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Building Resilient Communities: An Online Training

User's Guide and Audio Transcript

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User's Guide

This document contains brief descriptions of the three sections of the training and describes what users can expect to learn after completing each section.

How is this training organized?

This training includes an introduction, an in-depth description of what community resilience is, and a set of action items that can be implemented to build community resilience. The specific content under “What is community resilience?” includes the following: 1) the principles of resilience and 2) the differences between resilience and emergency preparedness.

The action items are divided into two tracks: 1) an *organization* track containing nine activities that organizations can implement to build resilience and 2) a *community* track containing seven activities that coalitions and whole-community planning teams can implement to build resilience.

A more detailed description of the content is contained below.

Figure 1. Navigational Map of the Training Topics and Content



Each action item covers: (1) how it contributes to resilience, (2) what you are currently doing, and (3) what else you could be doing.

What can I expect to learn from this training?

Introduction

This section describes the purpose, target audiences, and navigation features for the training. The primary topics covered in the introduction are

- community resilience definition
- description of why community resilience is important
- overview of the purpose of the training
- description of the target audience
- primer on how to navigate through the training.

What is community resilience?

This section is a more detailed and interactive exploration of community resilience with two topic areas:

- Moving Beyond Emergency Preparedness – A summary of how the community resilience approach differs from traditional emergency preparedness.
- Becoming More Resilient - A description of four core principles of community resilience:
 - Learning from the Past: This principle includes voices of experience from resilient communities and a description of what a resilient community looks like.
 - Accounting for Assets: This principle includes brief case studies that demonstrate how government and nongovernment assets have been identified and leveraged for disaster response and recovery.
 - Taking Action at Every Level: This principle describes the importance of action at the individual and organizational levels and across the whole community.
 - Shortening Recovery Time: This principle describes examples of strategies used by communities to shorten their disaster recovery timelines.

For each topic, learners will view content and then participate in an activity designed to encourage reflection and further thought on what actions they can take to better integrate community resilience planning into their organizations.

The information in this module is research-based, but ongoing study will continue to expand and detail the relative value of particular approaches for certain populations.

How do I make my organization or community more resilient?

This section offers a series of concrete action steps for how to build greater resilience for organizations and whole communities. For each strategy in this section, we

- describe how it contributes to community resilience
- ask you to assess how well your organization or community's plan addresses the item
- give some additional steps to take to further improve resilience.

Choose the **Organization** track if you want to focus on working within your organization to improve resilience, including emergency protocols and operations. For each of these items, we have provided a few ideas if you represent a business, nonprofit, faith-based organization, or school. The primary topics and associated learning objectives for the organization track are:

Organization Strategies	Associated Learning Objectives
Item 1: Focus on Assets	By the end of this item, your organization will have 1) information on what assets to track 2) ideas on how to strengthen those assets and monitor over time
Item 2: Improve household preparedness of consumers, employees, and suppliers	By the end of this item, your organization will 1) understand the value of strengthening individual and household preparedness for greater resilience 2) have information on how to improve employee or constituent household preparedness
Item 3: Improve the organization's plan for long-term recovery	By the end of this item, your organization will 1) understand what recovery planning is 2) recognize the importance of recovery planning for resilience
Item 4: Consider the effects of climate change	By the end of this item, your organization will 1) learn the economic, physical, and health impacts of climate change 2) learn ways to prepare for those impacts
Item 5: Link the organization's daily routine to disaster resilience	By the end of this item, your organization will learn 1) ways to integrate emergency preparedness in community outreach and education on a routine basis 2) consider ways to coordinate routine and preparedness activities with other organizations
Item 6: Address behavioral health issues before, during, and after disaster	By the end of this item, your organization will learn 1) the critical elements of behavioral health planning 2) strategies to integrate support for your organization's constituents re: behavioral health
Item 7: Help constituents plan for the social and economic impacts of disaster	By the end of this item, your organization will learn 1) strategies to prepare constituents for social and economic impacts 2) how to leverage community resources to support social and economic well-being
Item 8: Determine how to work with the broader community around disaster resilience	By the end of this item, your organization will learn 1) why integrating organizational preparedness activities with other organizations are important 2) where to strengthen ties between your organization and the larger community
Item 9: Develop data systems to track preparedness and recovery planning	By the end of this item, your organization will learn 1) why ongoing monitoring and tracking is important for strengthening resilience 2) suggestions for improving data systems within your organization

Choose the **Community** track if you want to focus on working with other organizations in your community to enhance overall community resilience, for example, as part of a local planning team or neighborhood association. The primary topics and associated learning objectives for the organization track are:

Organization Strategies	Associated Learning Objectives
Item 1: Focus on Assets	By the end of this item, your community will have 1) information on what assets to track 2) ideas on how to strengthen those assets and monitor over time
Item 2: Improve the community’s plan for long-term recovery	By the end of this item, your community will learn 1) the importance of recovery planning 2) core elements to consider in developing a recovery plan
Item 3: Consider the effects of climate change	By the end of this item, your community will learn 1) the economic, physical, and social impacts of climate change 2) ways to prepare for those impacts
Item 4: Address behavioral health before, during, and after disaster	By the end of this item, your community will learn 1) the critical elements of behavioral health planning 2) strategies to integrate support for your organization’s constituents re: behavioral health
Item 5: Help community members plan for the social and economic impacts of disaster	By the end of this item, your community will learn 1) strategies to prepare constituents for social and economic impacts 2) how to leverage community resources to support social and economic well-being
Item 6: Develop data systems to track preparedness and recovery planning	By the end of this item, your community will learn 1) why ongoing monitoring and tracking is important for resilience strengthening 2) suggestions for improving data systems within your community
Item 7: Plan for sustainable development after disaster	By the end of this item, your community will 1) understand the value of sustainable and “smart” rebuilding 2) gather some tips for holistic and sustainable recovery planning

How can I use this training?

There are many ways to use this training.

Here is a list of ways that you can implement the training in your **organization**:

- Hold a staff meeting and show the introduction video. Ask staff members to take some time individually or as small teams to review the training items (e.g., "focus on assets"). Reconvene to discuss what each staff member learned. Develop organizational strategies for improving resilience.
- Create a lunchtime learning group to work on the training items together. Take some time to discuss each item week to week. What are you currently doing, and what could you do better?

- Require the training video as part of new staff orientation. Create a certificate program or incentive for staff completion.

Here is a list of ways that you can implement the training in your **community**:

- Show the videos at a neighborhood association meeting, tenants meeting, or PTA meeting. Lead the group in a discussion about the videos. What did members learn? How resilient do they think their community would be if a disaster hit?
- Convene a community emergency planning team. Use the items to structure your meetings. View each training item (e.g., “plan for sustainable development”), fill out the action list together, and develop strategies to address that item.
- Identify partner organizations for each item. Think about who in the community should take the lead on an item, and which organizations should support or collaborate. Develop a strategy or strategies. Implement. Then revisit the item in the training, and check your progress.

Audio Transcript

Introduction Video

You've got an emergency plan. You've got enough food, fuel, and water to last three days. What happens on day four? What about day one hundred and four? Or year four? How will your community bounce back from a disaster over the long term?

Emergency preparedness gets you through the immediate response. But it takes a comprehensive strategy for community resilience to ensure that your community survives and thrives over the long term after a major disaster—whether natural or manmade.

What is community resilience?

It's the ability to mitigate and withstand the stress of disaster, recover in a way that restores normal functioning, and apply lessons learned from past responses to better withstand future incidents.

Why focus on community resilience now?

Disasters have become more common and more costly. From the 1980s to the 2000s, the number of disasters increased from 237 to more than 600. During the same period, annual disaster assistance increased ten-fold, from less than \$10 billion dollars to almost \$100 billion. And that doesn't include the human cost of displaced families, disrupted social and economic networks, trauma, and stress.

Some communities have been hit by multiple disasters. New Orleans was still recovering from Hurricane Katrina when the Deepwater Horizon oil spill hit the Gulf States five years later. These consecutive disasters made recovery much more challenging. For example, oil workers displaced by the spill and Katrina survivors still living in temporary housing were forced to compete for scarce resources.

Not all disasters happen suddenly. Droughts in the Midwest have disrupted the farming industry, devastating communities that rely on that business. Economic disaster caused by the financial and housing crisis of 2008 slowly crippled entire communities, leaving neighborhoods full of abandoned homes and local jobless rates in the double digits.

How is community resilience different from emergency preparedness?

We'll answer this question in more detail later in the training. But for now, two key factors can begin to illustrate the differences.

First, emergency preparedness has not sufficiently engaged the full range of community organizations that participate in response and recovery. Emergency planners can't go it

alone. Resilience is relationship-based and brings a range of new organizations to the table.

