

## **CHALLENGE: No Secure Web Portal for Financial Services Sector**

ChicagoFIRST, a regional public-private partnership initiated by the financial community after 9/11, has identified the lack of a secure web portal as a critical gap in its ability to plan and respond effectively to emergencies.

While ChicagoFIRST currently uses an external website that is hosted through the Financial Services Information Sharing and Analysis Center (FS-ISAC), it is unable to support secure document handling, work group areas, and messaging requirements of the members and strategic public sector partners.

## **APPROACH: A Secure Web Portal for Regional Coalition**

The project will leverage the Department of Homeland Security's Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) as the digital platform for secure storage and built-in geographic information system (GIS) capabilities. HSIN, unlike other digital information sharing platforms, facilitates information sharing through multiple levels of government and the private sector.

Once fully developed, the secure web portal will serve different functions before, during, and after emergencies. Before emergencies, the portal will be used by cybersecurity, physical security, business continuity, and regulatory working groups to collaborate on their all-hazards planning efforts. During emergencies, the portal will be used to post real-time redacted information from city, county, and/or State emergency operations center systems for events that have specific operational impact on critical infrastructure. After emergencies, the portal would also be used to provide information on the City of Chicago's Business Recovery Access Program credentialing system, which allows building engineers and technology infrastructure staff to have special access to cordoned areas to perform health checks at their sites.

## **NEXT STEPS: Development and Implementation**

A successful solution will provide the needed functionality while incurring minimal ongoing operational costs for the not-for-profit regional coalitions. ChicagoFIRST is currently in the contract approval stages with the National Institute for Hometown Security (NIHS) and has begun working with its regional HSIN Advocate to secure a local government sponsor and to develop preliminary requirements for the portal. ChicagoFIRST strives to offer the solution to 20 local coalitions at project completion.

