

Disaster Planning Workshop for Individuals with Access and Functional Needs



Housekeeping

Rolling

Rolling carts will be available in the rolling area. This includes the rolling carts in the rolling area. The rolling carts will be available in the rolling area.

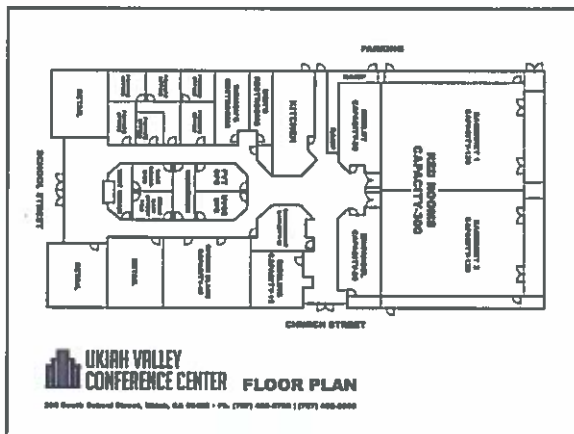
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Bathrooms - See Map

Cell Phones - Please put phones on silent

Please do not use cell phones in the rolling area.



Agency Introductions Agencies in Attendance

- Action Network Family Resource Center
- Anderson Valley Senior Center
- Auntie Mary's TLC
- California Office of Emergency Services
- Children's Garden Preschool
- Community Catalysts
- Disability Services & Legal Center
- FIRST 5 Mendocino
- Imagination Station Preschool
- Manzanta Services
- Mendocino College Child Development Center
- Mendocino County Health & Human Services
 - Behavioral Health
 - Public Health
 - Social Services
- Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services
- Mendocino County Office of Education
- Mendocino Woodlands Camp Association
- Northern Indian Circle Housing Authority
- Parents & Friends, Inc.
- Redwood Coast Regional Center
- State Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Ukiah Valley Association for Rehabilitation
- United Methodist Church
- Willets Senior Center



OES Overview and Emergency Preparedness Info



bafflegab

noun (baf-uh-l-gab)

confusing or generally
unintelligible jargon.

Origin:

Bafflegab is a portmanteau of baffle and gab and is credited to Milton A. Smith, a lawyer for the US Chamber of Commerce during the 1950s. Milton humorously defined this word as "multiloquence characterized by consummate interfusion of circumlocution or periphrases, inscrutability, and other familiar manifestations of obtruse expatiation commonly utilized for promulgations implementing Procrustean determinations by governmental bodies."



Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services (OES)

- Responsible for all emergency management programs in the county
- Carry out all phases of emergency management in the County

MITIGATION

Public Education
Hazard & Vulnerability Assessments
Improved Infrastructure

PREPAREDNESS

Emergency Response Plans
Training & Exercises
Sims

RECOVERY

Emergency Recovery
Crisis Management
Housing
Health & Social Services

RESPONSE

Life Safety
Hazard Mitigation
Property Preservation
Evacuation & Shelters
Wild Care

Mendocino County Hazards

- Multi-Hazard

Mitigation Plan:

www.mendocinocounty.org/oes

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Dam Failure – Drought – Earthquake – Epidemic/Pandemic – Flood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hazard Materials Event – Insect Pests/Invasive Species – Landslide – Tsunami – Wild Land/Interface Fire
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What can we Expect in a Local Disaster?

- Some initial chaos and confusion
- Lack of communications
- Lack of local resources
- Transportation issues
- Direct damage to facilities and infrastructure
- Utility Outages

How does Mendocino County OES Respond to an Emergency or Disaster?

- Emergency Communication
- Emergency Response Operations
 - Emergency Operation Center
 - Situational Analysis
 - Resource Analysis and Brokering
 - Public Information
 - Local, Regional, and State Coordination



MendoAlert

- Community members must sign up & register to ensure they can receive alerts
- Advantages of creating an account
 - Register cell phones and emails
 - Can enter more than one physical location (home and work)
- Nixle: register either by texting your zip code to 888777 or by texting MendoAlerts to 888777



How to Register

- Register at www.MendocinoCounty.org/MendoAlert
- More information including FAQ can be found at the website.
- If your organization has lists of people to be uploaded into the system contact OES for bulk uploads.