Second, emergency planners need to be more creative about resources, given the complexity and overlapping nature of disasters. That means using resilience strategies that take emergency preparedness out of its silo—and link it to community development and well-being. It also means accounting for assets at all levels—from households, to organizations, to the entire community.

Community resilience is everyone’s responsibility. Organizations, businesses, and local governments must work together to assess their resources and create plans to ensure the community is ready to withstand the stress and strain of disaster.

But it starts with you.

What can you do?

By completing this training, you’ll learn about community resilience, including how it differs from traditional emergency preparedness. You’ll also be able to recognize actions your organization can take to build resilience, both within the organization and by connecting with others.

Who can benefit from this training?

This training provides an introduction for many different types of organizations:

- Businesses
- Faith-based organizations
- Hospitals, health clinics, and other health agencies
- Mental health providers
- Schools and universities
- Civic and volunteer groups
- Fire, police, emergency management, and other first responders
- Local government agencies
- Public health departments
- All types of nonprofit agencies.

All of these groups can benefit from learning about community resilience.

This training will give you the knowledge and skills you need to build resilience. Soon you’ll be able to help your community take “emergency preparedness” out of its silo, and plant the seeds of resilience throughout your community.

Choose an activity to get started. You can learn about community resilience, or explore strategies your organization or community can use to become more resilient. Additional resources and a transcript of this training with scientific references are available in the resources section.

The Table of Contents shows the different sections of the training, along with what you'll learn in each. Click the icon to jump to the table of contents at any time.

Click the section names to dive right in.

Community Resilience: In-Depth

In this section, we'll learn more about how community resilience differs from and builds on the emergency preparedness model. We'll also review the core principles that define community resilience.

As the concept of community resilience gains acceptance, it raises questions about why we've begun to embrace these ideas, and how they differ from the preparedness discussions of the last decade. Where has emergency preparedness not gone far enough?

Efforts to increase emergency preparedness after the September 11th attacks have been somewhat successful. However, there are still areas that need improvement.

For instance, preparedness messaging has focused on increasing the number of households with emergency plans or kits, yet progress has been slow. Most surveys show that less than 30 percent of households have emergency kits.

Communities also struggle with educating the public about when and how federal and other external help will arrive. Leaders have not spent enough time educating the public about how they can build strong communities themselves.

Significant strides have been made in addressing the needs of vulnerable or at-risk populations, such as those who are frail, elderly, or economically disadvantaged. However, communities still struggle with meeting the long-term needs of these groups in disaster planning, response, and recovery.

Most importantly, preparedness efforts have failed to use the full range of community assets, particularly those from outside government.

This includes both intangible assets, such as partnerships and knowledge, and tangible assets, such as shelter, volunteers to provide food and water, or people offering mental health services.

The community resilience model has improved the emergency preparedness approach by building on lessons from research on preparedness and community health promotion. Both of these suggest the need for a broader, community-centric focus and activities. In short, the whole community needs to participate.

To better understand the differences between emergency preparedness and community resilience, select one or the other for each of the following. If you're not sure, just make an educated guess.

Good work! Review this chart to see the differences between preparedness and resilience.

As more government agencies and non-governmental organizations embrace these ideas, national preparedness efforts have aligned with community resilience. There is a particular focus on merging community well-being into emergency planning efforts.

Let's learn about four principles of community resilience:

- Learning from the past can make communities more resilient in the face of future disasters.
- Plans should account for assets, as well as deficits.
- Taking action at every level, from individual to organization, is necessary to ensure resilience.
- Finally, shortening recovery time can help communities facing overlapping disasters.

Principle 1: Learning from the past

To adapt to the “new normal,” where disasters are more frequent and costly, we must learn from past disasters and build resilience in our communities.

Click the tabs to hear about people's real experiences living through a disaster. Take a moment to think about how these lessons might apply to you.

How would your community or organization respond to these types of disasters?

What can you do now to prevent some of the difficulties these people have faced?

You may learn additional lessons from people in your community who have also responded to emergency events.

Renee White¹ describes how Joplin, Missouri, used a centralized website and a long-term recovery committee to address the stress caused by a devastating tornado in 2011.

There were no landlines after the tornado devastated Joplin, Missouri, in 2011. There were no cell phones, no texting. All of that was down. The only thing we had was radio—and Facebook.

¹ These statements have been written by the named speakers; however, the speakers have granted permission for others to record their words in the audio track.

After about a week, the Rebuild Joplin website was up. It had a section for people who were affected by the tornado and a section for people who wanted to help. It was a great way for volunteers to connect with those who needed help, and make sure they were taken care of—make sure they had food, water, and clothing. Pretty soon Rebuild Joplin had support from the city, local businesses, and *lots* of volunteers.

Within a few weeks, the Joplin Area Long-Term Recovery Committee was established. They helped coordinate social services, churches, and disaster relief groups. Churches handed out food, clothing, and other household items, while mental health providers helped relief workers deal with the horrors they had witnessed. Youth service organizations set up childcare and extended summer school to keep kids occupied while their parents were still trying to absorb everything.

A lot of us knew each other because we had worked together in our regular jobs. You didn't have to tell people what to do. Everyone just came out and started working together to help our community.

Courtney Newton describes how the United Way of Central Alabama used 2-1-1, the Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster network, and financial literacy training to build residents' self-sufficiency after a series of recurrent disasters.

After Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the United Way of Central Alabama, or UWCA, continued to work with first responders and community-based groups to develop voluntary organizations active in disaster, also known as "VOADs." When tornadoes impacted 43 of Alabama's 67 counties in the spring of 2011, UWCA mobilized a statewide network of regional call centers to respond in real time to changing resources and directives. Later, we called together all groups interested in long-term recovery, drawing significantly from the VOADs we had already established.

At first, there were communication challenges among federal, state, and local groups, and also between governments and non-governmental organizations. But UWCA was able to maintain a dialogue and keep the focus on our primary objective: stabilizing families and communities.

With consistent leadership from Long-Term Recovery Committees, or LTRCs, we identified organizations that could specialize in specific recovery activities. For example, the Salvation Army secured furniture; Habitat for Humanity estimated construction costs; and UWCA managed recovery funds and authorized payment for committee-approved expenditures.

At weekly meetings where case managers presented funding requests, the Central Alabama LTRC maximized limited resources, while increasing sustainability. Some groups opted to manage their recovery efforts independently, but came to

the committee if they needed additional resources. This enabled organizations that wanted autonomy to achieve their objectives and receive support from the LTRC if necessary.

UWCA increased resilience by improving construction for 300 rebuilds, *and* repairs such as hurricane clips and energy-efficient improvements. The UWCA helped low-income families by introducing them to programs designed to encourage financial stability, such as financial coaching, housing counseling, and free tax assistance.

Doug Walker from Mercy Family Center describes the lessons learned about collaboration during New Orleans' recovery from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and how these lessons could be applied to future disaster collaborations.

If I had a nickel for every time someone said the word “collaboration” after Hurricane Katrina and the 2010 oil spill hit Louisiana, I would be a very rich man. Although collaboration can be a “win-win” for organizations working together on disaster response and recovery, partnerships can also support incompetence and ruin relationships between organizations.

For example, if organizations outside your community say they want to provide a psychological trauma intervention to your organization at no cost, the intervention may not be evidence-based. They could be using your organization as a way to increase their credibility or raise funds.

I've also seen local collaborations go bad—not because of any preplanned malice, but because the initial spirit of collaboration and “get it done” attitude following a disaster eventually gave way to internal politics and individual long-term strategic planning.

To make sure you get off on the right foot, ask tough questions of potential collaborative partners—questions like “What’s in it for you, and what’s in it for us?” “What’s your long-term plan after one year? What about after two years?” “How do we continue these efforts once you’re gone?” “How will your ‘success’ be measured?” “Who do you report to and what’s *their* expectation of this collaboration?”

Create a collaboration that is measured in three- or six-month intervals, when every party can check in and decide if the partnership is still working for them. The more difficult questions come when one partner is not reaching their potential, or is undermining the project—whether they mean to or not. These situations are often ugly and very difficult to solve. When you see them on the horizon, be transparent and honest, and communicate your concerns with leadership.

What does a resilient community “look like”? Past examples have shown us that resilient communities have the following features:

- Engagement at the community level, including a sense of cohesiveness and neighborhood involvement or integration
- Partnership among organizations, including integrated pre-event planning, exercises, and agreements
- Sustained local leadership, supported by partnerships with state and federal government
- Effective and culturally relevant education about risks
- Optimal community health and access to quality health services
- Integration of preparedness and wellness
- Rapid restoration of social functioning, including rebuilding churches, community centers, and other social network hubs
- Individual-level preparedness and self-sufficiency
- Targeted strategies that empower and engage vulnerable populations
- Financial resilience among families and businesses, and efficient use of resources for recovery.

