The State, Local, and Community Response to Emergencies - How Disability Fits (Part I - Planning)

September 13, 2012
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The State, Local and Community Response to Emergencies - How Disability Fits (Part I – Planning)

Dante Gliniecki - Statewide Volunteer Coordinator Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA)
Richard Devylder - Special Advisor Secretary of the California Emergency Management Agency
Jeanne Abadie - Compliance Specialist, Advocacy Center Louisiana

Moderator: Lewis Kraus, Assistant Director, Pacific ADA Center
This Presentation Describes:

- National Incident Management System (NIMS)
- State Emergency Plan (SEP)
- New Initiatives
- Executive Role in Emergency Management
Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS)

- Origins
- 4 Components
- 5 Levels
- 5 Functions

Origins of the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS)

After the 1991 East Bay Hills fire, Senator Petris introduced SB 1841

When chaptered, it directed OES, with the support of other state/local agencies, to develop SEMS for CA
Legal Basis for SEMS:

- Senate Bill 1841
- Emergency Services Act § 8607
- State Agency vs. Local Government Compliance

SEMS Was Developed to Improve:

- Flow of Information and resources
- Coordination between responding agencies
- Rapid mobilization, deployment and resource tracking
National Incident Management System (NIMS) Background

HSPD-5 – Issued February 28, 2003

President directed Secretary of Homeland Security to develop and administer NIMS

Components of NIMS

- Incident Command System
- Multi/inter-Agency Coordination
- Mutual Aid
- Operational Area Concept
- Resource Management
- Certification-Qualifications
Incident Command System (ICS)

- On-scene responders organize and function under the Incident Command System (ICS)
- Unified Command established when jurisdiction or responsibility is shared

How Does NIMS Work?

Five Levels of Government

Five Functions

NIMS
Organizational Levels:

- State Level (SOC)
- Region Level (REOC)
- Operational Area Level (EOC)
- Local Govt. Level (EOC)
- Field Level (Incident Command)

Coordination Between Levels:

- Flow of Information
- Request/Tracking of Resources
State Emergency Plan

- Methods for carrying out emergency operations;
- The process for rendering mutual aid;
- Emergency services of governmental agencies;
- How resources are mobilized;
- Emergency public information; and
- Continuity of government.

SEP is intended to be used in conjunction with city, county, operational area and state agency plans and associated standard operating procedures.

The State EMA is typically charged with keeping the plan up to date and develops revised drafts of the plan in coordination with state agencies, local governments and relevant stakeholders.
## Emergency Support Functions

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<th>1. Transportation</th>
<th>10. Oil &amp; Hazardous Materials Response</th>
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<td>2. Communications</td>
<td>11. Agriculture &amp; Natural Resources</td>
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<td>4. Firefighting</td>
<td>13. Public Safety &amp; Security</td>
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<td>6. Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing &amp; Human Services</td>
<td>15. External Affairs</td>
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<td>7. Logistics Management &amp; Resource Support</td>
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<td>8. Public Health &amp; Medical Services</td>
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<td>9. Search and Rescue</td>
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### CA Senate Bill 1451

**Signed in 2010**

- The Director of the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services shall appoint representatives of the disabled community to serve on the evacuation, sheltering, communication, recovery, and other pertinent Standardized Emergency Management System committees, including one representative to the Technical Working Group.
- Representatives of the disabled community shall, to the extent practicable, be from the following groups:
  - (1) Persons who are blind or visually impaired.
  - (2) Persons with sensory or cognitive disabilities.
  - (3) Persons with physical disabilities.

- Within the Standardized Emergency Management System structure, the director shall ensure, to the extent practicable, that the needs of the disabled community are met by ensuring all committee recommendations regarding preparedness, planning, and procedures relating to emergencies include the needs of people with disabilities.
Community Network

- Community-based organizations that are either a state association or providing direct services to people with disabilities and access and functional needs.
- The organizations are utilized to communicate potential disaster situations, and identify needs and resources during disasters and in recovery.
Disasters in Missouri

Whose Responsibility is it to be prepared for emergencies?
ADA Best Practices Tool Kit for State and Local Governments

“One of the primary responsibilities of state and local governments is to protect residents and visitors from harm, including assistance in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from emergencies and disasters.