Questions?

- Any questions?

- General Questions

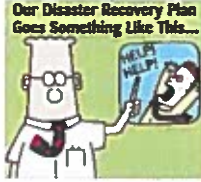
- oes@mendocinocounty.org

- Rick Ehler

- Emergency Service Coordinator

- ehlertri@mendocinocounty.org

- 707-467-6497





Cal OES
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Office of Access and Functional Needs

Mendocino County
May 15, 2019
Ukiah, CA

L. Vance Taylor
Chief, Office of Access and Functional Needs
Office (916) 843-8202

Addressing AFN Needs in Emergency Situations

Gary Pace, MD
May 15, 2019

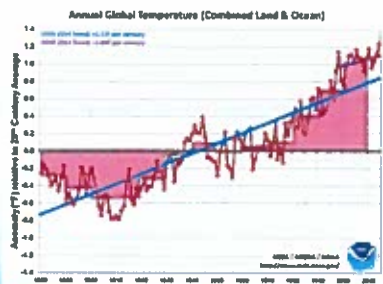
Goals for today:

- To plan for and communicate with the most vulnerable populations in our community during disasters
- To help our community partners understand the decision-making process and who to contact during emergencies
- To help our community partners advance their planning for the various emergencies we may face

"The findings are clear and the stakes could not be higher. We cannot delay action on climate change. We cannot sleepwalk through this health emergency any longer."



Scientists think that global warming may already be influencing fire seasons
From Scientific American 10/13/17



The fires in 2017 changed our perception of our risk. (from Press Democrat, 10/9/2017).



Public Health Emergencies (most, but not all are climate related)

- Fire
- Flood
- Heat emergency
- Rolling power blackouts
- Wildfire smoke/poor air quality
- Infectious disease (pan-flu, etc)
- Earthquake
- Tsunami

In the 2017 fires

- "Among the dozen (dead) people identified the average age was 79. The youngest victim was 57, the oldest 100. A majority were found inside their homes, unable to escape as the fire bore down. At least one was confined to a wheelchair."
- from: Aileen Torkmedjian, *Los Angeles Times*, reporting on the fires in Sonoma County and Napa County.

Folks with Disabilities are the most Vulnerable

- In Hurricane Katrina, people with disabilities often weren't able to evacuate because of transportation and transportation
- Most fire alarm boxes do not have wheelchair lifts
- People with visual and hearing disabilities were unable to get evacuation maps and maps for evacuation routes were not in Braille or large print
- People with disabilities in the Santa Rosa area were over 70%
- It is not uncommon for the elderly and disabled to be the most vulnerable in emergencies

Mendocino has a vulnerable population as evidenced in the following statistics

(From CDPH 2017)

- Total population: 82,734
- Covered by Health: 42%
- Population: 17%, total 14,264
- Total population: 77%
- People to receive emergency services: 4%, total 1,616
- Currently living with a disability: 16%, total 13,636
- Over 65: 16%, total 13,493
- Over 65: 4.0%, total 3,317
- Over 65: 16%, total 13,636

Decision-making structure



Who is making decisions and how to communicate.

- EOC (county)- Emergency Operations Center- critical decisions are centralized, requests for supplies, information goes through here
- MHOAC (combination of EMS and Public Health)- usually at the EOC
- Incident commander (at your facility, maybe)
- Local Hospital Preparedness Partner- contact person to get to EOC (via radio, radio or other methods)

What if local needs can't be met?

- 1) Contact EOC or MHOAC
- 2) If the situation can't be addressed from within the area
 - We will contact other local partners
 - We will go up the chain to get help regionally or somewhere else in the state

The Process When Crisis Hits (think about special needs for your clients)

- Alerts
- Evacuation
- Shelters
- Community needs
- Aftermath, returning home

Alerts

- Communications: Our communication and disaster alert systems are not all inclusive. Vulnerable populations, such as blind or hard of hearing, are not being notified during disasters. There is not equal access to communication sources.
- Special populations: ESL, HOH, ASL, elderly
- Transportation: eye/leg/heart
 - Emergency: Work ahead, sign up at oklahomaemergency.org/transport
 - Evac: sign up on text, call 117, oklahoma.gov/evac

Evacuation

- Lots of people in community very fragile. Easily confused, very uncomfortable outside of their usual environment.
- Warning and evacuation notices often aren't accessible to the people who most need them. My mother will not get text messages alerts.
- Transportation and Evacuation: Our transportation systems may have access issues. Getting appropriate transport during an evacuation can be a challenge.