Principle 2: Account for assets

Assets and deficits play an important role in community resilience. An asset is anything that helps with resilience, such as community partnerships or strong infrastructure. Deficits, such as *poor* infrastructure, poverty, or chronic health problems, make building resilience more difficult. Communities that are more resilient have high assets and low deficits.

To better identify potential assets in your organization, take a look at the following case studies. Think about the assets available in each case and how they might be used. Keep in mind that assets come in many varieties. They could be skills, money, infrastructure, equipment, services, relationships, or data. Once you’re done with the case studies, there will be a quick knowledge check and review, so you may want to take notes. When you’re ready to move on, click ‘Next.’

Now let’s think about the role assets played in these examples. Select the assets you identified in each case study. There is more than one possible answer for each question. When you’re finished, click ‘Next.’

For more information on assets associated with various sectors, download the Asset Chart. When you’re finished, click ‘Next.’

Principle 3: Taking action at every level

Resilience must be strengthened at multiple levels. It is not enough to only provide individuals and families with tools and guidance to prepare for disaster. Community resilience requires that connections between and among individuals and organizations are

strong, that organizations have plans to withstand disaster, and that those organizations collaborate for a coordinated response and recovery.

Community resilience operates at the intersection of many organizations, and social connectedness can help foster healthy disaster response and shorten recovery time. Yet few efforts focus on these connections and interactions. It's also important to embrace all of the organizations that contribute to community resilience and include them during planning.

Recently, the CDC's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Capabilities have identified 11 sectors to include in community emergency planning, such as voluntary organizations, businesses, and childcare organizations. Yet too often many of these sectors are not engaged. Later, we'll look at specific resilience-building activities to engage individuals and organizations across multiple sectors.

Principle 4: Shorten recovery time

Typically, preparedness activities assess community vulnerabilities, broadcast emergency information, shelter populations and provide countermeasures as needed, and restore infrastructure.

However, this approach can leave gaps in a community's ability to address the overlapping nature of disasters.

Increasingly, communities are struggling to respond to one disaster when another one hits. This leaves them in an ongoing cycle of response and recovery.

Currently, there are few solutions for long-term recovery planning, given dwindling resources. Additionally, the health and social aspects of long-term recovery are not well integrated into plans.

However, if resilience-building activities are working, you can create more efficient emergency plans and shorten recovery time. This can reduce the possibility of overlapping disasters.

Let's look at ways to shorten recovery time, starting with preparation.

Community resilience is not about creating some new capability; it's about aligning routine activities with emergency preparedness activities. In public health, for example, organizations already conduct ongoing community education about health and well-being. Meanwhile, emergency preparedness planners often work separately on emergency risk communications plans.

But communities that are healthy are better able to withstand trauma and can recover more quickly. Embedding disaster education in communications about routine health and well-being (and vice versa) can help make a community more resilient.

Integrating routines with preparedness helps people manage both physical and mental stress and equips them to confront major events.

In the scramble of immediate disaster response and long-term recovery, it's difficult to build infrastructure to locate and track residents' locations, services and needs, and health and well-being. However, if systems are already in place, they can be activated during a crisis.

Being displaced by disaster can have serious consequences. For example, mental illness rates are much higher among families displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

Without a standardized system to track these individuals, we cannot understand how disasters affect their living arrangements, health, and overall well-being. By integrating data systems across public health agencies, social service agencies, and health care providers, you can find and track people across different services and locations. The more sectors are able to communicate, the more efficient the combined response can be.

Rebuilding community infrastructure and services following a disaster does not always put you in a position to adequately withstand the stress of the next event. But considering new ways of adaptation can help.

After Hurricane Sandy, FEMA issued guidelines to homeowners in areas of high flood risk to help them think about rebuilding smarter. This included elevating the home and heating and electrical systems, and building floodwalls to protect windows and stairwells.

Rebuilding smarter can also mean going green. For example, the eco-town approach suggests sustainable building codes and creates an environment where all homes are zero-carbon, with access to public transportation and green space.

Smart rebuilding policies help communities prepare for the next disaster, which helps shorten recovery time. We'll learn more about strategies for sustainability in the next section of the training.

In this section, you learned what community resilience *is* and how it differs from emergency preparedness. We also identified four core principles of building community resilience.

The first principle is learning from past events. The Voices of Experience provided insights from past disasters about how to address stress, build self-sufficiency, and apply lessons learned to improve future recovery efforts.

The second principle is leveraging community assets. The four case studies demonstrated the wide range of community assets that contribute to resilience.

The third principle is taking action at every level—individual to individual, organization to organization, and across the whole community.

Finally, the fourth principle emphasized the importance of shortening recovery time.

Now that you've gone in-depth with community resilience, complete this knowledge check to see how much you've learned.

How Do I Strengthen Community Resilience?

This part of the training will walk you through a step-by-step process for strengthening resilience within your community or organization. This training is meant to include action steps that can help your community or organization build resilience.

To get started, select either the 'Organization' or 'Community' track.

Choose 'Organization' if you want to focus on working within your organization to improve resilience, including emergency protocols and operations. For each of these items, we've provided a few suggestions specifically for businesses, nonprofits, faith-based organizations, or schools. Make sure to check them out.

Choose 'Community' if you want to focus on working with other organizations in your community to enhance overall community resilience. For example, you may be working as part of a local planning team or neighborhood association.

For each item in this section, we will

- describe how the item contributes to community resilience
- ask you to assess how well your organization or community's plan addresses the item
- share some additional steps that can improve resilience.

While we recommend considering each of these items when developing your resilience plan, feel free to skip directly to any item using the Table of Contents menu. Clicking the icon in the top-right of your screen will redirect you to the table of contents at any time.

By the end of this part of the training, your organization/community will have concrete action steps for building greater resilience.

Before we continue, please gather any emergency planning materials you have available. You may also want something to take notes with.

Click 'Next' when you're ready.

The Action List is a tool for tracking your progress through this section. Check off items that are already included in your plan. Your unchecked items will provide you with a to-do list to follow up on to strengthen community resilience in those areas.

Download the Action List PDF by clicking the download button. Once you've downloaded the file, you can either print it out or open it on your computer and check off items as needed. Please note that you'll need Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer to open and print the Action List.

Click 'Next' when you're ready to begin.

Organization

Item 1: Focus on assets

When planning for disaster, don't just focus on vulnerabilities. Consider your assets as well. Assets are things that make your organization more robust in the event of disaster—like competencies, services, and relationships. It's important to focus on your assets ahead of time so your organization has a plan to use them effectively and efficiently. You'll also want to make sure you don't have duplicate reliance on the same assets. For example, if the same vehicles are earmarked for evacuation efforts *and* transport of fatalities, or if a school building is designated as a volunteer coordination center *and* a distribution center—somebody won't have access to the resources they need. Communicating with everyone about your plan for use of assets ahead of time can avoid this problem.

Is your organization focused on assets?

The following activity will help you determine how well your plan has taken your assets into account. Select any of the following asset categories that may be identified in your plan. When you're finished, click 'Next.'

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your organization has considered a wide range of assets in its disaster plan, but there is always room for improvement. Check this item off your Action List. Then click 'Next' to learn what additional steps you can take.

Contact your local emergency planner to let them know about your organization's assets. An important part of organizational asset planning is making sure those assets are readily visible to the broader community.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List. Also, take some time to check out suggested action steps for your organization type!

Results [some items checked]

Good start, but your plan could still use some work. It looks like your organization has given some thought to assets, but not considered others. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Once you've done a thorough assessment, contact your local emergency planner to let them know about your organization's assets. An important part of organizational asset planning is making sure those assets are readily visible to the broader community. Also, take some time to check out suggested action steps for your organization type!

Results [no items checked]

You have some work to do! It looks like your organization hasn't given much thought to the assets available during a disaster. You'll want to follow up on this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Once you've done a thorough assessment, contact your local emergency planner to let them know about your organization's assets. An important part of organizational asset planning is making sure those assets are readily visible to the broader community. Also, take some time to check out suggested action steps for your organization type!

Item 2: Improve household preparedness of consumers, employees, and suppliers

How is your organization improving the disaster readiness of its employees, consumers, and suppliers?

Depending on your organization type, you may not only have employees or staff, but also consumers or clients that you serve and clients that you work with. With all of these relationships, it is possible to communicate messages about household and family preparedness.

Why are prepared households so important? Prepared households are

- more likely to positively cope with the impacts of disaster
- more likely to continue coming to work and supporting the organization's mission
- better equipped to assist neighbors and colleagues who need help
- more likely to be self-sufficient, requiring fewer of the already-limited community resources.

Ensuring that households are prepared will ultimately help your organization and community recover more quickly after a disaster.

Is your organization focused on household preparedness?

The following activity will help you determine whether your plan has taken into account all those who interact with your organization. Select any of the following activities or materials that may be identified in your plan. When you're finished, click 'Next.'

