

ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL

Meeting the needs of children after disaster: How will YOUR community meet the needs of children after disaster

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Former Commissioner National Commission on Children and Disasters

Utah February



What Do
you see?

Children are 25% of the general population, but...

- **Disaster training, exercising, medicines and equipment are generally intended for able-bodied adults**
- **Children placed into broad categories: “at-risk” “vulnerable” or “special needs” populations**
- **Shortfalls in meeting children’s needs apparent in recent disasters: H1N1, American Samoa, Haiti, Hurricane Irene, and East Coast October Nor’easter**



Commission Purpose

- **Assess needs of children related to preparedness, response and recovery from all-hazards and emergencies**
- **Report gaps and recommendations to the President and Congress**

Commission Background

- **Independent:** Authorized by Congress under Federal law; not tied to any agency
- **Bipartisan:** 10 members appointed by President, Senate and House leaders
- **Diverse:** Expertise drawn from several disciplines: pediatrics, state and local emergency management, non-governmental organizations, and state elected office



NATIONAL COMMISSION
ON
CHILDREN AND DISASTERS

2010 REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS
OCTOBER 2010



NATIONAL COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND DISASTERS

www.childrenanddisasters.acf.hhs.gov

National Strategy for Children and Disasters

- **All levels of government should:**
 - Integrate children across all phases of disasters
 - Designate a permanent focal point for coordinating children's needs
 - Encourage relationship building and cooperation *prior* to disasters
 - Build on existing capabilities and requirements
 - **Require Accountability:** institute goals and progress monitoring measures
 - **Stress everyone has a role:** Feds, states, locals, non-profits, private sector, parents and even children

Shelter Operations

- Provide a safe and secure mass care shelter environment for children, including access to essential services and supplies.
- National Standards and Indicators for Mass Care Emergency Shelters
 - Adopted by FEMA, American Red Cross
 - Incorporated into shelter assessment tools
 - Examples include:
 - Children sheltered together with their families or caregivers
 - Designated area for families away from general population
 - Temporary respite care for children



http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is366.asp

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IS-366 Planning for the Needs of Children in Disasters

Course Date

1 June, 2010

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to provide guidance for Emergency Managers and implementers of children's programs about meeting the unique needs that arise among children as a result of a disaster or emergency.

TAKE THIS COURSE

[Interactive Web-based Course - EMI learning site](#)

TAKE THIS EXAM

[Take Final Exam Online](#)

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/courseOverview.aspx?code=is-366>

Shelter Supplies

- **Shelter Supply List for Infants and Toddlers**
 - **Identifies basic supplies necessary to sustain and support 10 infants and children <4 years of age for a 24 hour period.**
 - **Examples: Formula, baby food, diapers, feeding bottles, cribs, portable playpens, high chairs**

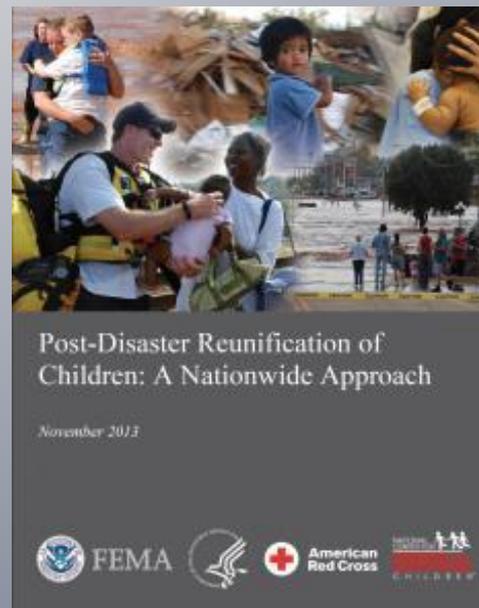


A portable crib is considered a COT on the Approved equipment List (AEL)

Evacuation and Tracking

- **Contracts with private entities should ensure evacuation and transportation needs of children**
- **Evacuee and patient tracking systems include data relevant to identifying children**
- **Health and human service agencies must have legal and technological capabilities to share information**

Signed and released Oct 31. 2013



Current GAPS

- Many current plans do not address family reunification
- Legal issues related to sharing information have not been addressed
- Different systems, evacuee vs patient
- Privacy laws
 - Myths
 - Maybe as important if not more important during a disaster



Welcome to the Unaccompanied Minors Registry

If you locate an unaccompanied minor, **please call your local law enforcement agency immediately.** Then complete the following.

