

Children and Disasters: An Integrated Approach to Disaster Planning, Preparedness, Response and Recovery

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Background

- Administrator Fugate established FEMA's Children's Working Group in August 2009.
 - Responsible for leading FEMA's efforts, in partnership with other Federal agencies and non-governmental organizations, to ensure that the needs of children were considered and integrated into overall disaster planning, preparedness, response and recovery efforts initiated at the federal level.
 - Federal and non-governmental organizations worked hand in hand to support one another's efforts, building genuine relationships and a strong foundation for supporting our state, local, tribal, territorial, and external partners during disaster operations.



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Background

- Actions and resources to address children's disaster related needs are now embedded throughout all applicable offices within FEMA.
- FEMA continues to work closely with federal, state, local, tribal, territorial, and non-governmental partners to actively address the needs of children and families before, during, and after disasters.
- In July 2015, FEMA designated a technical expert to focus primarily on the needs of children in disasters.



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Planning, Grants & Training

- Children's disaster related needs have been integrated into numerous planning and guidance documents.
- FEMA partnered closely with our federal partners to support the development of emergency preparedness planning guidance for juvenile justice, child care, and educational facilities.
- DHS/FEMA's Homeland Security Grant Program Guidance provides clarification as to how grant dollars may be used by state, local, tribal, and territorial jurisdictions to ensure that the needs of children are met through disaster planning.
- Training modules were developed to provide emergency managers and implementers of pediatric programs with guidance on meeting children's disaster needs.



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Youth Preparedness

- Children are positive influencers - Educators and social researchers agree that children can effectively bring the message of preparedness home to their families.
- Children can become leaders - By participating in youth preparedness programs, children are empowered to become leaders at home and in their schools and communities.
- Children who are prepared are more confident during emergencies and disasters. Social science research and anecdotal evidence support the idea that children who have learned about emergency preparedness experience less anxiety during an actual emergency or disaster.



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Response & Recovery

- Infant and toddler supplies are available to support state, local, tribal, and territorial governments during Presidentially declared disasters.
- FEMA's National Sheltering System (NSS) has the capability to enter and report on specific populations under the age of eighteen residing in a shelter.
- Reunification resources were established to facilitate the expeditious reunification of children separated as a result of disaster with their parents/legal guardians.
- Federally funded Crisis Counseling Program allows for the inclusion of a Child Coordinator.
- FEMA's Child Care Services Fact Sheet identifies certain child care services that may be eligible for reimbursement under FEMA's Public Assistance Program.



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Response & Recovery

- The Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013 (SRIA) provides FEMA the authority to pay for eligible child care expenses as disaster assistance under the Other Needs Assistance (ONA) provision of the Individuals and Households Programs (IHP).
- FEMA supports housing related requests that pertain to children and families through the respective state/tribe led Disaster Housing Task Force.
- The long term recovery needs of children and their families are addressed through various Recovery Support Functions within the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF).
- National partners continue to collaborate closely together during disaster operations to support state, local, tribal, and territorial disaster response and recovery efforts.



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FEMA's Strategic Plan

- Priority #1 Be Survivor Centric in Mission and Program Delivery
 - *State, local, tribal, and territorial leaders/officials are better prepared and positioned for effective recovery and mitigation.*
 - *Individuals and communities know the steps to take, have the tools required, and take appropriate actions before, during, and after disasters.*
- Priority #2 Become an Expeditionary Organization
 - *Unified and coordinated Federal response and recovery operations successfully support and complement state, local, tribal, and territorial incident operations.*
- Priority #3 Posture and Build Capability for Catastrophic Disasters
 - *Partnerships, tools, and resources are in place to support national-scale response and recovery operations for catastrophic disasters.*



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Resource Information

- Appendix A: FEMA Youth Preparedness
- Appendix B: Family Preparedness
- Appendix C: Emergency Planning Resources
- Appendix D: Response & Recovery Resources
- Appendix E: Coping with Disaster
- Appendix F: Training Resources
- Appendix G: U.S. Department of Education Resources
- Appendix H: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Administration for Children and Families



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Appendix A – FEMA Youth Preparedness

- Technical Assistance (TA) Center

FEMA offers a full range of TA services to individuals starting or operating youth preparedness programs. Technical Assistance providers answer questions, refer to FEMA and partner-created tools and resources, and make connections between providers across the country to facilitate best practice sharing.