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your organization has made a commitment to improving household preparedness. Be sure to check this item off your Action List. Also, take some time to check out suggested action steps for your organization type!

Results [some items checked]

Good start, but your plan could still use some work. It looks like your organization has given some thought to improving household preparedness, but could do more in other areas. Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List. Also, take some time to check out suggested action steps for your organization type!

Results [no items checked]

You have some work to do! It looks like your organization hasn't given much thought to improving household preparedness. Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List. Also, take some time to check out suggested action steps for your organization type!

Item 3: Improve the organization's plan for long-term recovery

Given that community resilience accounts for the long-term impacts of disaster, it is important to plan for recovery early and often in your organization.

Why is planning for long-term disaster recovery part of building resilience?

Recovery from disaster can take months or years. Ensuring your organization has plans in place can reduce the length of time needed for recovery. Planning can also ensure that resources are available for a balanced recovery—one that includes both rebuilding of infrastructure and long-term care for employees who develop psychological or physical health conditions as a result of disaster-related experiences. Planning for long-term recovery helps your organization make better decisions about how to dedicate recovery resources.

Does your organization have a plan for long-term recovery?

The following activity will help you determine whether your plan has taken into account the necessary response and recovery activities.

Take a look at your organization's plan. Does it include these elements of long-term recovery? Select any of the following that may be identified in your plan. When you're finished, click 'Next.'

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your organization has put some thought into planning for long-term recovery from disaster, but there is always room for improvement. Check this item off your Action List. Then click 'Next' to learn what additional steps you can take.

It is also important not to simply write a plan but to exercise that plan. Too often, organizations spend their time on the immediate response activities with little focus on the long-term recovery period.

Employees and other constituents may not know what to do if the organization's infrastructure is "down" for longer. Plus, there are long-term health and social impacts that can affect staff productivity and well-being. Exercising a long-term recovery plan can ensure those questions are answered.

First, plan an exercise that will test your organization's ability to recover. Then, conduct the exercise. Afterward, use the findings from your exercise to make improvements to your plan.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List. Make sure to take some time to check out suggestions for your organization type.

Results [some items checked]

Good start! It looks like your organization has given some thought to long-term recovery, but your plan could still use some work. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

It is also important not to simply write a plan but to exercise that plan. Too often, organizations spend their time on the immediate response activities with little focus on the long-term recovery period.

Employees and other constituents may not know what to do if the organization's infrastructure is "down" for longer. Plus, there are long-term health and social impacts that can affect staff productivity and well-being. Exercising a long-term recovery plan can ensure those questions are answered.

First, plan an exercise that will test your organization's ability to recover. Then, conduct the exercise. Afterward, use the findings from your exercise to make improvements to your plan.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List. Make sure to take some time to check out suggestions for your organization type.

Results [no items checked]

You have some work to do! It looks like your organization hasn't given much thought to long-term recovery from disaster. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

It is also important not to simply write a plan but to exercise that plan. Too often, organizations spend their time on the immediate response activities with little focus on the long-term recovery period.

Employees and other constituents may not know what to do if the organization's infrastructure is "down" for longer. Plus, there are long-term health and social impacts that can affect staff productivity and well-being. Exercising a long-term recovery plan can ensure those questions are answered.

First, plan an exercise that will test your organization's ability to recover. Then, conduct the exercise. Afterward, use the findings from your exercise to make improvements to your plan.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List. Make sure to take some time to check out suggestions for your organization type.

Item 4: Consider the effects of climate change

The slow-moving effects of climate change can affect organizations just as dramatically as an acute disaster. Climate change can have both short- and long-term impacts on how organizations function and who they serve. Changes in climate are leading to rising sea levels and changes in long-term average temperatures, among other effects.

Social service providers in the Gulf Coast region, for example, should be aware of sea-level changes brought on by climate change and work with affected fishermen on unemployment benefits, health insurance, and mental health services. The fishermen's professional association or the local chamber of commerce could adjust their business plans to include training that helps fishermen learn about the new types of fish and economic possibilities in the new environment.

Has your organization considered the possible effects of climate change?

The following activity will help you determine whether your plan has taken these issues into account.

Let's take a look at your organization's plan. Select any of the following items that may be identified in your plan. When you're finished, click 'Next.'

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your organization has developed concrete plans for addressing the potential effects of climate change, but there is always room for improvement. Check this item off your Action List. Then click 'Next' to learn what additional steps you can take.

To improve your organization's focus on climate change, you must communicate with your employees and community stakeholders about how climate change may affect them. This will depend on your geographic location and environmental factors. This means sharing information about the health and social effects of climate change, as well as offering training to employees on how climate change may affect how the organization does and the demographics of the community. These steps can help by preparing employees for possible long-term impacts on their livelihood and by ensuring that they have the tools to protect themselves and their homes.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Climate change can also impact your organization's mission. For example, a business's expectation for economic growth and the workforce it needs could both be compromised. Start now by preparing your organization—your staff in particular. By walking through a strategic planning process to document likely effects of climate change on your organization, you will ensure you're prepared for slow-moving changes that may impact business, your employees, or your customers. This may involve several steps, such as conducting an emissions profile assessment; gauging risks and opportunities based on your operations, products, and service lines; and exploring technological solutions to help address the risks and leverage the opportunities.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out suggestions for your organization type!

Results [some items checked]

Good start! It looks like your organization has considered some plans for dealing with climate change, but your plan could still use some work. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

To improve your organization's focus on climate change, you must communicate with your employees and community stakeholders about how climate change may affect them. This will depend on your geographic location and environmental factors. This means sharing information about the health and social effects of climate change, as well as offering training to employees on how climate change may affect how the organization does and the demographics of the community. These steps can help by preparing employees for possible long-term impacts on their livelihood and by ensuring that they have the tools to protect themselves and their homes.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Climate change can also impact your organization's mission. For example, a business's expectation for economic growth and the workforce it needs could both be compromised. Start now by preparing your organization—your staff in particular. By walking through a strategic planning process to document likely effects of climate change on your organization, you will ensure you're prepared for slow-moving changes that may impact business, your employees, or your customers. This may involve several steps, such as conducting an emissions profile assessment; gauging risks and opportunities based on your operations, products, and service lines; and exploring technological solutions to help address the risks and leverage the opportunities.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out suggestions for your organization type!

Results [no items checked]

You have some work to do! It looks like your organization hasn't given much thought to the potential impacts of climate change on your business. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

To improve your organization's focus on climate change, you must communicate with your employees and community stakeholders about how climate change may affect them. This will depend on your geographic location and environmental factors. This means sharing information about the health and social effects of climate change, as well as offering training to employees on how climate change may affect how the organization does and the demographics of the community. These steps can help by preparing employees for possible long-term impacts on their livelihood and by ensuring that they have the tools to protect themselves and their homes.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Climate change can also impact your organization's mission. For example, a business's expectation for economic growth and the workforce it needs could both be compromised. Start now by preparing your organization—your staff in particular. By walking through a strategic planning process to document likely effects of climate change on your organization, you will ensure you're prepared for slow-moving changes that may impact business, your employees, or your customers. This may involve several steps, such as conducting an emissions profile assessment; gauging risks and opportunities based on your operations, products, and service lines; and exploring technological solutions to help address the risks and leverage the opportunities.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out suggestions for your organization type!

Item 5: Link the organization’s daily routine to disaster resilience

Limited resources and economic declines will continue to make it difficult to fund activities with a singular focus on emergency preparedness.

Use routine activities, such as an annual flu clinic, as an opportunity to communicate about preparedness or test plans. This can help ensure opportunities still exist, even with reduced funding—but you may have to get creative.

For example, everyday activities such as community outreach, education campaigns, and community events could all be leveraged to promote disaster resilience.

- Community Outreach
Does your organization have staff that interact with vulnerable or hard-to-reach populations? These same staff could provide information on disaster preparedness to these populations.
- Education Campaigns
Does your organization have a website or a social media channel that caters to populations in your community? Communication outlets such as these could serve as a vehicle for rapid dissemination of emergency information.
- Community Events
Does your organization host events such as a community health fair or an athletic competition, such as a triathlon? The minor emergencies that accompany these types of events could be used to test your plans to see if you have the needed partnerships and coordination systems in place.

These are just some examples of activities that can be leveraged.

Is your organization linking daily routine to disaster resilience?

The following activity will help you determine whether your plan is capitalizing on your organization’s regular activities.

Select any of the following activities or materials that may be identified in your plan. When you’re finished, click ‘Next.’

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your organization is making good use of routine activities, but there is always room for improvement.

Check this item off your Action List. Then click ‘Next’ to learn what additional steps you can take.

Investing time and resources into improving routine coordination with your consumers and other organizations can help build the network connections that make your organization more resilient.