State and local governments must comply with Title II of the ADA in the emergency- and disaster-related programs, services, and activities they provide.1 This requirement applies to programs, services, and activities provided directly by state and local governments as well as those provided through third parties, such as the American Red Cross, private nonprofit organizations, and religious entities.”

http://www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/chap7emergencymgmt.htm

1% of the population is first responders (i.e. firefighters, EMTs, police, etc.) who will respond (to the best of their ability) to 99% of the population.
No more “Special Needs”

The term “Access and Functional Needs” is replacing “Special Needs” in the American vernacular.

Those with access and functional needs:
Need supports to maintain independence in daily activities, communication, transportation/evacuation, supervision or medical care.

People with Access and Functional Needs include:

- People with disabilities:
  - Physical
  - Sensory
  - Mental health
  - Cognitive
- Older individuals
- Children
- Women in late stages of pregnancy
- People requiring bariatric equipment
- Those recently discharged from hospitals
- People who are non-English speaking or who have limited language abilities
- People with limited transportation
Functional Needs Support Services (FNSS):

- Are the services that enable people – both children and adults – to maintain their usual level of independence in general population shelters
- Are intended to ensure equal access to all services provided by a shelter
- Can be supports needed to function independently before, during and possibly after a disaster

Functional Needs Support Services Include:

- Reasonable modifications to policies, practices and procedures.
- Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
- Consumable Medical Supplies (CMS)
- Personal Assistance Services (PAS)
- Other goods and services as needed.
Key Concepts of FNSS:

- Self-determination
- No “One Size Fits All” Labeling (e.g., “all people with CP need . . .”)
- Equal Access
- Equal Opportunity
- Inclusion
- Integration
- Physical Access
- Effective Communication
- Program Modifications
- No Charge

Functional Assessment Support Teams (FAST):

- Conduct Assessments at Shelters
- Evaluate Functional Needs
- Determine Resources Needed
- Secure Resources Needed
FAST Team members can include:

- Government Employees
  - SEMA, DSS, DMH, DHSS
- Community based personnel
  - Centers for Independent Living, Councils
- Non-governmental organizations
  - American Red Cross, Salvation Army

FAST Members Should:

- Have extensive knowledge of the populations they serve.
- Understand the needs of the shelter to which they were assigned.
- Have access to available services and resources.
- Include people who have access and functional needs.
Benefits of FAST:

- They are a community resource
- They put resources directly where they are needed
- They assist in identifying and providing FNSS
- They assist communities in meeting the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and other laws.

Integrated Community Planning Steps:

- Review current plans
- Identify stakeholders
- Complete gap analysis
- Identify resources
- Establish relationships
Stakeholders include:

- People with access and functional needs who will require functional needs support services in disasters
- Agencies/organizations that provide FNSS
- Advocacy organizations
- Providers of services
- Faith-based organizations
- Non-governmental organizations that might be part of the local COAD (Community Organizations Active in Disasters) or LTRC (Long-Term Recovery Committee)

Community Gap Analysis

- Identify the types of disabilities and/or functional needs that exist within the community
- Determine the types of resources that will be needed to serve the WHOLE community
Identify Resources & Establish Relationships

- Work with partners to help determine which tasks and responsibilities will be met by each stakeholder
- Establish relationships with providers and identify how they can support the needs of individuals with access and functional needs

Considerations for FNSS Planning:

- Reasonable modifications to policies, procedures, practices
- Communication
- Access to medications
- Mental health issues (i.e. provision of quiet rooms)
- Transportation
- Cooled/heated environments
- Other
Forming a Committee or Task Group:

- Pay attention to form and structure of the committee
- Be inclusive of stakeholders
- Budget and plan for committee members’ accommodating
- Staff administrative support is essential
- Emergency management ownership is essential
- Leadership selection is crucial – pick those who have a strong interest
- Position the committee where it will thrive
Road Map for the Committee

Roadmap for Integrating Access and Functional Needs - Considerations in Missouri State and Local Emergency Operations Plan

Purpose
This document will serve as a roadmap for integrating access and functional needs planning considerations into Missouri State and Local Emergency Operations Plans.