Shelters

- Lots of issues here- we will discuss this in detail

Staying in the Community

- Factors that affect staying in the community:
 - Duration of the event and the amount of damage
 - Location of the event
 - Availability of high-capacity shelters
 - ...

After the Event

- Can people go back to home as it was previously affected?
- Letting trauma from the event
- Issues where we wanted someone to go to SNF, but didn't really need it. Individuals who are hospitalized in institutions take longer to get out of those facilities and return to normal life than those who are served in shelters
- Homeless folks can take longer to get out of shelters than people who have homes to go to

Medical Responses in a Disaster

- **Evacuation-**
 - The evacuation may be urgent.
 - People don't get their meds, DME, medical records, etc
 - Sometimes people have special needs
 - SNFs and hospitals may be impacted
- **Shelters-**
 - the most vulnerable and mobility impaired to be the ones that end up in the shelters
 - We will talk about the arrangements currently being set up
- **Community Health-**
 - local hospitals, clinics, pharmacies taking care of them as able

Who sets up the shelters?

- Social services usually sets them up for the first 48-72 hours. Usually in Ukiah, it is at Mendocino College
- Red Cross may come in after that, depending on availability. They may take over sheltering, food, and clinical care, or not
- In some areas, depending on the severity of the situation, other shelters pop up, as needed, with varying degrees of organization. (Moose Lodge in Lake County)

Clinical Care in the Shelters

- Shelter Staff are usually from social services
- Public health nursing tends to do oversight of public health and some connection with services. Clinical care is not provided by them
- New arrangements being made with Street Medicine and MCHC to provide clinical care
- Disaster Healthcare Volunteers (DHV) are volunteer, prescreened that can be plugged in.
- If more is needed, from out of the area

Vulnerable populations in the shelters

(from Press Democrat 11/3/17)

- Often the people who end up in shelters are more medically fragile
- May benefit from IHSS and adaptive equipment



Behavioral Health

- A big need in the shelters
- RQMC did it in 2017
- Was an in-d discussion about how to provide this in the coming year with the same format
 - RQMC
 - MCHC
 - DHV
 - Others?

Common issues

- More than patient problems in the number of an Emergency Shelter in Texas
 - Access to regular medications, including controlled substances
 - Family separation
 - Pets
- Medical needs of visitors
 - OME
 - Incontinence
 - Medically fragile people out of their usual environment
- Children
 - Mental health issues
 - Tuff talking between housing providers
 - ...



Different Emergency Scenarios

Fires

- Heat emergencies plan
- Power outage during fire
- Evacuation routes
- Fire extinguishers
- Fire drills

Rolling Blackouts

- Will talk at the "table top exercise" today
- Impacts – need to think about special needs for the population you work with
- Planning
 - Prep to go if no power for a few days
 - Water – Wells may not function
 - Heat problems if there is no AC
 - Power needs – DME, refrigeration

Heat Emergency

- Elders/kids more susceptible
- Fluids
- Cooling centers
- Decrease activity
- Someone to check on folks

Smoke/poor air quality

- Vulnerable – elderly, children, pregnant, heart/lung disease
- Stay inside
- Avoid work
- Use your fireplace
 - Reduce firewood
 - Avoid wood burning during peak smoke periods
- Stay on the side of the valley