Follow these steps to get started:

1. Regularly assess consumers' satisfaction with your organization's services
2. Based on these assessments, identify areas of coordination that need improvement
3. Develop a plan to address the areas that need improvement
4. Implement the plan and monitor whether improvements occur.

Although this requires time and resources to do well, improving routine operations will not only improve consumers' satisfaction, but will also improve disaster response and recovery.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List. Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type.

Results [some items checked]

Good start, but your plan could still use some work. It looks like your organization has given some thought to making good use of routine activities, but could do more. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Investing time and resources into improving routine coordination with your consumers and other organizations can help build the network connections that make your organization more resilient.

Follow these steps to get started:

1. Regularly assess consumers' satisfaction with your organization's services
2. Based on these assessments, identify areas of coordination that need improvement
3. Develop a plan to address the areas that need improvement
4. Implement the plan and monitor whether improvements occur.

Although this requires time and resources to do well, improving routine operations will not only improve consumers' satisfaction, but will also improve disaster response and recovery.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List. Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type.

Results [no items checked]

You have some work to do! It looks like your organization hasn't given much thought to making good use of routine activities. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Investing time and resources into improving routine coordination with your consumers and other organizations can help build the network connections that make your organization more resilient.

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4. Implement the plan and monitor whether improvements occur.

Although this requires time and resources to do well, improving routine operations will not only improve consumers' satisfaction, but will also improve disaster response and recovery.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List. Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type.

Item 6: Address behavioral health issue before, during, and after disaster

One important aspect of resilience that often doesn't receive enough attention is the behavioral health of your employees and other constituents before, during, and after a disaster.

Why is behavioral health important?

Addressing behavioral health issues both before and after disaster is vital to supporting recovery and resilience. Disasters and their related costs, such as loss of life and disruption of social and material resources, can have serious implications for behavioral health. Ongoing sources of stress in a post-disaster environment can reduce people's ability to cope. They also have costly effects on overall health such as an increase in illness, substance abuse, and decreased productivity. Employees or members of organizations whose core functions include disaster response may be under increased stress due to the high demand for services. Finally, community-based behavioral health resources may be disrupted after a disaster.

Is your organization prepared to meet behavioral health needs?

The following activity will help you determine whether your plan has taken into account the behavioral health of those in your organization. Select any of the following materials that may be identified in your plan. When you're finished, click 'Next.'

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your organization has put some thought into addressing behavioral health issues, but there is always room for improvement. Check this item off your Action List. Then click 'Next' to learn what additional steps you can take.

Another thing to consider is whether your organization has a plan for helping employees with self-care, including strengthening personal wellness.

For example, you can survey staff about the type of activities that help promote health and cope with stress. For a faith-based organization, this may mean organizing a softball team or starting a walking group for seniors. For businesses, it may mean negotiating a reduced gym membership for employees.

These types of self-care opportunities can boost employee morale and overall health, ultimately preparing staff for disaster effects and mitigating long-term behavioral health impacts.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Your organization can also educate employees about where services are located to help during and after a disaster.

Consider conducting training or offering informational sessions, such as new employee orientation, that educate employees or members about benefit packages. Be sure to include specific information on behavioral health services and how to access services during a disaster.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Another step is to educate employees about how to create supportive work environments. This may include team-building exercises, improving social interactions outside of work environments, and helping staff identify signs and symptoms of stress not only personally but in the peer network.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [some items checked]

Good start! It looks like your organization has given some thought to addressing behavioral health issues. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Another thing to consider is whether your organization has a plan for helping employees with self-care, including strengthening personal wellness.

For example, you can survey staff about the type of activities that help promote health and cope with stress. For a faith-based organization, this may mean organizing a softball team or starting a walking group for seniors. For businesses, it may mean negotiating a reduced gym membership for employees.

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Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [no items checked]

You have some work to do! It looks like your organization hasn't given much thought to addressing behavioral health issues. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Another thing to consider is whether your organization has a plan for helping employees with self-care, including strengthening personal wellness.

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Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Another step is to educate employees about how to create supportive work environments. This may include team-building exercises, improving social interactions outside of work environments, and helping staff identify signs and symptoms of stress not only personally but in the peer network.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Item 7: Help constituents plan for the social and economic impacts of disaster

In addition to behavioral health impacts, it is also critical to prepare your organization for social and economic impacts of disaster. Employees that are not prepared for the social and economic impacts of disaster are not as prepared to contribute to your organization's success. Underestimating the length of social and economic recovery can impact your organization's ability to get back to routine operations.

If an emergency displaces your consumer base or disrupts your supply chain, how will your business stay viable? Although the Japan tsunami and Fukushima nuclear disaster occurred halfway around the world, American automotive plants such as Toyota and technology companies such as Apple and Sony experienced serious disruptions in their supply chains, losing billions of dollars in sales.

Or, think about the mental health provider that loses all their consumer information when their servers are damaged due to floods. How will they reestablish communication with their clients? Without an external backup system this service provider may go out of business indefinitely.

Is your organization prepared for the social and economic impacts of disaster?

The following activity will help you determine whether your plan has taken these impacts into account.

Select any of the following items that may be identified in your plan. When you're finished, click 'Next.'

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your organization has a plan for addressing social and economic impacts, but there is always room for improvement. Check this item off your Action List. Then click 'Next' to learn what additional steps you can take.

Communicate with your employees and consumers about how to obtain economic disaster recovery support. You can share information about what type of information is required if a disaster hits and communicate about particular types of insurance and financing that may be available in the event of disaster. This helps prepare employees for disaster financing and related recovery and ensures that employees and consumers have the information they need to recover economically.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

For long-term resilience-building, it is important to raise the level of overall financial understanding among your staff. By conducting financial literacy training for employees and consumers, you can ensure that employees and consumers build general financial skills that can lessen the long-term impacts of disaster.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

For social preparedness, it is also important to promote connections of employees to voluntary, civic, or other community-based organizations. This ensures that employees have organizations that they can count on in disaster.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [some items checked]

Good start! It looks like your organization has made some plans for addressing social and economic impacts, but could do more. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Communicate with your employees and consumers about how to obtain economic disaster recovery support. You can share information about what type of information is required if a disaster hits and communicate about particular types of insurance and financing that may be available in the event of disaster. This helps prepare employees for disaster financing and related recovery and ensures that employees and consumers have the information they need to recover economically.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

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Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

For social preparedness, it is also important to promote connections of employees to voluntary, civic, or other community-based organizations. This ensures that employees have organizations that they can count on in disaster.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [no items checked]

You have some work to do! It looks like your organization hasn't given much thought to addressing the social and economic impacts of disaster. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Communicate with your employees and consumers about how to obtain economic disaster recovery support. You can share information about what type of information is required if a disaster hits and communicate about particular types of insurance and financing that may be available in the event of disaster. This helps prepare employees for disaster financing and related recovery and ensures that employees and consumers have the information they need to recover economically.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

For long-term resilience-building, it is important to raise the level of overall financial understanding among your staff. By conducting financial literacy training for employees and consumers, you can ensure that employees and consumers build general financial skills that can lessen the long-term impacts of disaster.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

For social preparedness, it is also important to promote connections of employees to voluntary, civic, or other community-based organizations. This ensures that employees have organizations that they can count on in disaster.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Item 8: Determine how to work with the broader community around disaster resilience

Once your organization has strengthened its own resilience planning, it is also important to bolster connections and integration with the broader community planning. To be resilient, a community must be able to leverage internal resources. Engaging these resources in advance is critical to ensuring their availability during a disaster. Ensuring a broad base of engagement helps promote situational awareness and coordination during disaster response and recovery. Existing social networks in the community can be used to provide instrumental and emotional support, and to mobilize resources quickly.

Getting engaged with the broader community can start with your organization. What external supports are written into your organization's emergency plan? Do you have your local government listed as responsible for communication, or Red Cross listed for sheltering? Have you talked to each of these to ensure they will be available to your organization in the event of an emergency? If you have them written into your organization's plan, there is probably a good chance other organizations in your community are relying on the local government and Red Cross. Double-check to make sure they are aware that your organization will be counting on them.

Think about whether your organization would be called on to provide services or supports during a disaster response or recovery effort. Do you know if you are written into your community's emergency plan? Has your community's emergency management or public health department contacted you to clarify your organization's role? It's never too early to reach out and clarify your organization's role. Establishing these relationships in advance can save you valuable time during a disaster.

Is your organization working with the broader community to increase resilience?

The following activity will help you determine whether your plan has taken this into account.

Select any of the following items that may be identified in your plan. When you're finished, click 'Next.'

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your organization has a plan for working with the broader community, but there is always room for improvement. Check this item off your Action List. Then click 'Next' to learn what additional steps you can take.

One way that your organization can be better connected to community planning is to encourage your staff to participate in overall emergency teams. This can include identifying ways for staff to volunteer to support local response and recovery efforts.

