

# CHDS News Digest

## August 10, 2015

### CHDS News

- Executive Leaders Program cohort 1402 finishes its course Thursday, August 13.
- **Alumnae's homeland security lens began with inclusion of people with disabilities into the conversation**  
With a lifetime of experience and 13 years on the job with the Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities, Center for Homeland Defense and Security master's degree alumnae **Angi English** has an important message for emergency managers and policy makers. "Ditch the paternalism and foster inclusion," said English. "Once you make the social connections and foster inclusion, you'll understand that people with disabilities bring a wealth of information, creativity, resiliency and know-how to the table." (CHDS website - <https://www.chds.us/?pr&id=3321>)
- **New York State preparedness program reflects CHDS values**  
The New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) was recently honored for a statewide emergency preparedness program that draws on Center for Homeland Defense and Security classroom concepts. "New York State has developed an innovative program inspired by CHDS that is changing how we look at preparedness," said **Terry Hastings**, DHSES Senior Policy Advisor and alumnus of the Center's Executive Leaders Program. "We're applying insights we learned at CHDS to produce successful programs and those programs are being recognize as exemplary." (CHDS website - <https://www.chds.us/?pr&id=3320>)

### People in the News

- Master's degree alumnae **Sam Phillips** is getting Philadelphia prepared for a visit from the Pope (Phila.'s emergency director gets ready for the challenge of a papal visit - [http://articles.philly.com/2015-07-20/news/64599366\\_1\\_water-bottles-pope-francis-papal-visit#oKrb78jEITCziOzS.99](http://articles.philly.com/2015-07-20/news/64599366_1_water-bottles-pope-francis-papal-visit#oKrb78jEITCziOzS.99))

### CHDS Writes

- Current master's degree student Eric Saylor, Captain with the Sacramento (California) Fire Department writes on the diverse duties of the modern firefighter.  
(A Day in the Life of a Firefighter in California's Capital - <https://medium.com/@ourhomelandnsecurities/a-day-in-the-life-of-a-firefighter-in-california-s-capital-721de6f36b28>)

### Class Notes

- Master's degree and Executive Leaders Program alumnus **James Schwartz** was named Deputy County Manager in Arlington County, Virginia, effective September 8. Schwartz was previously the county's Fire Chief.
- **Jeff Nelson** (MA 1201/1202) has retired from the Contra Costa (California) County Sheriff's Office and has accepted the position of Law Enforcement Consultant to the California's Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST).

- **Gary Kelley** (ELP 1202) was appointed as Inspector General for the Georgia Department of Agriculture on July 16. Prior to the Department of Agriculture, Kelley served for more than seven years as a Deputy Director at the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security (GEMA/HS).
- **Kelly Gottschalk** (ELP 1401) has taken the position of Executive Director for the Dallas Police & Fire Pension System. She was formerly Deputy City Manager in Tucson, Arizona.
- **Michael Reese** (ELP 1001) has retired from the District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department after 30 years of service. Reese is now Deputy Chief with the D.C. Housing Authority.
- **Sandra Keefe** (MA 1003/1004) has been Director of the Mitigation Division for FEMA Region VI. She was previously the division's Deputy Director.

### **On the Hill**

- No hearings are scheduled this week for the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
- No hearings are scheduled this week for the House Committee on Homeland Security.