

# Integrating Children's Disaster Related Needs into Disaster Planning, Preparedness, Response and Recovery

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# Background

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- FEMA established **FEMA's Children's Working Group in August 2009.**
  - **Responsible for leading FEMA's efforts, in partnership with other** Federal agencies and non-governmental organizations to ensure that the needs of children were considered and integrated into overall disaster planning, preparedness, response and recovery efforts initiated at the Federal level.
  - Federal and non-governmental organizations worked hand in hand **to support one another's efforts, building genuine relationships and a** strong foundation for supporting our State, local, tribal and external partners during disaster operations.
- **Children's disaster related needs are now embedded throughout all** applicable offices within FEMA.
- FEMA continues to work closely with Federal, State, local and non-governmental partners to actively address the needs of children and families before, during and after disasters.

# Planning, Grant Guidance & Training

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- **Children's disaster related needs have been integrated into** numerous planning and guidance documents.
- FEMA has partnered closely with our Federal partners to support the development of emergency preparedness planning guidance for juvenile justice and educational facilities.
- **DHS/FEMA's Homeland Security Grant Program Guidance** provides clarification as to how grant dollars may be used by States and local jurisdictions to ensure that the needs of children are met through disaster planning.
- Training modules have been developed to provide emergency managers and implementers of pediatric programs with **guidance on meeting children's disaster needs.**

# FEMA Youth Preparedness

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**Emergencies and disasters can happen at any time and often without any warning. Children comprise approximately 25 percent of the population - FEMA preparedness activities account for their unique needs.**

- **Children are positive influencers.** Educators and social researchers agree that children can effectively bring the message of preparedness home to their families.
- **Children can become leaders.** By participating in youth preparedness programs, children are empowered to become leaders at home and in their schools and communities.
- **Children who are prepared are more confident during emergencies and disasters.** Social science research and anecdotal evidence support the idea that children who have learned about emergency preparedness experience less anxiety during an actual emergency or disaster.

# Response & Recovery Operations



- Infant and toddler supplies are available to support State, local, territorial, and tribal governments during Presidentially declared disasters.
- **FEMA's National Sheltering System (NSS)** has the capability to enter and report on specific populations under the age of eighteen residing in a shelter.
- Reunification resources have been established to facilitate the expeditious reunification of children separated as a result of disaster with their parents/legal guardians.
- Federally funded Crisis Counseling Program allows for the inclusion of a Child Coordinator.

- **FEMA's Child Care Services Fact Sheet identifies certain child care services that may be eligible for reimbursement under FEMA's Public Assistance Program.**
- Educational Facilities Fact Sheet developed by FEMA and the U.S. Department of **Education addresses Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) as they relate to** reimbursement eligibility for schools damaged or destroyed as a result of a Presidentially declared disaster.
- The Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013 provides FEMA the authority to pay for eligible child care expenses as disaster assistance under the Other Needs Assistance (ONA) provision of the Individuals and Households Programs (IHP).
- FEMA supports housing related requests that pertain to children and families through the respective State Led Disaster Housing Task Force.
- The long term recovery needs of children and their families are addressed through various Recovery Support Functions within the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF).
- National partners continue to collaborate closely together during disaster operations to support State and local disaster response and recovery efforts.

# Joplin, MO



# Appendices

- Appendix A: FEMA Youth Preparedness
- Appendix B: Family Preparedness
- Appendix C: Emergency Planning Resources
- Appendix D: Response & Recovery Resources
- Appendix E: Coping with Disaster
- Appendix F: Training Resources
- Appendix G: U.S. Department of Education Resources
- Appendix H: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Administration for Children and Families Resources



# Appendix A – FEMA Youth Preparedness

- Technical Assistance Center

FEMA offers a full range of TA services to individuals starting or operating youth preparedness programs. Technical Assistance providers answer questions, refer to FEMA and partner-created tools and resources, and make connections between providers across the country to facilitate best practice sharing.

- ✦ TA Center: [www.ready.gov/youth-preparedness](http://www.ready.gov/youth-preparedness)
- ✦ Direct Provider: [FEMA-Youth-Preparedness@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-Youth-Preparedness@fema.dhs.gov)
- ✦ Children and Disasters Newsletter: [http://community.fema.gov/connect.ti/EDUCATION\\_COP/view?objectId=267049](http://community.fema.gov/connect.ti/EDUCATION_COP/view?objectId=267049)

- Youth Preparedness Council

**FEMA's Youth Preparedness Council brings together youth leaders from across the country that are highly engaged in championing youth preparedness and making a difference in their communities. The Council supports FEMA's commitment to involving youth in preparedness-related activities, and provides an avenue to engage youth population, taking into account their perspectives, feedback and opinions** <http://www.ready.gov/youth-preparedness-council>.

