

## STATE OF WASHINGTON OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE

January 3, 2023

Bainbridge Prepares PO Box 11402 Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Dear Bainbridge Prepares Team:

Please accept my sincerest congratulations on Bainbridge Prepares' receipt of the International Association of Emergency Management-USA's (IAEM-USA) 2022 Emergency Management Voluntary Organization of the Year Award. This is an outstanding recognition that reflects the incredible work of your organization throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

When COVID-19 first appeared in Washington state, the lives of our communities were disrupted and altered in ways far beyond our imagination. Through it all, dedicated volunteers worked tirelessly to provide critical support to those in need and protect the health of the public.

Bainbridge Prepares' efforts, in partnership with the City of Bainbridge Island, the Bainbridge Island Fire Department and the Bainbridge Island Community Pharmacy, to facilitate vaccination clinics for Washingtonians played an important role in helping our state combat the virus and return to some sense of normalcy. On behalf of Bainbridge residents and people across Washington, thank you for this remarkable demonstration of public service and patriotism.

While COVID-19 remains, our state can emerge from the worst days of the pandemic in a position of strength. This is in no small part thanks to the powerful displays of collective action, epitomized by Bainbridge Prepares, seen across Washington over the past few years.

As I have often said, Washington is a great state because we always find a way to meet the moment. Bainbridge Prepares embodies that spirit and serves as a source of inspiration for all who call this place home.

Again, thank you. I look forward to seeing the positive impact Bainbridge Prepares has on our island community for years to come.

Very truly yours,

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