The Unaccompanied Minors Registry supports the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) by allowing the public to report information related to children who have been separated from their parents or legal guardians as a result of a disaster. This tool will enable NCMEC to provide assistance to local law enforcement and assist in the reunification of displaced children with their parents or legal guardians. If you experience any trouble reporting online, please contact NCMEC 24-hours a day, at 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678).

An unaccompanied minor is a child who has been separated from parents, legal guardians, and other relatives and is not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for doing so.

This site is a secured site. UMR uses Secure Socket Layer (SSL) technology to encrypt information on this application over the internet.

[Start Reporting](#)



Save the Children.

Disaster-Report-2013

STANDARDS MET	STATE	EVACUATION/ RELOCATION PLAN	FAMILY-CHILD REUNIFICATION PLAN	CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS PLAN	K-12 MULTIPLE DISASTER PLAN
4	Alabama	*	*	*	*
	Arkansas	*	*	*	*
	California	*	*	*	*
	Connecticut	*	*	*	*
	Hawaii	*	*	*	*
	Kentucky	*	*	*	*
	Louisiana	*	*	*	*
	Maryland	*	*	*	*
	Massachusetts	*	*	*	*
	Mississippi	*	*	*	*
	Nebraska	*	*	*	*
	New Hampshire	*	*	*	*
	New Jersey*	*	*	*	*
	New Mexico	*	*	*	*
	New York	*	*	*	*
	Tennessee	*	*	*	*
	Utah	*	*	*	*
	Vermont	*	*	*	*
Washington	*	*	*	*	
West Virginia	*	*	*	*	
Wisconsin	*	*	*	*	
Wyoming	*	*	*	*	

Unaccompanied minors

While a child can become unaccompanied at anytime there are routine times that should be planned for:

- Daycare (including family)
- Schools
- Camps
- Juvenile Justice Facilities
- and more

NEVER AGAIN!!!!



*Photo courtesy of National Center
for Missing and Exploited Children*

Mental and Behavioral Health

- **Integrate mental and behavioral health for children into public health and medical emergency plans and activities**
- **Enhance pediatric disaster mental and behavioral health training for professionals and paraprofessionals**





When we follow the child's lead...



thoughts and concerns are expressed in play



**Their
world is
broken**

Child Physical Health and Trauma

- **Ensure availability and access to pediatric medical countermeasures at the federal, state and local level**
- **Expand the medical capabilities of all federally funded response teams through the comprehensive integration of pediatric-specific training, guidance, exercises, supplies and personnel**

Child Physical Health and Trauma (cont.)

- **Ensure all health care professionals who may treat children during an emergency have adequate pediatric disaster clinical training**
- **Fund a formal regionalized pediatric system of care for disasters**
- **Ensure access to physical and mental health services for all children during recovery from disaster**

EMS and Pediatric Transport

- **Improve the capability of EMS to transport pediatric patients and provide comprehensive pre-hospital pediatric care**
 - **States meet performance targets of EMSC program**
 - **BLS and ALS vehicles equipped with recommended pediatric equipment and supplies**

Child Care Disaster Preparedness

- Require disaster planning capabilities for child care providers
- Improve capacity to provide child care services in the immediate aftermath of and recovery from a disaster
 - ❖ FEMA will reimburse state and local governments and private nonprofit organizations for child care provided in shelters or stand-alone facilities during the emergency sheltering period. *FEMA FACT SHEET 9580.107*
 - ❖ HHS Childcare Resources for Disasters and Emergencies
 - ❖ Emergency Preparedness and Response Resources for Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) Grantees
 - ❖ NACCRA guidance for child care providers.



