Disaster Response and Recovery

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Alisa West Cahill, LSW
Canavan Associates
Why is Disaster Preparedness Important?

• Disasters Happen:
  – 9 out of 10 U.S. residents live in moderate-to-high risk areas for damaging wind, earthquakes, flooding, hurricanes, volcanic eruptions, or wildfires.
  – FEMA responded to >450 major natural disasters and emergency declarations between 2003 and 2008
Why is Disaster Preparedness Important to HUD Continuums of Care?

• CoCs provide vital services to 1.6 million people throughout the year.
• Poverty is a major factor influencing disaster risk.
• CoCs are uniquely situated to help ensure the CoC and consumers are represented in all phases of disaster management.
Directory of Disaster Response and Recovery Resources

• Directory Goals:
  – Provide CoCs a guide to developing disaster preparedness plans
  – Help CoCs better understand the disaster response and recovery process
  – Enhance CoC capacity to respond and recover from disasters by providing an inventory of potential resources addressing both organizational and individual needs
  – Encourage coordination and collaboration between CoCs and the disaster response organizations
Directory Highlights

• Overview of the National Response Process
• Preparedness Steps and Resources for CoCs
• Resources for Organizations
• Resources for Individuals
Overview of the National Response Process

- Why an Understanding of the National Response Process is Important to CoCs
- Disaster Response Sequence
- Disaster Assistance Sequence
Overview of the National Response Process

- Section 2.1

Importance of the National Response Process to Continuums of Care (CoCs)

Awareness by CoCs of the larger response and recovery process can increase coordination and collaboration with disaster/emergency organizations. Increased coordination and collaboration between CoCs and the disaster/emergency sectors can also:

- Increase awareness in both sectors of the strengths and needs each bring to the response and recovery process.
- Increase awareness by CoCs and disaster/emergency organizations of CoC roles in the response and recovery process, leading to an increased likelihood of a coordinated response and recovery effort.
- Increase awareness among CoCs of response and recovery resources and the mechanisms that trigger such availability.
- Increase opportunity for comprehensive disaster/emergency preparedness and planning.

- Section 2.2

Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act


Communities are responsible for the protection of residents and local emergency response forces will always be the first line of defense when a disaster strikes. However, when local and State resources are overwhelmed, the Stafford Act seeks to provide an orderly and continuing means of assistance by the Federal Government to State and local governments.

FEMA responded to over 450 major natural disasters and emergency declarations between March 2003 and December 2008.

— U.S. Department of Homeland Security
National Response Sequence

• Readiness-to-Act
  – Effective response requires “readiness to act” balanced with an understanding of risk by individuals, households, communities and local, Tribal, State, and Federal governments.

• Response begins locally and if the need exceeds capacity, advances to State and ultimately a Federal response.

Local → State → Federal
Disaster Response Sequence

1. Federal Resources
   May deploy in advance of the incident

2. Incident Occurs

3. Local First Responders
   Arrive on scene and notifies elected/appointed official

4. Elected/Appointed Official activates local EOC and requests mutual aid and State assistance

5. Governor
   Activates State EOC and:
   - Assesses damage
   - Requests EMAC or other interstate mutual aid
   - Requests Presidential declaration

6. FEMA Region
   Evaluates situation and Governor’s request

7. FEMA Administrator
   Assesses situation and Governor’s request and makes a recommendation

8. President
   Declares a Major Disaster/Emergency

9. Response Teams and Other Resources Deploy

10. Joint Field Office provides unified coordination of response resources
Disaster Assistance Sequence

• Progressive Model:
  – Insurance
  – Community resources
  – Low interest disaster loans
  – State and Federal resources
Preparedness Steps and Resources

• Risk Management
  – Identification of critical resources
  – Identification of potential risks to resources
  – Identification of potential impact to resources should risks happen
  – Implementation of control measures to lessen risks
Preparedness Steps and Resources

• Jeopardy-Risk Assessment Institute
• Developing a Disaster Plan: Assessing Weakness, Discussing Options, Planning Strategy
• Uses of HMIS to Support Disaster Operations and Recovery: Lessons Learned from Katrina/Rita
• Disaster Technical Assistance Project Information on HUD efforts to assist HMIS implementations and CoCs affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita
• A McKinney-Vento Toolbox: Constructing a Robust and Rigorous Homeless Education Program in Case of Disaster and Every Day
• Disaster Planning for People Experiencing Homelessness
Do You Know?

• What is the #1 disaster across the U.S.?
• Which HUD region experiences the most disasters?
• Which states experience the most disasters?
• Do the CoC and EMA/OES/OEM contacts know each other?
• Do you, does your organization, does your CoC have a preparedness plan?
Resources for Organizations

Section 4.1

Disaster Management Organizations

Coordinated Assistance Network (CAN)

CAN is a reorganization partnership among some of the nation’s leading nonprofit and disaster relief organizations. Working in tandem with state and local relief agencies such as Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), CAN is forging partnerships models for disaster recovery and preparedness in the U.S. CAN works with over 200 disaster-affected partners as well as numerous Regional and local partners. The CAN Steering Committee includes partners from the Alliance for Information and Referral Systems (AIRS), American Red Cross (ARC), Catholic Charities USA, Lutheran Disaster Response, National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), North American Mission Board, Safe Harbor, The Salvation Army, United Way of America, and the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). FEMA also attends the CAN’s Steering Committee meetings.