- Youth Preparedness Council

FEMA's Youth Preparedness Council brings together youth leaders from across the country that are highly engaged in championing youth preparedness and making a difference in their communities.

- National Strategy on Youth Preparedness

Created mutually by FEMA, the American Red Cross (ARC), and the U.S. Department of Education (ED), the National Strategy for Youth Preparedness Education (National Strategy).



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Appendix B – Family Preparedness

- Emergency Preparedness Curriculum for Families
- Family Plans can be found on Ready.gov
- Emergency Preparedness Resources for Children with Disabilities and Special Health Care Needs and Their Families
- Feeling Safe, Being Safe
- America's PreparAthon
- Ready.gov/kids



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Appendix C – Emergency Planning Resources

- Comprehensive Preparedness Guidance (CPG) 101 Version 2
- The Children in Emergencies Planning Guide
- Lesson's Learned Information Sharing (LLIS) Children and Disasters resource page
- Protecting Children in Child Care During Emergencies
- Disaster Planning and Recovery Basics for child care facilities
- Information Memorandum for Lead Child Care Agencies
- Child Safety Guidance for Emergency Evacuation Shelters and Local Assistance Centers
- Department of Education: Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance Center



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Appendix C – Emergency Planning Resources

- School Crisis Guide
- The Texas School Safety Center
- Emergency Planning for Juvenile Justice Residential Facilities
- Mega-Shelter Planning Guide
- Post Disaster Reunification of Children: A Nationwide Approach
- Great ShakeOut
- National Preparedness Goal
- Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Supplemental Resource – Children and Disasters Guidance
- Design and Construction Guidance for Community Safe Rooms



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Appendix D – Response & Recovery Resources

- Commonly Used Sheltering Items (CUSI)
- Standards and Indicators for Disaster Shelter Care for Children
- National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC): National Emergency Child Locator Center (NECLC) and Team Adam
- Unaccompanied Minors Registry (UMR)
- Public Assistance for Child Care Services Fact Sheet
- SRIA: Child care eligibility as disaster assistance under ONA
- Public Assistance Program and Educational Facilities Fact Sheet
- NDRF



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Appendix E: Coping With Disaster

- Coping with Disasters
- The National Child Traumatic Stress Center
- National Center for School Crisis and Bereavement
- Online Clearinghouse Quick Find on Crisis Prevention and Response
- Promoting Adjustment and Helping Children Cope
- Talking to Children About Disasters
- How to help children cope with disasters
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
Helping Children Cope with Disaster
- Journey of Hope: Tips for Teens is a resource to support teens faced with recovering from an emergency incident



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Appendix F: Training Resources

- Planning for the needs of Children in Disasters IS-366
- Multi-hazard Planning for Childcare IS-36
- Introduction to the Incident Command System, I-100 for Schools IS-100.SCa
- Multi-hazard Emergency Planning for Schools IS-362.a
- Tracking and Reunification of Children in Disasters: A Lesson and Reference for Health Professionals
- Community Mass Care and Emergency Assistance G 108
- Mass Care and Emergency Support for Field Operations E 411



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Appendix G: Department of Education Resources

- Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance Center (TAC)
- New Federal Guidance
- REMS Web Site
- Training by Request
- Samples of Virtual Trainings & Webinars
- REMS Toolbox
- Developing Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs) K-12 and IHE 101 Training
- Resilience Strategies for Educators: Techniques for Self-Care and Peer Support
- Threat Assessment in Schools: Basics and Benchmarks



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Appendix H: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families Resources

- HHS Disaster Human Services Concept of Operations
- Early Childhood Disaster-Related Resources
- Children & Youth Task Force in Disasters: Guidelines for Development
- Office of Human Services Emergency Preparedness and Response webpage



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Questions?



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