- National Strategy on Youth Preparedness

Created mutually by FEMA, the American Red Cross (ARC), and the U.S. Department of Education (ED), the **National Strategy for Youth Preparedness Education** (National Strategy) aims to engage government and non-government organizations in order to provide comprehensive disaster education to children throughout the nation. The Strategy is comprised of nine priority steps that partners can take to encourage youth preparedness <http://www.ready.gov/youth-preparedness>.

# Appendix B – Family Preparedness

- Emergency Preparedness Curriculum for Families [http://www.umassmed.edu/shriver/service/emergency\\_preparedness\\_initiative/Noonan-EPtraining-curriculum.aspx](http://www.umassmed.edu/shriver/service/emergency_preparedness_initiative/Noonan-EPtraining-curriculum.aspx).
- Families may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to plan in advance; how will you contact one another, who will you designate as your out of town contact, and how will you get back together?
  - Family Plans can be found on Ready.gov <http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>
  - Encourage educational, child care, medical, and recreational facilities responsible for the temporary care of children to share emergency preparedness plans with parents and legal guardians.
- Emergency Preparedness Resources for Children with Disabilities and Special Health Care Needs and Their Families [http://www.umassmed.edu/shriver/service/emergency\\_preparedness\\_initiative/EP-resources-list-families.aspx](http://www.umassmed.edu/shriver/service/emergency_preparedness_initiative/EP-resources-list-families.aspx).
- Feeling Safe, Being Safe <http://www.dds.ca.gov/ConsumerCorner/fsbs/>: This training resource describes steps that can be taken to be better prepared by creating an emergency worksheet, creating a personalized emergency kit, and practicing evacuations plans, amongst other actions.
- **America's PrepareAthon (AP!)**: A nationwide, community-based campaign for action to increase emergency preparedness and resilience.
- Build an emergency preparedness kit, learn about different types of disasters, and get involved <http://www.ready.gov/kids>.

# Appendix C – Emergency Planning Resources

- Comprehensive Preparedness Guidance (CPG) 101 Version 2 [www.fema.gov/plan](http://www.fema.gov/plan): **Children’s disaster related needs** have been integrated into the CPG which provides guidance on the fundamentals of planning and the development of Emergency Operations Plans.
- Protecting Children in Child Care During Emergencies: Recommended State and National Regulatory and Accreditation Standards for Family Child Care Homes and Child Care Centers and Supporting Rationale by Child Care Aware (formerly the National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies (NACCRRA)) and Save the Children [http://www.naccrra.org/sites/default/files/publications/naccrra\\_publications/2012/protectingchildreninchildcareemergencies.pdf](http://www.naccrra.org/sites/default/files/publications/naccrra_publications/2012/protectingchildreninchildcareemergencies.pdf).
- Disaster Planning and Recovery Basic for child care facilities <http://www.naccrra.org/public-policy/policy-issues/disaster-planning-recovery-basics>.
- Department of Education: Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance Center <http://rems.ed.gov>.
- Emergency Planning for Juvenile Justice Residential Facilities <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/234936.pdf>: First comprehensive planning guide to address the specific needs of children, youth, and families involved in the juvenile justice system during an emergency.
- National Preparedness Goal [www.fema.gov/national-preparedness-goal](http://www.fema.gov/national-preparedness-goal): Focuses on a unified and collaborative **approach of effectively addressing our nation’s disaster related resources by engaging the whole community in** preparedness efforts.
- Post Disaster Reunification of Children: A Nationwide Approach <http://nationalmasscarestrategy.org/reunification/>: Illustrates the significance of whole community collaboration and inclusive emergency planning by providing a comprehensive overview of the coordination processes necessary to reunify children separated from their parents or legal guardians and reflecting how whole community partners can work together to meet one shared mission.
- Great ShakeOut – Earthquake drills for various audiences; predominance in schools. <http://www.shakeout.org/>.
- Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Supplemental Resource – Children and Disasters Guidance [http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1916-25045-0106/fy13\\_hsgp\\_children\\_final.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1916-25045-0106/fy13_hsgp_children_final.pdf): This document **provides clarification as to how grant dollars may be used to support preparedness and planning activities for children’s disaster related needs.**

