

Bay Area UASI-funded Regional Area Data Sharing Project – FAQ's

What is the Project for? Bay Area UASI recently received approval from Cal OES to proceed with a National Priority Project (NPP) grant, for a Regional Data Sharing Project across the Bay Area. The purpose of two-phased project is to develop an information collection and dissemination tool for automated Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) threat detection, including automated alert and warning system (via FirstWatch www.firstwatch.net), for the (12) counties and three core cities that are within Bay Area UASI; as well as Northern California Regional Intelligence Center (NCRIC) and also tracking potential Opioid OD's for the Northern California High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (NC HIDTA) teams.

How long does funding last? This project was approved by the Bay Area UASI Approval Authority as well as the FEMA/Cal OES agencies, using UASI monies, for an initial term of 3-years. Additional sustainability funds (beyond initial 3-year term), is currently being explored by the project team.

Who is invited to participate? This two-phased project will include invitations to the following law enforcement partner agencies in Phase 1: San Francisco PD, San Jose PD, Oakland PD, Alameda Co SO, Santa Clara Co SO and in Phase 2 law enforcement agencies in the following (9) counties will be also be invited to participate: Contra Costa, San Mateo, Sonoma, Solano, Santa Cruz, Monterey, Marin, Napa and San Benito.

Who else will be invited to participate? The project partners will include your SO (or PD) team, as well as CAD (dispatch) team, public health, emergency medical services and fire agencies. The selected partners will be working with FirstWatch to develop a real-time situational awareness and threat detection dashboard & alerting tools for your agency and our trusted public safety partners.

What's in it for my agency? The benefits of taking part in this Regional Data Sharing Project will be realized by all participating County and City stakeholders, which include:

- Encourage cooperative partnership between public health and safety sectors
- Increased Situational Awareness, for each participating team & also across the Bay Area regionally.
- Automated Early Warnings provided to public safety stakeholders re: notifications of potentially concerning CBRNE events, as well as to public health for spikes in fatal or non-fatal overdoses
- Improve data-driven decisions through the automated analysis of CAD incident data, as well as overdose frequency and Narcan administration
- Analysis of ODMAP data that supplies context to overdose response strategies' effectiveness

Who owns the data? The owners of the Law Enforcement, EMS, and Fire data are in complete control of who (or what agency) is allowed to view, or analyze their data. FirstWatch manages the process for viewing privileges with direct correspondence to you and the other agencies that own the data. Likewise, the level of detail available to partner agencies is dictated by the data owners, for example, names, locations, dates, and times of events, as well as addresses. The sources for the data are Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) and electronic patient care records (ePCR), which FirstWatch is already gathering through data sharing agreements and contracts at the local level.

How will our data be used? The NCRIC/HIDTA plans to analyze the regional data and make inferences between local suspicious activity reports (SARs) and local first responder actions, then share that information with affected jurisdictions for a regional approach to public safety. Data owners will receive pre-analyzed data from FirstWatch, supplying greater situational awareness of public health and public safety threats.

Who else will see our data? Based on granted permission levels, regional users may be epidemiologists and mental health professionals tracking the emergence of new drugs and connect frequent users of the 911 system with active interventions. A better data-sharing relationship will exist between fire, law enforcement, public health, crime labs, coroner/medical examiners, and mental health agencies.

Why FirstWatch? FirstWatch is already used by many EMS and fire agencies throughout the Bay Area as well as nationally across the USA & Canada (<https://firstwatch.net/>). This project would enhance the overall system and intelligence available to law enforcement and other public safety teams. Under the grant, your agency along with your local public health, EMS and fire would be able to identify alerts related CBRNE (e.g., fentanyl overdoses or incidents). We suspect your emergency management teams will also find FirstWatch useful in other areas too.

What is OD Maps? The NCRIC/HIDTA effectively uses the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP), supplying geospatial data to track the frequency and severity of drug overdoses in our region. Overdose data collected by FirstWatch will feed directly into ODMAP to provide near real-time data relative to fatal and non-fatal overdoses. The data points used by ODMAP are date, time, location, drug type, fatal/non-fatal data, and Narcan administration. Personal identifying information is removed in the data collection and is not transmitted to ODMAP. Locations of the event are generalized to prevent identification. Access to ODMAP is controlled and reserved for those on a need-to-know basis.

What are our Next steps to participate? FirstWatch will work with your team, as well as the Bay Area UASI, NCRIC and NC HIDTA teams, to schedule an online meeting for Project Introduction & Project Overview. Additionally, FirstWatch will coordinate the any and all meetings required to discuss Law CAD data integration processes, answer all questions and even provide overview demo's of the FirstWatch system (dashboards and other tools) for your Law, EMS & Fire teams.

OK, we're "IN" – whats next? Once your teams agree to participate in the Regional Data Sharing Project, FirstWatch will create and send a Data Sharing Agreement for your teams review & execution. This Data Sharing agreement is required in order to enable FirstWatch to interface with and share County SO, City PD, EMS and Fire data from Law, EMS & Fire CAD & EMS ePCR data systems with the regional partners. This project also includes having EMS leverage FirstWatch to securely move the required OD Maps data elements (from EMS ePCR data systems automatically over into the OD Maps platform, via the OD Maps API.

Who are our Project Contacts, if we have questions?

David Rocha, Project Manager

Bay Area UASI (CC SF DEM)
(415) 850-4794
david.a.rocha@sfgov.org

Mike L. Sena, Executive Director

NCRIC & NC HIDTA
(415) 725-1000
msena@ncric.ca.gov

Marc Baker, Partner/VP

FirstWatch Solutions, Inc.
619-977-4785
mbaker@firstwatch.net

Terry Fitch, Director of Sales

FirstWatch Solutions, Inc.
760-658-9868
tfitch@firstwatch.net

Carl Hess, Medical Liaison Officer

NCRIC
(415) 407-8849
chess@ncric.ca.gov

Karen Sherwood, Deputy Director

NCRIC & NC HIDTA
415-558-2599
Ksherwood@ncric.ca.gov

Katelyn Gilligan, Project Manager

FirstWatch Solutions, Inc.
951-719-0176
kgilligan@firstwatch.net

Sally Olson-Nelson, Region Mgr. CA

FirstWatch Solutions, Inc.
760-658-9867
snelson@firstwatch.net