

[MUSIC]

Stories of...

Safer

Stronger

Communities

ICP Awards

Outstanding Individual and Community Preparedness

Fifth Annual Recipient of

The John D. Solomon

Whole Community Preparedness Award

Ready Montana Program

Betsy Miller: So our office developed the whole-community disaster simulation a couple of years ago.

And it's a role-playing exercise that's designed for the public to kind of give them a taste of the importance of preparedness and also some of the response efforts that directly follow a disaster.

And so, as participants come in they can be assigned to a variety of different roles—maybe they are disaster survivors, they might be unaffiliated spontaneous volunteers, they might be a member of the local media, and then for the next two hours during that simulation they have to act according to that role.

Montana as a whole, we have wildfires, floods, which have been the primary focus of the simulation. So we've done it with both scenarios, where a town has suffered either a wildfire or a flood and so the participants have to react to that scenario.

After the disaster simulation, the participants were more prepared for disasters, knowing what to put in their kits, knowing some of the steps to take after a disaster, and knowing the community resources that are available to them.

We'll just keep pushing towards that overall preparedness.

[MUSIC]

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FEMA