# Appendix D – Response & Recovery Resources

- Commonly Used Sheltering Items (CUSI) <http://nationalmasscarestrategy.org/shelter/>: This document contains a catalog of commonly used sheltering items and identifies basic commodities necessary to sustain infants and children in mass care shelters and emergency congregate care environments.
- Standards and Indicators for Disaster Shelter Care for Children [http://www.fema.gov/pdf/government/grant/2012/fy12\\_hsgp\\_children.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/pdf/government/grant/2012/fy12_hsgp_children.pdf).
- National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC): National Emergency Child Locator Center (NECLC) and Team Adam (for technical assistance) to support State, Tribal and local efforts of reunifying children separated from parents/legal guardians as a result of disaster <http://www.missingkids.com/DisasterResponse>.
- Unaccompanied Minors Registry (UMR) <https://umr.missingkids.com/>: The UMR, administered by the NCMEC, is **our nation's first national repository created to support** the ability to collect, store, report, and act on information related to children separated as a result of disaster.
- Public Assistance for Child Care Services Fact Sheet [http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1908-25045-4588/rp9580\\_107\\_child\\_care\\_services\\_fact\\_sheet\\_final\\_032013.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1908-25045-4588/rp9580_107_child_care_services_fact_sheet_final_032013.pdf): This Fact Sheet identifies certain child care **services that may be eligible for reimbursement under FEMA's Public Assistance Program. Additionally, the Fact Sheet** reflects additional policies that can be referenced for Private Non-Profit (PNP) child care facilities that have been damaged or destroyed as a result of a Presidentially declared disaster.
- The Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013: Provides **FEMA the specific authority to pay for "child care" expenses as** disaster assistance under the Other Needs Assistance (ONA) provision of the Individuals and Households Programs in addition to funeral, medical, and dental expenses. A Policy reflecting this authority was released in January 2013 [www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/90723](http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/90723).
- Public Assistance Program and Educational Facilities Fact Sheet [http://www.fema.gov/pdf/about/educational\\_facilities\\_factsheet.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/pdf/about/educational_facilities_factsheet.pdf): FEMA and the U.S. Department of Education **worked together to develop this Fact Sheet in an effort to better address Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) as they** relate to reimbursement eligibility for schools damaged or destroyed as a result of a Presidentially declared disaster.
- National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF): Defines core recovery principles, roles and responsibilities of recovery coordinators and other stakeholders, a coordinating structure that facilitates communication and collaboration among all stakeholders, and guidance for pre and post disaster recovery planning <https://www.fema.gov/pdf/recoveryframework/ndrf.pdf>.

# Appendix E: Coping With Disaster

- Coping with Disasters  
<http://www.ready.gov/coping-with-disaster>
- The National Child Traumatic Stress Center <http://www.nctsn.org/about-us/national-center>
- National Center for School Crisis and Bereavement  
<http://www.stchristophershospital.com/pediatric-specialties-programs/specialties/690>
- Online Clearinghouse Quick Find on Crisis Prevention and Response  
[http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/qf/p2107\\_01.htm](http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/qf/p2107_01.htm)
- Promoting Adjustment and Helping Children Cope  
<http://www2.aap.org/disasters/adjustment.cfm>
- Talking to Children About Disasters <http://www2.aap.org/disasters/talking-to-children.cfm>
- How to help children cope with disasters  
[http://www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpl4E/b.8479773/k.2264/How\\_to\\_Help\\_Children\\_Cope\\_with\\_a\\_Crisis.htm](http://www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpl4E/b.8479773/k.2264/How_to_Help_Children_Cope_with_a_Crisis.htm)
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Helping Children Cope with Disaster <http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content/KEN01-0093R/KEN01-0093R.pdf>

# Appendix F: Training Resources

- Planning for the needs of Children in Disasters IS-366: The purpose of this course is to provide **guidance for Emergency Managers and implementers of children’s programs about meeting the unique needs that arise among children as a result of a disaster or emergency** <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/courseOverview.aspx?code=IS-366>.
- Multi-hazard Planning for Childcare IS-36: The goal of this course is to provide childcare providers, of all sizes and with responsibility for children of all ages, with the knowledge and tools to analyze the hazards and threats at the site, to develop a plan to address these hazards and threats, and to implement processes to update and practice the emergency plan <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/courseOverview.aspx?code=IS-36>.
- Tracking and Reunification of Children in Disasters: A Lesson and Reference for Health Professionals: <http://ncdmph.usuhs.edu/KnowledgeLearning/2012-Learning1.htm>.
- Community Mass Care and Emergency Assistance G 108: The purpose of this course is to develop a foundational knowledge of Mass Care and Emergency Assistance (MC/EA) services in the community. Participants may use this information to build community emergency action items and to identify gaps **in the community’s** program <http://www.fema.gov/state-offices-and-agencies-emergency-management>.
- Mass Care and Emergency Support for Field Operations E 411: The purpose of the workshop is to increase the awareness of Federal Emergency, Mass Care and Emergency Assistance (MC/EA) history, MC/EA services, the MC/EA organizational structure, the environment in which the MC/EA services are provided, the tasks performed by the MC/EA staff during disaster operations.

# Appendix G: Department of Education Resources

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- Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance Center (TAC)
- New Federal Guidance
- REMS Web Site
- Training by Request
- Samples of Virtual Trainings & Webinars
- REMS Toolbox

# Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance (TA) Center



**Phone:** (855) 781-7367 (REMS)  
**Email:** [info@remstacenter.org](mailto:info@remstacenter.org)

For additional information, resources, training, and technical assistance, please contact the Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance (TA) TA Center.