This also entails making sure your organization's plans are connected with the overall community plan, including improving coordination and alignment so that roles and responsibilities are clearly outlined.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List. Just like improving household preparedness, there are ways that your organization can identify opportunities and motivate employees to participate in community emergency drills, training, and support recovery operations.

Providing a reward or honor for employees who participate in these activities helps align organization members with broader community plans and shows that your organization values employee engagement as part of overall community emergency planning.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [some items checked]

Good start! It looks like your organization has made some plans for working with the broader community, but could do more. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

One way that your organization can be better connected to community planning is to encourage your staff to participate in overall emergency teams. This can include identifying ways for staff to volunteer to support local response and recovery efforts.

This also entails making sure your organization's plans are connected with the overall community plan, including improving coordination and alignment so that roles and responsibilities are clearly outlined.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List. Just like improving household preparedness, there are ways that your organization can identify opportunities and motivate employees to participate in community emergency drills, training, and support recovery operations.

Providing a reward or honor for employees who participate in these activities helps align organization members with broader community plans and shows that your organization values employee engagement as part of overall community emergency planning.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [no items checked]

You have some work to do! It looks like your organization hasn't given much thought to working with the broader community. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

One way that your organization can be better connected to community planning is to encourage your staff to participate in overall emergency teams. This can include identifying ways for staff to volunteer to support local response and recovery efforts.

This also entails making sure your organization's plans are connected with the overall community plan, including improving coordination and alignment so that roles and responsibilities are clearly outlined.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List. Just like improving household preparedness, there are ways that your organization can identify opportunities and motivate employees to participate in community emergency drills, training, and support recovery operations.

Providing a reward or honor for employees who participate in these activities helps align organization members with broader community plans and shows that your organization values employee engagement as part of overall community emergency planning.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Item 9: Develop data systems to track preparedness and recovery planning

Another aspect of organizational resilience is the use of data systems to track preparedness and recovery planning. Tracking can help you monitor how well your organization recovers, both for employees and infrastructure, and determine where resources may be needed for recovery after disaster.

Is your organization developing data systems to track preparedness and recovery planning?

The following activity will help you determine whether your plan has taken this topic into account.

Select any of the following items that may be identified in your plan. When you're finished, click 'Next.'

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your organization has put plans in place for developing data systems for tracking, but there is always room for improvement. Check this item off your Action List. Then click 'Next' to learn what additional steps you can take.

Make sure your organization has information for emergency contacts and alternative modes of communication for employees. Add fields to your contact database that may be relevant for emergency response and recovery tracking, such as colleagues that the employee most closely works with, household numbers, and location of residence along with potential risks.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Your organization can also identify a process for tracking the needs of employees after disaster. Identify data sources that may provide a picture of employee health and well-being following a disaster, such as benefits data. If your organization is a service provider you may also want to consider whether the needs of the consumers you serve have changed. Also, determine ways to link organization information with other comparable organizations to track employee or consumer well-being. Linking this data also informs larger community recovery.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Log information on what resources the organization plans to or does provide in disaster response and recovery. While care must be taken with sensitive information on resources, ensuring that organizational assets are well identified before a disaster can help build resilience and provide information for future disaster planning.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [some items checked]

Good start! It looks like your organization has made some plans for developing data systems, but could do more. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Make sure your organization has information for emergency contacts and alternative modes of communication for employees. Add fields to your contact database that may be relevant for emergency response and recovery tracking, such as colleagues that the employee most closely works with, household numbers, and location of residence along with potential risks.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Your organization can also identify a process for tracking the needs of employees after disaster. Identify data sources that may provide a picture of employee health and well-being following a disaster, such as benefits data. If your organization is a service provider you may also want to consider whether the needs of the consumers you serve have changed. Also, determine ways to link organization information with other comparable organizations to track employee or consumer well-being. Linking this data also informs larger community recovery.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Log information on what resources the organization plans to or does provide in disaster response and recovery. While care must be taken with sensitive information on resources, ensuring that organizational assets are well identified before a disaster can help build resilience and provide information for future disaster planning.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [no items checked]

You have some work to do! It looks like your organization hasn't given much thought to developing data systems. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Make sure your organization has information for emergency contacts and alternative modes of communication for employees. Add fields to your contact database that may be relevant for emergency response and recovery tracking, such as colleagues that the employee most closely works with, household numbers, and location of residence along with potential risks.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Your organization can also identify a process for tracking the needs of employees after disaster. Identify data sources that may provide a picture of employee health and well-being following a disaster, such as benefits data. If your organization is a service provider you may also want to consider whether the needs of the consumers you serve have changed. Also, determine ways to link organization information with other comparable organizations to track employee or consumer well-being. Linking this data also informs larger community recovery.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Log information on what resources the organization plans to or does provide in disaster response and recovery. While care must be taken with sensitive information on resources,

ensuring that organizational assets are well identified before a disaster can help build resilience and provide information for future disaster planning.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Community

Item 1: Focus on assets

When planning for disaster, don't just focus on vulnerabilities. Consider your assets as well. At the community level, it is important to conduct a community-wide hazards assessment planning. This should account for community assets and how to leverage those resources effectively.

A community-level assessment is necessary to

- identify 'hot-spots' where hazards or vulnerabilities exist, but no assets are available to mitigate them
- designate areas where resources will likely need to be deployed during a disaster
- identify resources that may be useful during disaster recovery efforts ahead of time.

Is your community focused on assets?

The following activity will help you determine how well your current assessments take your assets into account.

Select any of the following asset categories that may be identified in your plan. When you're finished, click 'Next.'

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your community has considered a variety of assets, but there is always room for improvement. Check this item off your Action List. Then click 'Next' to learn what additional steps you can take.

Conduct an assessment focused specifically on community-level assets. This is the best way to get a comprehensive picture of assets across your community. There are several resources on your Action List to help you plan an assessment of community-level assets.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

If resources are not available to conduct a community-level assets assessment, consider including assets in an existing health needs assessment. This leverages an ongoing community activity for disaster preparedness—one of the hallmarks of resilience. There is a link to models that summarize critical asset categories in your Action List.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [some items checked]

Good start! It looks like your community has considered some assets, but your plan could still use some work. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Conduct an assessment focused specifically on community-level assets. This is the best way to get a comprehensive picture of assets across your community. There are several resources on your Action List to help you plan an assessment of community-level assets.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

If resources are not available to conduct a community-level assets assessment, consider including assets in an existing health needs assessment. This leverages an ongoing community activity for disaster preparedness—one of the hallmarks of resilience. There is a link to models that summarize critical asset categories in your Action List.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [no items selected]

You have some work to do! It looks like your community hasn't given much thought to the assets available during a disaster. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Conduct an assessment focused specifically on community-level assets. This is the best way to get a comprehensive picture of assets across your community. There are several resources on your Action List to help you plan an assessment of community-level assets.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

If resources are not available to conduct a community-level assets assessment, consider including assets in an existing health needs assessment. This leverages an ongoing community activity for disaster preparedness—one of the hallmarks of resilience. There is a link to models that summarize critical asset categories in your Action List.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Item 2: Improve the community’s plan for long-term recovery

Given the intensity and true length of recovery, spending more on long-term recovery planning at the community level is critical.

Why is planning for long-term disaster recovery part of building resilience?

Recovery from disaster can take months or years. Ensuring your community has plans in place can

- reduce the length of time needed for recovery
- balance rebuilding of infrastructure with restoration of the community’s social fabric
- ensure supports are available for community members with mental and physical health conditions as a result of disaster-related experiences, some of which can take months after the disaster to emerge.

Planning for long-term recovery helps your community make better decisions about how to dedicate recovery resources and set a realistic recovery timeline.

Does your community have a plan for long-term recovery?

The following activity will help you determine whether your plan has taken the necessary response and recovery activities into account.

Select any of the following activities or materials that may be identified in your plan.

When you’re finished, click ‘Next.’

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your community has put some thought into planning for long-term recovery from disaster, but there is always room for improvement. Check this item off your Action List. Then click ‘Next’ to learn what additional steps you can take.

Engage with your local emergency planning team to help draft a community-wide long-term recovery plan. Your plan should consider whether data exists to track community progress toward recovery. For example, which organizations have health and social services data and can they provide it to you regularly? Your plan should also consider long-term behavioral health needs and services. Finally, your plan should include adaptations to your planning tools or template to meet the needs of your community.

