

# Federal Emergency Management Agency

Disaster Management Presentation:

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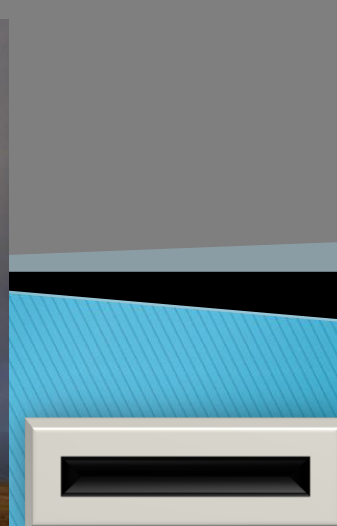


# F.E.M.A.

## Federal Emergency Management Agency

**FEMA's** mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate all hazards.

(FEMA Website, 2015, p. 6)



Earthquake, 201



# History of FEMA

## FEMA

- The origins of FEMA started with the Congressional Act of 1803 which provided assistance to the town of Portsmouth, New Hampshire following a fire.
- **Prior to 1930s** More than 100 ad hoc legislations were passed to assist after disasters
- **1930 – 1960s** After the Great Depression, President Herbert Hoover commissioned the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in 1932. Considered the first organized federal disaster response agency.
- **1973** the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration was organized under the Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Over 100 federal agencies are involved in relief efforts after disasters, creating lack of coordination and poor results.
- **April 1, 1979** President Jimmy Carter signed an executive order to create the Federal Emergency Management Agency as an independent agency.
- **March 1, 2003** After the creation of the Department of Homeland Security in 2002, FEMA was absorbed under the department as a part of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate.
- **2007–present** Disaster relief was again known as the Federal Emergency Management Agency but remained under the Department of Homeland Security.



*The National Disaster Recovery Framework defines roles and responsibilities as “a foundation for unity of effort among all recovery partners to jointly identify opportunities, foster partnerships and optimize resources” (FEMA.gov, 2015, p19).*

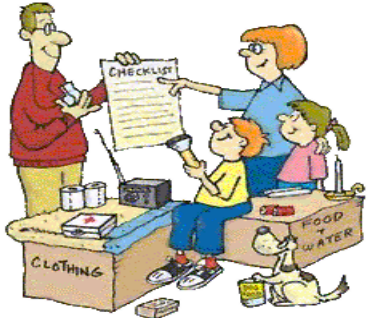
## FEMA

- **Individual/Households** :plan and prepare, stock supplies, purchase insurance, community education.
- **Private Section/Businesses**: develop disaster and recovery plans,foster community confidence, foster confidence in the community by the ability to continue business.
- **Nonprofit Sector**: .. They include voluntary efforts of faith based and community organizations including recovery planning, case management, coordination of volunteers, shelters, medical, emotional and financial support, construction repairs, and more. “Nonprofits directly supplement and fill gaps where government authority and resources cannot be applied” (FEMA.gov, 2015, p21)
- **The Federal government** is responsible for support in large-scale, catastrophic disasters that involve multiple municipalities. National coordination is needed to unify government and non-government agencies to achieve optimal recovery. Education, access to loans and grants, public information, leveraging resources are all roles that the Federal government has in making communities more resistant and resilient in a disaster.
- **State government**: responsible for coordination of the recovery, providing direct assistance if needed and setting priorities. The state level will act as a conduit between local, Tribal and federal government.
- **Local Government**: responsible for planning all areas of the recovery of the community
- **Tribal government**: face the challenge of cross borders in counties and even states in some cases.





**Nurses** have key roles in all phases of the emergency response team.



In *preparedness*, nurses are involved with policy and planning, in education with communities through health departments and preparedness exercises.



Nurses are *first responders* with the ability to assess, triage, to provide care and emotion support to victims and families.



Nurses are *case managers* to assistance with planning and recovery; finding resources and restoring normalcy.



# FEMA Response

## FEMA

In the event of declaration of a disaster the response will be as follows:

- ▶ Federal resources will be mobilized through the US Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
- ▶ FEMA will provide search and rescue, electrical power, food, water, shelter and other basic human needs.
- ▶ Disaster workers arrive and set up a central field office to coordinate the recovery efforts.
- ▶ A toll-free telephone number is published for use by affected residents and business owners in registering for assistance.
- ▶ Disaster Recovery Centers also are opened where disaster victims can meet with program representatives and obtain information about available aid and the recovery process.
- ▶ Disaster aid can be in the form of disaster housing, grants, low interest loans, or other programs such as crisis counseling, disaster-related unemployment assistance, legal aid and assistance with income tax, Social Security and Veteran's benefits ("The Disaster Process," 2015).