Scope
This roadmap will apply to all aspects of the State Emergency Operations Plan including the base plan and all of its emergency support function annexes. Additionally, this roadmap will lay out plans for providing a template and guidance to local emergency managers for their planning considerations.

The integration of access and functional needs support services into Missouri Emergency Operations plans will deal with all emergency support areas requiring access and functional needs considerations. A particular emphasis will be placed on those emergency support functions concerned with the provision of human services to Missouri citizens.

Situation
Current estimates indicate that approximately 14% of the population of the State...
Resources:

- American Red Cross: [http://www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

Resources:

- Department of Mental Health Disaster Readiness: [http://dmh.mo.gov/disaster/](http://dmh.mo.gov/disaster/)
- Missouri Centers for Independent Living: [http://www.mosilc.org/CIL.htm](http://www.mosilc.org/CIL.htm)
- National Organization on Disabilities: [www.nod.org/emergency](http://www.nod.org/emergency)
- Disability Preparedness Resource Center: [www.disabilitypreparedness.gov](http://www.disabilitypreparedness.gov)
Including Disability in Disaster Planning Louisiana Style

ADA National Network
September 13, 2012

Presented by: Jeanne Abadie, Advocacy Center

EMDAC

Emergency Management Disability and Aging Coalition
What is EMDAC?

A Coalition that:

• Includes emergency managers and disability and aging advocates
• Meets every six to eight weeks
• Provides information and support to emergency planning regarding disability issues
• Develops projects and resources to better provide for the needs of people with disability and aging before, during and after a disaster or emergency

Why was EMDAC formed?

• Response to the 2005 Hurricanes (Katrina and Rita) that hit Louisiana
• Realization of the need for more focused planning regarding disability issues
• Disability advocates and policy makers were often strangers to emergency management
• Emergency Managers were often not well informed of disability needs and issues
Forming Stages of EMDAC

1. Introductions
2. Figuring out who is who
3. Being Defensive about what you know
4. Realizing what you don’t know and others do know
5. Mutual Respect for others’ roles and knowledge

What Keeps EMDAC Together?

- Acknowledgement that working together leads to a stronger emergency response for people with disabilities and those who are elderly
- Continuing to work on projects that will better serve people with disabilities before, during or after a disaster. (Don’t stop after the first accomplishment!)
- The recognition and relief that all members of EMDAC are working together for the same purpose!
EMDAC’s Accomplishments

- Has a designated seat in the states Emergency Operations Center (when activated) to provide guidance on disability and aging issues.
- Developed method to provide for personal assistance in shelters
- Developed Training Curriculum for volunteers providing PAS in shelters
- Got legislation passed to allow for immunity for gratuitous volunteers acting under the auspices of the state
- Trained close to 50 volunteer shelter caregivers

EMDAC’s Accomplishments

- Developed a method to obtain AT for shelter residents
- Developed a Disability and Aging Resource Guide to be placed in shelter manager packets
- EMDAC was asked to speak at the state Emergency Management conference on disability and aging issues
- EMDAC members presented EMDAC projects at the National Hurricane Conference in 2011; Getting Real II Conference in 2011; at regional Emergency Management and AT Reuse Summits in 2011 & 2012; and in a PAS Center webinar in 2012
Next steps for EMDAC

- Receive WebEOC training
- Putting PAS Training Modules online to allow for real-time and/or on-demand training
- Secure funding for criminal background checks of volunteers
- Continue to recruit and train volunteers
- Practice the project as part of an official emergency management exercise

Who is EMDAC?

- Advocacy Center
- American Red Cross
- LA Assistive Technology Access Network (LATAN)
- AARP
- ALS Association
- Office of Public Health
- New Horizons (ILC)
- Governor’s Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness
- Office of Citizens with Developmental Disabilities
- Office of Aging & Adult Services
- Governor’s Office of Elderly Affairs
- The Arc of Louisiana
- Department of Children & Family Services
- LA Rehabilitation Services
Contact Information

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