Once you’ve followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to exercise a community recovery plan. Too often, communities only exercise response plans rather than the plans that help their transition from acute to long-term

recovery and back to community restoration. First, plan an exercise. To exercise your community's recovery plan you may need to engage with an array of community leaders from public health, emergency management, local government, and so on. Next, use findings from the exercise to improve your plan.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [some items checked]

Good start! It looks like your community has given some thought to long-term recovery, but your plan could still use some work. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Engage with your local emergency planning team to help draft a community-wide long-term recovery plan. Your plan should consider whether data exists to track community progress toward recovery. For example, which organizations have health and social services data and can they provide it to you regularly? Your plan should also consider long-term behavioral health needs and services. Finally, your plan should include adaptations to your planning tools or template to meet the needs of your community.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to exercise a community recovery plan. Too often, communities only exercise response plans rather than the plans that help their transition from acute to long-term recovery and back to community restoration. First, plan an exercise. To exercise your community's recovery plan you may need to engage with an array of community leaders from public health, emergency management, local government, and so on. Next, use findings from the exercise to improve your plan.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [no items checked]

You have some work to do! It looks like your community hasn't given much thought to long-recovery from disaster. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Engage with your local emergency planning team to help draft a community-wide long-term recovery plan. Your plan should consider whether data exists to track community progress toward recovery. For example, which organizations have health and social services data and can they provide it to you regularly? Your plan should also consider

long-term behavioral health needs and services. Finally, your plan should include adaptations to your planning tools or template to meet the needs of your community.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to exercise a community recovery plan. Too often, communities only exercise response plans rather than the plans that help their transition from acute to long-term recovery and back to community restoration. First, plan an exercise. To exercise your community's recovery plan you may need to engage with an array of community leaders from public health, emergency management, local government, and so on. Next, use findings from the exercise to improve your plan.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Item 3: Consider the effects of climate change

The slow-moving effects of climate change can affect communities just as dramatically as an acute disaster. Climate change can have both short- and long-term impacts on how organizations function and who they serve.

Climate change translates into more extreme weather and altered precipitation levels. These changes can contribute to health problems, such as increased asthma severity, heat stress and stroke, and difficulties with heart and lung disease. They can also cause sea levels to rise, which puts coastal communities at greater risk for disasters. Health problems and rising sea levels may unfold slowly over time, but can still have a dramatic effect on community health and well-being.

Has your community planned for climate change?

The following activity will help you determine whether your plan has taken these issues into account.

Let's take a look at your community's plan. Select any of the following items that may be identified in your plan. When you're finished, click 'Next.'

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your community has developed concrete plans for addressing the potential effects of climate change, but there is always room for improvement. Check this item off your Action List. Then click 'Next' to learn what additional steps you can take.

To improve your community's focus on climate change, conduct a community-wide assessment to determine vulnerabilities and risks related to climate change, as well as the community's assets. This process can coincide with the assessment described in the

‘Focus on assets’ section, but here you should focus on adaptation specifically geared toward climate change factors. This kind of assessment can benefit your community by providing a comprehensive picture of assets and opportunities for adaptation that engages a diverse group of community stakeholders. You may need to convene a community planning group to complete the assessment, which can take time and resources.

Once you’ve followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Your community can also address climate change by preparing the public to plan for these slow-moving changes. First, by working with a community planning group, you can identify the best resilience-building messages, tailored to the perceptions and knowledge base of the community. Next, you can identify the best channels to get your message out there.

Once you’ve followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [some items checked]

Good start! It looks like your community has considered some plans for dealing with climate change, but your plan could still use some work. You’ll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

To improve your community’s focus on climate change, conduct a community-wide assessment to determine vulnerabilities and risks related to climate change, as well as the community’s assets. This process can coincide with the assessment described in the ‘Focus on assets’ section, but here you should focus on adaptation specifically geared toward climate change factors. This kind of assessment can benefit your community by providing a comprehensive picture of assets and opportunities for adaptation that engages a diverse group of community stakeholders. You may need to convene a community planning group to complete the assessment, which can take time and resources.

Once you’ve followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Your community can also address climate change by preparing the public to plan for these slow-moving changes. First, by working with a community planning group, you can identify the best resilience-building messages, tailored to the perceptions and knowledge base of the community. Next, you can identify the best channels to get your message out there.

Once you’ve followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [no items checked]

You have some work to do! It looks like you haven't given much thought to the potential impacts on climate change on your community. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

To improve your community's focus on climate change, conduct a community-wide assessment to determine vulnerabilities and risks related to climate change, as well as the community's assets. This process can coincide with the assessment described in the 'Focus on assets' section, but here you should focus on adaptation specifically geared toward climate change factors. This kind of assessment can benefit your community by providing a comprehensive picture of assets and opportunities for adaptation that engages a diverse group of community stakeholders. You may need to convene a community planning group to complete the assessment, which can take time and resources.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Your community can also address climate change by preparing the public to plan for these slow-moving changes. First, by working with a community planning group, you can identify the best resilience-building messages, tailored to the perceptions and knowledge base of the community. Next, you can identify the best channels to get your message out there.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Item 4: Address behavioral health before, during, and after disaster

One important aspect of resilience that often doesn't receive enough attention is the behavioral health of members of the community before, during, and after a disaster.

Why is behavioral health important?

- Disasters and their related costs, such as loss of life and disruption of social and material resources, can have serious implications for behavioral health.
- Also, impaired health delays recovery time.
- Finally, disasters can disrupt a community's behavioral health infrastructure.

Is your community prepared to meet behavioral health needs?

The following activity will help you determine whether your plan has accounted for the behavioral health of those in your community.

Select any of the following items that may be identified in your plan. When you're finished, click 'Next.'

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your community has put some thought into addressing behavioral health issues, but there is always room for improvement. Check this item off your Action List. Then click 'Next' to learn what additional steps you can take.

Work with community members to understand the behavioral health needs in your community and participate in community-wide efforts to map current assets, such as behavioral health services, and the populations they serve. By participating in a mapping activity, community members can assess routine operations of the community's behavioral health systems and become better able to predict the surge in need that follows a disaster.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Work toward addressing behavioral health service gap areas in your community. To build on efforts to assess assets and vulnerabilities in the behavioral health infrastructure of your community, advocate for public policies and training or professional development programs that address gaps in the current behavioral system.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

It's also critical to ensure behavioral health is adequately covered in community-wide disaster planning and development efforts. This may include messages about self-care and wellness promotion, as well as messages that provide psychoeducation to community members. This approach empowers community members to take action to address their own behavioral health needs.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [some items checked]

Good start! It looks like your community has made some plans for addressing behavioral health, but could do more. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Work with community members to understand the behavioral health needs in your community and participate in community-wide efforts to map current assets, such as behavioral health services, and the populations they serve. By participating in a mapping activity, community members can assess routine operations of the community's behavioral health systems and become better able to predict the surge in need that follows a disaster.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Work toward addressing behavioral health service gap areas in your community. To build on efforts to assess assets and vulnerabilities in the behavioral health infrastructure of your community, advocate for public policies and training or professional development programs that address gaps in the current behavioral system.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

It's also critical to ensure behavioral health is adequately covered in community-wide disaster planning and development efforts. This may include messages about self-care and wellness promotion, as well as messages that provide psychoeducation to community members. This approach empowers community members to take action to address their own behavioral health needs.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [no items checked]

You have some work to do! It looks like your community hasn't given much thought to addressing behavioral health. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Work with community members to understand the behavioral health needs in your community and participate in community-wide efforts to map current assets, such as behavioral health services, and the populations they serve. By participating in a mapping activity, community members can assess routine operations of the community's behavioral health systems and become better able to predict the surge in need that follows a disaster.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Work toward addressing behavioral health service gap areas in your community. To build on efforts to assess assets and vulnerabilities in the behavioral health infrastructure of your community, advocate for public policies and training or professional development programs that address gaps in the current behavioral system.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

It's also critical to ensure behavioral health is adequately covered in community-wide disaster planning and development efforts. This may include messages about self-care and wellness promotion, as well as messages that provide psychoeducation to community members. This approach empowers community members to take action to address their own behavioral health needs.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Item 5: Help community members plan for the social and economic impacts of disaster

Consider how your community addresses the social and economic disasters for broader resilience building. Social and economic inequities may reduce community resilience by reducing the capacity of individuals to use their own resources to respond to a disaster. Individuals or households that are more “socially isolated” tend to have more difficulties after a disaster.

Is your community prepared for the social and economic impacts of disaster?

The following activity will help you determine whether your plan has taken these impacts into account.

Select any of the following items that may be identified in your plan. When you’re finished, click ‘Next.’

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your community has a plan for addressing social and economic impacts, but there is always room for improvement. Check this item off your Action List. Then click ‘Next’ to learn what additional steps you can take.

One strategy is to develop a community-wide plan to share information about economic preparedness and recovery. This can include information on what you need in a disaster to economically recover, particularly if you experience personal or property damage.

Once you’ve followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Create a plan for those who are at “social risk,” including those who are socially isolated and might have more difficulty accessing resources for recovery. Use mapping tools to identify, locate, and number those individuals who may be at greatest risk for long-term social impacts of disaster. Also, develop plans for where disaster case management may be needed in the community, and assess how that may affect service needs.