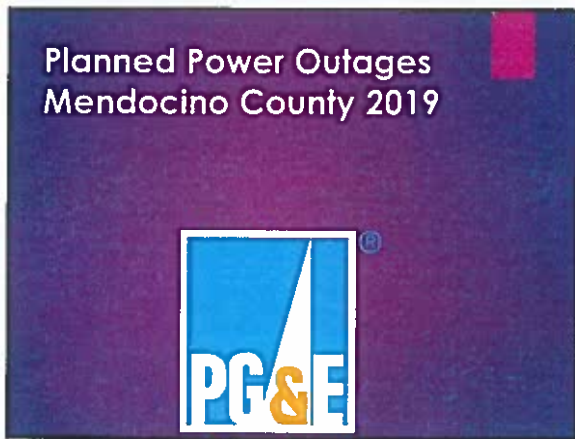
Conclusions

- Planning is important for everyone but especially for the most vulnerable populations
- AFN community has the highest risk for bad outcomes in a disaster scenario
- Community resilience is the key – family, neighbors, care providers keeping an eye out and planning ahead
- Shelters can be a real challenge
- This is a primary concern in the modern era – preparing for the health impacts of climate change, and the most vulnerable populations are going to be the most affected

Thank You


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Tabletop Exercise



Exercise Goal


Allow players to discuss and problem solve a variety of capabilities including, but not limited to:

- Communication & Coordination
- Resource Management
- Policy



Tabletop Exercise

- Low key/low stress discussion exercise, based on a scenario, with questions to discuss and higher stress problems to solve
- No right or wrong answers
- Duration – about 45 minutes



Artificialities & Assumptions

- Don't fight the scenario
- Low key/low stress discussion
- All opinions considered and respected
- Thorough constructive discussion is desired
- Stay within your section
- Don't make up extra problems and create resources without raising hand
- Anytime - If questions – ask your facilitator
- Remember, this is not a test! Have fun and learn!



Initial Scenario

- Thursday, September 19th, 2019
- Unseasonably warm temperatures throughout Northern California
- Last three consecutive days:
 - High 90s to low 100s inland
 - Mid to high 70s coastal
 - Warmer than usual nighttime temperatures



Initial Scenario

- Low relative humidity and low vegetation moisture
- High winds are forecast for the next three days with peak intensity forecast for Saturday evening
- Wind speeds are expected to be highly variable, reaching 25 to 35 mph, with possible gusts in the 50 to 60 mph range in higher elevation
- National Weather Service issues a Red Flag Warning set to begin at 3 PM Friday.



Initial Scenario

- PG&E has started notifications and public messaging that power may be shut off in Mendocino County as well as surrounding counties on Saturday if conditions warrant
- PG&E has sent notifications to all public safety partners and their customers about the potential Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS).



Scenario Questions

- What is your organizations role in this disaster?
- What role does your staff and your clients or the access and functional need populations you serve expect from you?
- Do you have any role in communicating this potential PSPS to your staff, clients, or public? If so, how will that communication occur?
- What preparation actions would you take at this point to prepare for a power outage?



Updated Scenario- 48 Hours Later

- Saturday, September 21, 2019 at 2 PM
- PG&E has sent a third notification to their customers stating that a PSPS is imminent and that based on current weather forecasts the PSPS is expected to last 12-24 hours.
- Following PSPS PG&E will begin line inspections and restoration which is expected to take up to 48 hours.
- Total outage time including PSPS and restoration is expected to be up to 72 hours.
- Mendocino County and other local agencies have issued emergency alerts to the public advising them of the outage and notifying them that emergency alerts may not be as effective.
- Mendocino County has activated the Emergency Operations Center.



Scenario Update Questions

- Does this update change your organizations role in this disaster?
 - Would it be playing a direct support role or supporting role?
- How prepared would your clients or the populations you serve be in this situation?
 - What impacts would a 72 hour outage have on your clients?
- How prepared is your organization in this situation?
 - What impacts would a 72 hour outage have on your organization?
 - How difficult would it be to respond to a situation on a Saturday?
- What other organizations could you coordinate with to support to your clients?
 - Are these organizations you work with on a regular basis?
 - How would you communicate with them?
 - Do you have plans/agreements in place on how this coordination would work?



Hot Wash

- Identify Lessons Learned
- What Worked
- What Did Not Work
- What Do You See as the Next Steps



MENDOCINO COUNTY
hhsa
Health & Human Services Agency

Wrap Up and Closing

Thank you for attending
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