the wake of Hurricanes Irma and Maria, USVI HPP staff coordinated with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and health care coalition (HCC) partners to guide recovery of the health care system in the territory.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, USVI strengthened relationships with its Emergency Support Function 8 (ESF-8)/HCC partners who also attended a FEMA Mass Vaccination Workshop to support response efforts.

SPOTLIGHT ON RESPONSE

On August 26, 2019, the USVI Department of Health began monitoring the approaching Tropical Storm Dorian. Medical Needs Shelters and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) were activated on St. Croix as the storm headed towards the island. However, on August 28, the storm's track changed and shifted towards St. Thomas/St. John District. Medical Needs Shelters and the EOC were quickly activated in that area. The HPP Coordinator served as the primary incident commander and led the response when the storm grew to a Category 1 Hurricane.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

- On March 3, the USVI Department of Health (VIDOH) EOC activated after USVI's first COVID-19 case.
- VIDOH stood up bi-weekly meetings with ESF-8/HCC partners to discuss strategies to address COVID-19 within the territory.
- VIDOH undertook an extensive public education campaign about COVID-19 and vaccination (e.g., TV/radio ads, traveler information cards), implemented a territorial COVID-19 testing strategy, created a Port of Entry task-force to address international travel within the region, and distributed large amounts of personal protective equipment (PPE) to hospitals.



1 Health Care Coalition

HCC CORE MEMBER PARTICIPATION

100%
of acute care hospitals

100%
of emergency medical services

100%
of public health agencies

100%
of emergency management agencies

FY19 end-of-year data and HCC count as of 6/30/2020. Participation rate equals # of HCC member organizations divided by the total # of organizations in USVI.