63% of parents will disregard an evacuation order and go directly to their child's school or daycare

Disaster Case Management

- **States should develop a DCM program that is appropriately resourced to provide consistent holistic services that achieve tangible, positive outcomes for children and families.**

Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice

- **Assist child welfare agencies in meeting current disaster planning requirements and require collaboration with key stakeholders**
- **Develop disaster planning guidance for state and local juvenile justice systems**



EMERGENCY PLANNING

FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES



Suggested Child-Focused Checklist for States

- **Include needs of children in disaster training, exercises and after action reports**
- **Designate individual as children's needs coordinator**
- **Include child tracking and family reunification procedures in emergency plan**
- **Include child-serving systems (schools, child care, juvenile justice, mental health) in state disaster planning**
- **Provide safe shelter environment for children and families, including access to essential age-appropriate supplies**

Suggested Child-Focused Checklist for States (cont.)

- **Capability of emergency personnel to transport children and provide effective pre-hospital pediatric care**
- **Capability of hospital Emergency Departments to provide effective care for children**
- **Basic psychological first aid training for emergency personnel to assist children**
- **Access to medical countermeasures for children and an effective plan to distribute countermeasures**

Suggested Child-Focused Checklist for States (cont.)

- **Disaster plans for state child care administrators**
 - Evacuation, reunification, children with disabilities or special medical needs, training and drills
 - Stand up emergency child care
- **Identify resources within and outside the state to address surge in needs for children...especially health and mental health needs**

Suggested Child-Focused Checklist for States (cont.)

- **Long-term disaster recovery plan for children and families**
 - Includes family-appropriate housing, schools, child care, mental health, medical care, child welfare, juvenile justice and court facilities

2010 Report: Reference Materials for States

- **Appendix C: Model Executive Order or Resolution Creating a Cabinet on Children and Disasters and a Children and Disasters Advisory Council**
- **Appendix D: Children and Disasters: the Role of States and Local Governments in Protecting This Vulnerable Population**
- **Appendix E: Standards and Indicators for Disaster Shelter Care for Children**
- **Appendix F: Supplies for Infants and Toddlers in Mass Care Shelters**

Commission Overarching Messages

- **Children are not simply “small adults”**
- **Children are the center of family and community**
- **Disasters are especially disruptive to children**
- **Children as assets, not liabilities, in disasters**
- **Recovery more than rebuilding infrastructure**
- **Disaster planning is a shared responsibility**

Opportunities to utilize 2014 grant monies



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY**

FISCAL YEAR 2014

**HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT
PROGRAM**

**SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCE: CHILDREN
IN DISASTERS GUIDANCE**

Youth Preparedness Education Programs



STEP: Student Tools for Emergency Planning

4th & 5th Graders

High School Students

LEM: Leadership in Emergency Management



FEMA

STEP

Student Tools for
Emergency Planning



What is STEP?



