



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
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# Focus on Community Resilience

RAND provides expertise to stakeholders throughout the world on evaluating and implementing community resilience-building activities, and has identified opportunities for integrating the nonprofit and for-profit sectors in these activities. Our work on resilience transcends research disciplines, with researchers pursuing high-impact studies in areas such as public health systems, homeland security, infrastructure and the environment, business and regulation, education, and labor and population.



## MULTIMEDIA



Resilient Communities is a podcast from RAND that offers insights into strengthening communities' capacity to withstand and recover from disasters and other conditions that affect community well-being. Subscribe to the Resilient Communities audio podcast on iTunes or at [www.rand.org/multimedia](http://www.rand.org/multimedia).

- ▶ **Creating a Community of Practice**  
Admiral Thad Allen discusses critical questions in community resilience.  
[www.rand.org/a111212](http://www.rand.org/a111212)
- ▶ **Creating Resilient Coastal Communities**  
Jordan Fischbach discusses the challenge of reducing flood risk and related concerns, such as rising sea levels and infrastructure planning.  
[www.rand.org/a120224](http://www.rand.org/a120224)
- ▶ **Rebuilding School Systems**  
Jennifer Steele discusses how to remake a school system in the wake of a natural disaster.  
[www.rand.org/a120515](http://www.rand.org/a120515)

## CURRENT PROJECTS

### Los Angeles County Community Disaster Resilience

This project engages nonprofit and for-profit organizations in providing leadership and partnership to promote community resilience in the face of public health emergencies such as pandemics and other disasters. RAND is working with Los Angeles partners to implement resilience-building strategies and to evaluate project efforts.

[laresilience.org](http://laresilience.org)

### Building a Resilience Community of Practice

RAND is developing an online training module for strengthening community resilience. The module, available in the summer of 2012, will serve as one component of a community of practice for resilience research and policy.

### Best Practices in Emergency Preparedness for Child-Serving Organizations

RAND offers a set of online tools for child-serving organizations to improve risk and resource assessments and implement best practices in emergency preparedness planning.  
[promisingpractices.net/resources/emergencyprep](http://promisingpractices.net/resources/emergencyprep)

## RECENT PROJECTS

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### Strengthening and Measuring Community Resilience

RAND has partnered with various agencies to make community resilience actionable. And RAND worked with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to create a road map for federal, state, and local leaders who are developing plans to enhance community resilience against health security threats and strengthen their preparedness.

#### Building Community Resilience to Disasters: A Way Forward to Enhance National Health Security

[www.rand.org/t/TR915](http://www.rand.org/t/TR915)

### Assessing the Robustness of Response and Recovery Systems

RAND has used the fields of systems analysis and engineering to apply the concept of system reliability to the evaluation of emergency response systems.

#### Evaluating the Reliability of Emergency Response Systems for Large-Scale Incident Operations

[www.rand.org/t/MG994](http://www.rand.org/t/MG994)

RAND has also assisted coastal planners in making decisions about risk through the development of a hurricane flood risk model.

#### Supporting Louisiana's 2012 Coastal Master Plan

[www.rand.org/gulf-states/policy-spotlights/coastal-management](http://www.rand.org/gulf-states/policy-spotlights/coastal-management)

### Mapping the Needs of Vulnerable Populations

RAND has examined the demographic transitions of populations affected by disaster and developed tools to aid local planners in mapping community assets to serve these populations. These resources have been used by local health departments, emergency planners, and other stakeholders to improve how they serve those at risk.

#### The Displaced New Orleans Residents Survey

[www.rand.org/labor/projects/dnors](http://www.rand.org/labor/projects/dnors)

#### Enhancing Public Health Emergency Preparedness for Special Needs Populations: A Toolkit for State and Local Planning and Response

[www.rand.org/t/TR681](http://www.rand.org/t/TR681)

#### A Prototype Interactive Mapping Tool to Target Low Health Literacy in Missouri

[www.rand.org/t/TR811](http://www.rand.org/t/TR811)

### Leveraging the Assets of Government and Nongovernmental Organizations in Community Resilience

RAND has worked with partners throughout the world to examine the role of nongovernmental organizations (community- and faith-based organizations, for-profit business), and military-civilian partnerships in supporting community resilience. The work has informed national dialogue on how to better coordinate, communicate with, and finance these organizations for future disasters.

#### The Nongovernmental Sector in Disaster Resilience: Conference Recommendations for a Policy Agenda

[www.rand.org/t/CF282](http://www.rand.org/t/CF282)

#### The Role of Nongovernmental Organizations in Long-Term Human Recovery After Disaster: Reflections from Louisiana Four Years After Hurricane Katrina

[www.rand.org/t/OP277](http://www.rand.org/t/OP277)

#### Bridging the Gap: Developing a Tool to Support Local Civilian and Military Disaster Preparedness

[www.rand.org/t/TR764](http://www.rand.org/t/TR764)

### Addressing the Health and Social Needs of Disaster Recovery

RAND has led discussions on the critical yet often overlooked area of health and social (human) recovery in disasters. RAND research has identified the elements of human recovery and where current plans fall short, and recommended ways to support and measure long-term recovery. This work has motivated discussions about the true length of recovery, and what communities will need to restore a sense of community long after the immediate disaster response.

#### Building a More Resilient Haitian State

[www.rand.org/t/MG1039](http://www.rand.org/t/MG1039)

#### Disaster Recovery Also Involves Human Recovery

[www.rand.org/t/EP20100133](http://www.rand.org/t/EP20100133)

#### Navigating the Road to Recovery: Assessment of the Coordination, Communication, and Financing of the Disaster Case Management Pilot in Louisiana

[www.rand.org/t/TR849](http://www.rand.org/t/TR849)

#### Post-Katrina Project Demonstrates a Rapid, Participatory Assessment of Health Care and Develops a Partnership for Post-Disaster Recovery in New Orleans

[www.rand.org/t/RB9516](http://www.rand.org/t/RB9516)

## WHAT RAND CAN DO FOR YOU

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- Identify effective and efficient approaches to building capacity for community resilience
- Engage disaster response organizations in evaluating strategies and enhancing resilience measurement
- Support the dissemination and use of best practices using cutting-edge tools and technologies

## LEARN MORE

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[www.rand.org/topics/community-resilience](http://www.rand.org/topics/community-resilience)

[www.rand.org/gulf-states](http://www.rand.org/gulf-states)

*"RAND's work in community resilience has raised the bar in how we approach resilience, response and recovery, reinforcing the need for a more coordinated social response to disasters. Given the scope, frequency, and scale of recent catastrophic events, RAND's analysis provides focused, disciplined research that is the basis for effective policy in this area."*

—Admiral Thad W. Allen, former senior fellow at RAND

Photos front: courtesy of FEMA; far right AP Photo/Kyodo News



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