Over the past few years, the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency has worked to improve and fast-track damage assessments to request a disaster declaration.

This effort is thanks in large part to Chief Information Officer Bob Buseck and his team. Their forward-thinking took a weeks-long assessment process and turned it into days through the implementation of Crisis Track. This software utilizes tax accessor information and GIS mapping to understand the location, value of homes, and soon to include insurance information.

The tool is used by county emergency management directors and even residents who can report damage to their homes through the Crisis Track citizen self-reporting tool.

While Crisis Track’s primary focus is on data collection for individual assistance, this innovation will soon include public assistance and eventually mitigation. The information is valuable in writing disaster declarations and data collection to study areas continuously impacted by severe weather.
MEMA had the pleasure of welcoming our first in-person school tours since the beginning of COVID in March of 2020. Students from Starkville High, Northwest Rankin and Callaway got to see first-hand all the remarkable work that MEMA does every day. The tour was recently revamped to include an interactive disaster scenario with the students along with a drone presentation. A big thank you to the External Affairs, MITS and Operations Teams for helping us welcome those students!

Mississippi recently received a Major Disaster Declaration for Hurricane Ida. The state received Individual Assistance for eight counties and Public Assistance for nineteen counties.

The eight counties eligible to apply for Individual Assistance are Amite, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Pearl River, Pike, Walthall and Wilkinson.

The deadline to apply for Individual Assistance is December 22, 2021!

**MEMA WELCOMES FIRST SCHOOL TOURS SINCE COVID**

**EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH**

**Jasmine Johnson-Divinity**

Jasmine recently executed a successful Earthquake outreach campaign through the Great ShakeOut. Her professionalism is unmatched according to her Preparedness colleagues. In addition to her primary duties, Jasmine also instructs emergency management courses and assisted in writing the County Shelter Support Plan. Her positive attitude is contagious. Congratulations, Jasmine!
MEMA GOES PINK FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

HONORING MEMA'S BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS & FIGHTERS

DR. TWANA FREEMAN-MALLARD
TERESA KENNEDY’S COUSIN
2-TIME SURVIVOR & 7 YEARS IN REMISSION

LINDA HARDY - SUSAN HARDY'S SISTER
30+ YEARS

JANNETTE HARRINGTON - MARK HARRINGTON’S SISTER-IN-LAW
27 YEARS

CHERYL HOOD HINES - ANDREW HOOD’S SISTER
8 YEARS

WINNA HYCHE - HR
4 YEARS & 8 MONTHS

FELISHA JACOBS - IT
1 YEAR

BARBARA MOORE - BRENT BIGBY’S AUNT
IN THE FIGHT NOW

LOU ANNE MORGAN - ANDREW HOOD’S SISTER
7 YEARS

The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency paid tribute to those who have fought a brave fight against breast cancer. We also remember all those who’ve lost loved ones due to the disease. Thank you to Ms. Winna Hyche and her team for organizing the event! Here’s a list of MEMA family members who have fought or are fighting breast cancer.
On average, Mississippi experiences five to six earthquakes a year. Although they can happen anywhere in the State, Northwest Mississippi is particularly vulnerable to earthquake activity. Each year thousands of Mississippians practice their earthquake safety plan during the Great ShakeOut, which is coordinated by the Office of Preparedness’ Earthquake Coordinator, Jasmine Johnson-Divinity. Jasmine along with other members of the Preparedness team visited schools across the Delta to educate students about earthquake preparedness. This year, more than 350,000 Mississippians participated in the Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drill at 10:21 AM on Thursday, October 21. This number surpassed last year’s participation by more than 100,000! Thank you to Jasmine and the Office of Preparedness for making this year’s ShakeOut an incredible success!