4th + 5th Grade

Emergency Kits & Plans

Made for Schools

Free to schools

1 hour commitment

Ready to teach

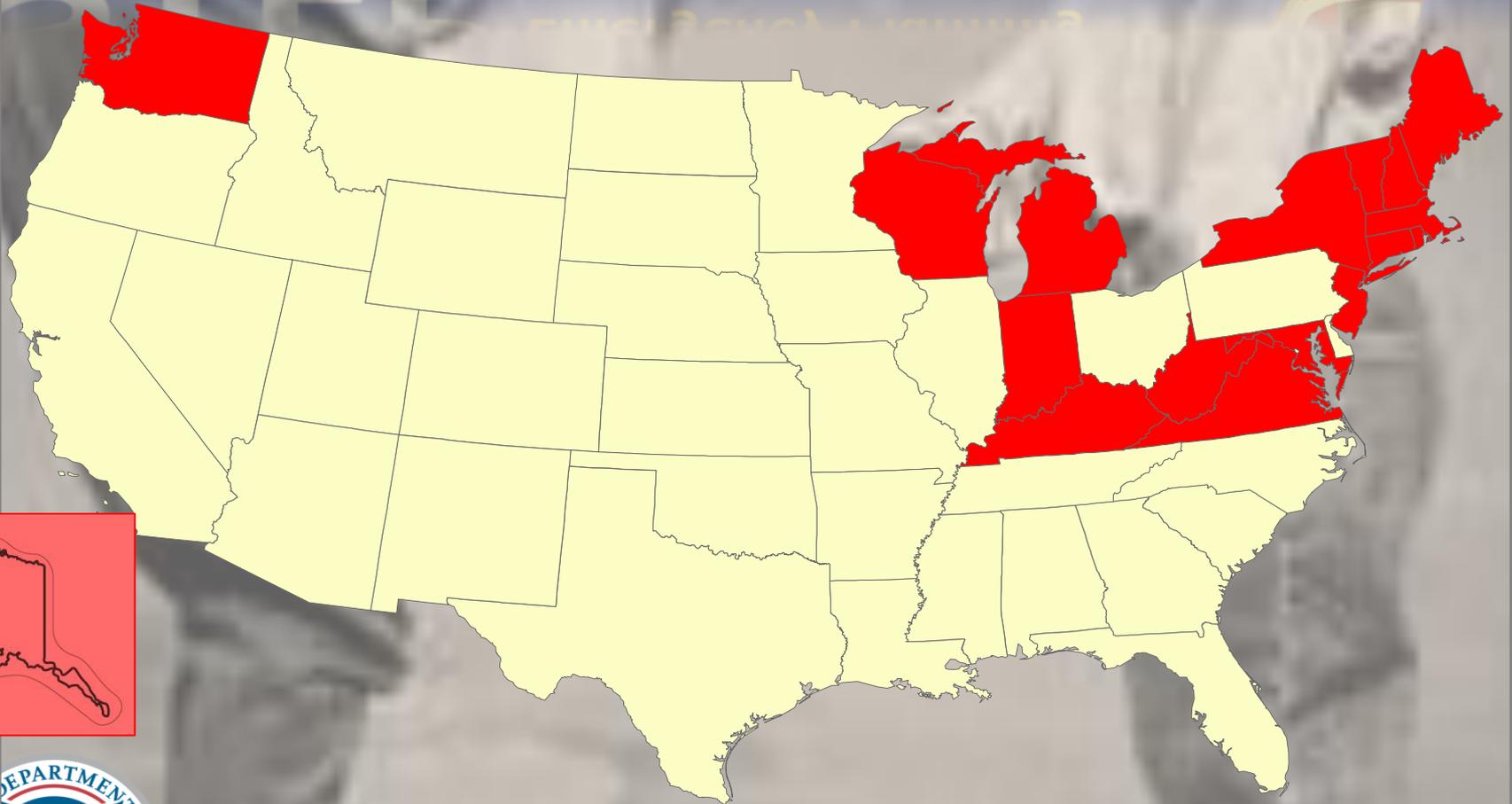
Aligned with state,
national standards



FEMA

STEP

Student Tools for Emergency Planning



FEMA

Currently Rolled out in FEMA Regions:
I, II, III, V, and X

High School Emergency Preparedness Education: Leadership in Emergency Management



Targeted to Summer Camps
Ages 15-18

Students Role Play Leadership
Positions in Reality Based
Disaster Scenarios

Students learn about and
develop emergency
preparedness plans for their
families

training



FEMA

High School Emergency Preparedness Education: Leadership in Emergency Management

Why is LEM appealing to camps?

- ✓ Is free to camps
- ✓ Requires various lengths of lessons
- ✓ Provides lifesaving skills to students
- ✓ Provides instructors with all the instructional materials needed
- ✓ Designed in an easy to teach format
- ✓ Supplemental Lessons can be taught by outside instructors

Supplemental lessons designed for state and national standards.



FEMA

IAEM Committed



World Festival

SAVE THE DATE **FIRST** CHAMPIONSHIP

April 23-26, 2014 | April 22-25, 2015 | April 27-30, 2016 | April 26-29, 2017 | St. Louis, Missouri

Thank you to our FLL World Festival Sponsor



2013 NATURE'S FURY Challenge



Prepare. Stay Safe. Rebuild



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www.childrenanddisasters.acf.hhs.gov

Thank You
For Your Commitment to Children !