Get the new  
*Guides*

Request  
Technical  
Assistance

Access resources  
for School & IHE  
emergency  
planning

Request an  
On-Site Training

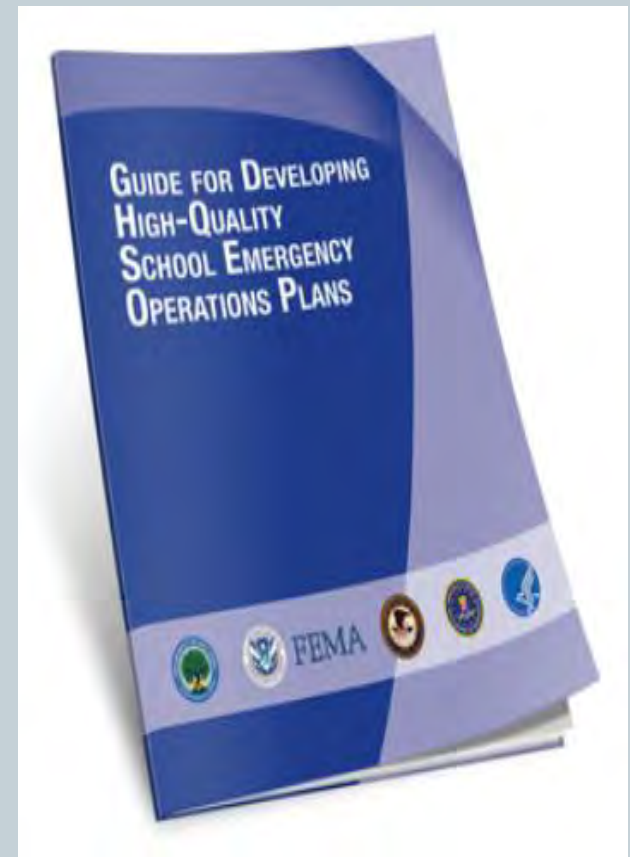


# New Federal Guidance



- Released by the White House on June 18, 2013
- First joint product of ED, DHS, FEMA, DOJ, FBI, and HHS

- Download the full *Guide*
- **Click through the “At a Glance”**
- Access topic-specific resources



# Web Site: <http://rems.ed.gov>



REMS TA Center supports districts, schools, and IHEs in the development of high-quality EOPs and comprehensive emergency management planning efforts.



**Key info for schools  
EOP Development**

**Key info for IHE  
EOP Development**

# Trainings by Request

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- *Developing Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs) K-12 and IHE 101 Training*

- *Resilience Strategies for Educators: Techniques for Self-Care and Peer Support*

- *Threat Assessment in Schools: Basics and Benchmarks*

# Samples of Virtual Trainings & Webinars



An Overview of the Guides for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans

Campus Public Safety: A Closer Look

Implementing Psychological First Aid (PFA) in School and Postsecondary Settings

Information Sharing and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) & Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) for Schools and Postsecondary Institutions

**Active Shooter** Situations: Describing Unique Challenges Involved in Preparing for, Responding to, and Recovering from a School-Based or Postsecondary Institution Shooting

# REMS Tool Box

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- Virtual library of tools developed by school emergency managers in the field
- Relevant resources pertinent to the needs of local education agencies and their partners
  - Sample drills, tabletops or other exercises;
  - Job descriptions; memorandums of understanding (MOU) with community partners;
  - Organizational charts;
  - Planning guidelines or sample policies

## Appendix H: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Administration for Children and Families Resources

- HHS Disaster Human Services Concept of Operations – provides the conceptual framework for coordination and guidance of HHS federal-level human services for preparedness, response, and recovery for disaster and public health emergencies. The Concept of Operations describes how HHS transitions from normal operations of human services program delivery to a coordinated, Department-wide response to the human services elements of a public health and medical emergency. <http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/planning/abc/Documents/disasterhumanservices-conops-2014.pdf>
- Early Childhood Disaster-Related Resources – a webpage with various early childhood disaster-related resources in one location, such as resources for Early Childhood Education Providers, Families and Caregivers, and Policy Makers. <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ohsepr/early-childhood>
- Children & Youth Task Force in Disasters: Guidelines for Development – a guidance document for state, and local governments to implement promising practices prior to disaster impact. <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ohsepr/resources>
- OHSEPR webpage for more resources – the ACF Office of Human Services Emergency Preparedness and Response continues to upload documents related to human services impacts before, during, and post disasters. The webpage is continually updated with resources, blog posts, webinar announcements, and other resources. <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ohsepr>

# Questions

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