CAN partners participate in community-led preparedness and response coalitions that focus on the most effective ways to apply resources that will serve those in need during and following a disaster/emergency. CAN provides a vehicle for organizations to securely share up-to-date information about services and resources. The function of inter-organizational data sharing can reduce the need for consumers to request information at each new agency/program/service, thus streamlining and expediting service delivery.

Additional information for the disaster/emergency-related programs/services can be found from one or several of the below resources:
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (www.fema.gov)
- State and local Emergency Management Web sites
- Airports
- Trains
- Waterways
- Highway
- Airports
- Emergency Management information
- National Centers for Disease Control (www.cdc.gov)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (www.fema.gov)
- State and local Emergency Management Web sites
- Airports
- Trains
- Waterways
- Highway
- Airports
- Emergency Management information

For more information:
Phone: (301) 202-5825
Email: can@nfas.org
Web: www.can.org
Resources for Organizations

- Disaster Management Organizations
- Disaster Preparedness
- Disaster Relief and Recovery Programs and Services
- HUD Specific Programs (grant re-programming)
Disaster Relief and Recovery Programs and Services for Organizations

• Progressive model:
  – Insurance
  – Community resources
  – Low interest disaster loans
    • Business Physical Disaster Loans
    • Economic Injury Disaster Loans
    • Mitigation Loans
  – State and Federal grant assistance
    • Public Assistance (debris removal, emergency protective measures, permanent restoration of infrastructure)
    • Hazard Mitigation Assistance
Go-To Resources for Organizations

- Local Information and Referral service, which may be 2-1-1.
- Local or State Office of Emergency Services/Management (OES/OEM) or Emergency Management Agency (EMA). For a listing of State Offices and Agencies of Emergency Management: [http://www.fema.gov/about/contact/statedr.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/about/contact/statedr.shtm)
- National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD) to locate a State VOAD
  Phone: (703) 778-5088. Email: info@nvoad.org
  Web: [www.nvoad.org](http://www.nvoad.org)
- FEMA Helpline at: (800) 621-FEMA (3362).
- Disaster Recovery Centers.
HUD Specific Programs: Grant re-programming

• CoC
• Community Development Block Grants
• HOME (HOME Investment Partnership Program)
Resources for Individuals

Section 5.1
Disaster Preparedness

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program provides basic disaster preparedness and response training to community members at minimal or no cost. CERT recognizes that immediately following a disaster first responders may not be able to reach everyone due to factors such as the number of victims, communication failures, and road blockages. CERT provides community members basic skills to help each other immediately following a disaster until professional help arrives.

CERT training can be accessed by individuals, groups, programs, and agencies. The training includes disaster preparedness, basic disaster medical care, light search and rescue, disaster psychology and team organization, and a course review that concludes with a disaster simulation exercise.

To identify if there is a CERT program in your area, visit http://www.attorney.gov/cert/.

Individual/Family Preparedness Plan

Individuals and families are encouraged to have, practice, and update a basic preparedness plan that can aid them in the ability to safely and quickly respond to a disaster. Key aspects of a disaster plan may include information on:

- Local hazards and emergencies and appropriate response
- Community warning systems
- Evacuation options

Additional resources for the majority of disaster/emergency-related programs/services include the following:
- www.disasters.gov
- Local fire station and police service, which may be 9-1-1
- Local office of Emergency Services Management (OESM) or Emergency Management Agency (EMA), for training of local office and agencies of Emergency Management: http://www.mass.gov/ema/estadoe/ems.htm
- National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) to locate a State VOAD: Phone (703) 578-1566. Find VOADs at www.voanet.org
- FEMA Helpdesk at 1-800-427-9000 (TTY 1-800-462-7585)
- Disaster Recovery Centers
Resources for Individuals

- Disaster Preparedness
- Disaster Relief and Recovery Services
- Key Organizations and Programs
Disaster Relief and Recovery Services for Individuals

• Progressive Model:
  – Insurance
  – Community resources
  – Low interest disaster loans
    • Home Disaster Loans
  – State and Federal grant assistance
    • Unemployment
    • The other SNAP: Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
    • Individual Assistance (housing, personal property, moving and storage, medical and dental, other needs)
Go-To Resources for Individuals

- www.disasterassistance.gov
- Local Information and Referral service, which may be 2-1-1.
- Local or State Office of Emergency Services/Management (OES/OEM) or Emergency Management Agency (EMA). For a listing of State Offices and Agencies of Emergency Management: http://www.fema.gov/about/contact/statedr.shtm
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Additional Resource Information

• Care Tips for Survivors of a Traumatic Event
• Select Components of the National Response Framework
  – Emergency Support Functions # 6 and #14: Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing and Human Services and Long-term Community Recovery
  – Volunteer and Donations Management Support Annex
• Disaster Specific Information and Safety Tips
What Can You Do Now to Enhance Disaster Response and Recovery?

• Individuals
• Programs/Organizations
• Organizations
• CoC