Once you’ve followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [some items checked]

Good start! It looks like your community has made some plans for addressing social and economic impacts, but could do more. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

One strategy is to develop a community-wide plan to share information about economic preparedness and recovery. This can include information on what you need in a disaster to economically recover, particularly if you experience personal or property damage.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Create a plan for those who are at "social risk," including those who are socially isolated and might have more difficulty accessing resources for recovery. Use mapping tools to identify, locate, and number those individuals who may be at greatest risk for long-term social impacts of disaster. Also, develop plans for where disaster case management may be needed in the community, and assess how that may affect service needs.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [no items checked]

You have some work to do! It looks like your community hasn't given much thought to addressing the social and economic impacts of disaster. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

One strategy is to develop a community-wide plan to share information about economic preparedness and recovery. This can include information on what you need in a disaster to economically recover, particularly if you experience personal or property damage.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Create a plan for those who are at "social risk," including those who are socially isolated and might have more difficulty accessing resources for recovery. Use mapping tools to identify, locate, and number those individuals who may be at greatest risk for long-term social impacts of disaster. Also, develop plans for where disaster case management may be needed in the community, and assess how that may affect service needs.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Item 6: Develop data systems to track preparedness and recovery planning

Using information from one disaster to improve response and recovery for the next builds community resilience. For this to happen, though, it is important to have robust

community data systems. Monitoring and evaluating resilience-building can inform preparedness planning and expectations for duration and nature of recovery; shape decisionmaking and resource allocation; and feed into continuous quality improvement to inform training and identify capacity and capability gaps.

Is your community developing data systems to track preparedness and recovery planning?

The following activity will help you determine whether your plan has taken this topic into account.

Select any of the following items that may be identified in your plan. When you're finished, click 'Next.'

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your community has put plans in place for developing data systems for tracking, but there is always room for improvement. Check this item off your Action List. Then click 'Next' to learn what additional steps you can take.

Consider using asset and vulnerability data to inform planning and decisionmaking. First, identify data fields for community assets and vulnerabilities and sources of that information. Then, map, number, and characterize those assets and vulnerabilities in a common data system. It requires effort to assemble and link the most relevant information, but integrating a community-wide profile of assets and vulnerabilities will pay dividends.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

In addition to the data associated with asset mapping, it's important to synchronize data systems that provide information on community recovery. Work with organizations such as hospitals, schools, and social service organizations—those that may have data on individual and household health and well-being. Then develop a process for how those data will be integrated, reported, and updated while your community recovers from disaster.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [some items checked]

Good start! It looks like your community has made some plans for developing data systems, but could do more. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Consider using asset and vulnerability data to inform planning and decisionmaking. First, identify data fields for community assets and vulnerabilities and sources of that information. Then, map, number, and characterize those assets and vulnerabilities in a common data system. It requires effort to assemble and link the most relevant information, but integrating a community-wide profile of assets and vulnerabilities will pay dividends.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

In addition to the data associated with asset mapping, it's important to synchronize data systems that provide information on community recovery. Work with organizations such as hospitals, schools, and social service organizations—those that may have data on individual and household health and well-being. Then develop a process for how those data will be integrated, reported, and updated while your community recovers from disaster.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [no items checked]

You have some work to do! It looks like your community hasn't given much thought to developing data systems. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Consider using asset and vulnerability data to inform planning and decisionmaking. First, identify data fields for community assets and vulnerabilities and sources of that information. Then, map, number, and characterize those assets and vulnerabilities in a common data system. It requires effort to assemble and link the most relevant information, but integrating a community-wide profile of assets and vulnerabilities will pay dividends.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

In addition to the data associated with asset mapping, it's important to synchronize data systems that provide information on community recovery. Work with organizations such as hospitals, schools, and social service organizations—those that may have data on individual and household health and well-being. Then develop a process for how those data will be integrated, reported, and updated while your community recovers from disaster.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Item 7: Plan for sustainable development after disaster

One of the most essential elements of resilience-strengthening is to rebuild smarter, which can help the community truly mitigate and withstand the stress of the next incident. This rests on sustainable development after a disaster. Disaster planning and actual disaster response provides opportunity for

- smarter rebuilding
- strengthening health and social service infrastructure
- innovative social and economic development, such as public-private partnerships.

Is your community planning for sustainable development after a disaster?

The following activity will help you determine whether your plan has taken this topic into account.

Select any of the following activities that may be identified in your plan. When you're finished, click 'Next.'

Results [all items checked]

Great work! Your community has put plans in place for sustainable development after a disaster. Check this item off your Action List. Then click 'Next' to learn what additional steps you can take.

Develop plans for supporting innovative rebuilding in the community by doing the following:

- Before disaster strikes, identify organizations that your community could work with to help in rebuilding. These could be housing organizations or businesses. For example, architects; skilled professionals, such as plumbers and electricians; and other general contractors all contribute to rebuilding.
- Leverage existing community economic development efforts.
- Develop or join a community rebuilding planning team that will support recovery.
- Encourage employees and consumers to support innovative rebuilding, such as energy-efficient designs.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Your community can also identify public-private partnerships for strengthening ongoing health and social resilience:

- Craft a plan for linking your community with relevant public and private entities after disaster, for example, linking for-profit with non-profit social service agencies to provide employment, support case management.
- Develop models of social entrepreneurship to invest in community recovery.

Developing partnerships can be labor intensive, but this can align businesses with community-based organizations to support rebuilding.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [some items checked]

Good start! It looks like your community has made some plans for sustainable development after a disaster, but could do more. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Develop plans for supporting innovative rebuilding in the community by doing the following:

- Before disaster strikes, identify organizations that your community could work with to help in rebuilding. These could be housing organizations or businesses. For example, architects; skilled professionals, such as plumbers and electricians; and other general contractors all contribute to rebuilding.
- Leverage existing community economic development efforts.
- Develop or join a community rebuilding planning team that will support recovery.
- Encourage employees and consumers to support innovative rebuilding, such as energy efficient designs.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Your community can also identify public-private partnerships for strengthening ongoing health and social resilience:

- Craft a plan for linking your community with relevant public and private entities after disaster, for example, linking for-profit with non-profit social service agencies to provide employment, support case management.
- Develop models of social entrepreneurship to invest in community recovery.

Developing partnerships can be labor intensive, but this can align businesses with community-based organizations to support rebuilding.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Results [no items checked]

You have some work to do! It looks like your community hasn't given much thought to planning for sustainable development after a disaster. You'll want to follow up with this item on your Action List and consider some additional steps to take.

Develop plans for supporting innovative rebuilding in the community by doing the following:

- Before disaster strikes, identify organizations that your community could work with to help in rebuilding. These could be housing organizations or businesses.

For example, architects; skilled professionals, such as plumbers and electricians; and other general contractors all contribute to rebuilding.

- Leverage existing community economic development efforts.
- Develop or join a community rebuilding planning team that will support recovery.
- Encourage employees and consumers to support innovative rebuilding, such as energy efficient designs.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Your community can also identify public-private partnerships for strengthening ongoing health and social resilience:

- Craft a plan for linking your community with relevant public and private entities after disaster, for example, linking for-profit with non-profit social service agencies to provide employment, support case management.
- Develop models of social entrepreneurship to invest in community recovery.

Developing partnerships can be labor intensive, but this can align businesses with community-based organizations to support rebuilding.

Once you've followed up with this item, you can check it off your Action List.

Make sure to check out recommendations for your organization type!

Next Steps for Taking Action

Good job! You've completed the *Building Resilient Communities* online training. You should now have an Action List with your next steps to take to strengthen the resilience of your community or organization.

Feel free to return to this section of the workshop when carrying out your Action List. You can also check out the Resources section for example documents and policies from government agencies.

Thank you for completing this training. Remember that community resilience starts with you.

National and Global Resources

National Health Security Strategy (2009)

<http://www.phe.gov/preparedness/planning/authority/nhss/Pages/default.aspx>

National Disaster Recovery Framework (2011)

<http://www.fema.gov/pdf/recoveryframework/ndrf.pdf>

Presidential Policy Directive-8 (2011)

<http://www.dhs.gov/presidential-policy-directive-8-national-preparedness>

FEMA Whole Community Engagement (2011)

<http://www.fema.gov/whole-community>

CDC Guidance (2011)

<http://www.cdc.gov/phpr/capabilities/>

Humanitarian Assistance Standards at the Sphere Project

<http://www.sphereproject.org>

Resilience Resources at USAID

<http://www.usaid.gov/resilience/>

RAND Resilience In Action

<http://www.rand.org/resilience-in-action>

Other Community Resilience Resources from RAND

<http://www.rand.org/topics/community-resilience.html>

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