# FEMA Response

## FEMA

- ▶ Hurricane Katrina hit the Louisiana coast early morning August 29, 2005
- ▶ FEMA's response to Hurricane Katrina was delayed, ineffective and fraught with inefficiencies and problems (Ahler, 2006).
- ▶ Tens of thousands of New Orleans residents were stranded without access to adequate food, water, or other basic needs.
- ▶ Hurricane Katrina taught FEMA many lessons about their preparedness for a disaster of such magnitude.
- ▶ FEMA's response to Hurricane Sandy was better but still showed notable deficiencies in timeliness of response to disaster survivors needs and implementation of incident management structures, coordination of efforts, and deployment of its workforce (*Hurricane Sandy Report*, 2013).



Image retrieved from <http://www.>

<http://www.>amic/00402/STL0236MEMORIAL\_402434k.jpg

# Mitigation



Mitigation activities entail identifying risks and hazards to either substantially reduce or eliminate the impact of an incident usually through structural measures. (Lindsey, 2012).

The nurses role in mitigation is to identify and plan so as to enhance future disaster response and action. Mitigation is often tied together with the recovery phase. Nurses work during the recovery phase to help repair and rebuild peoples physical and emotional lives. (Lindsey, 2012)



# Preparedness

“The focus of preparedness is to enhance the capacity to respond to an incident by taking steps to ensure personnel and entities are capable of responding to a wide range of potential incidents” (Lindsey, 2012, p. 3).



The role of the nurse in preparedness is to assist with training, planning, surveillance activities to identify potential threats, performing or participating in drills to ensure the adequacy of the planning efforts, and evaluating the effectiveness of the plans (Lindsey, 2012).



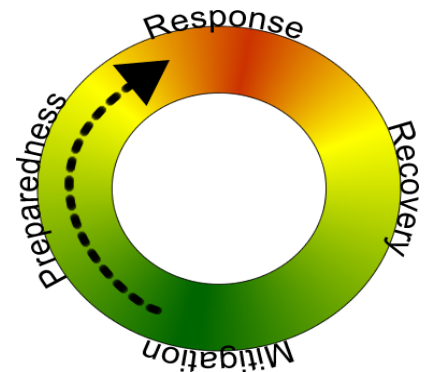
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# Response

Response is defined in the National Response Framework as “the capabilities necessary to save lives, protect property and the environment, and meet basic human needs after an incident has occurred” (FEMA.gov, 2013, p1)

The role of a nurse in the response stage of a disaster is to *respond* with a skill set to assist in the medical team as first responder in assessment, triage, case management, and emotional support. This may be in a hospital with familiar surrounding or in a make-shift area where very supplies or resources are available.

Nurses have key roles in all phases of the emergency response team. In preparedness, nurses are involved with policy and planning, in education with communities through health departments and preparedness exercises. Nurses are first responders with the ability to assess, triage, to provide care and emotional support to victims and families. Nurses are case managers to assistance with planning and recovery; finding resources and restoring normalcy.



# Recovery



The *National Disaster Recovery Framework* is a guide that enables effective recovery support to disaster-impacted States, Tribes, Territorial and local jurisdictions. It provides a flexible structure that enables disaster recovery managers to operate in a unified and collaborative manner. It also focuses on how best to restore, redevelop and revitalize the health, social, economic, natural and environmental fabric of the community and build a more resilient Nation. (Federal Emergency Management Agency Website, 2015, p. 1)

During this phase actions are taken to repair, rebuilt, or reallocate damaged homes and businesses and restore health and economic vitality to the community. Psychological recovery must be addressed. Both victims and relief workers should be offered mental health activities and services. ("Recovery Nursing," 2011, p. 1) Nurses are actively involved in this level providing needed medical care at the disaster site.

# United States Organizations

American Red Cross

The Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team (AMURT)

The Catholic Charities USA Disaster Response

Children's Disaster Services

The Friends Disaster Service (FDS) The National  
Emergency Response Team (NERT)

The Salvation Army

The Volunteers of America

The UJA Federations of North America

The Points of Light Institute

# International Organizations

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

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

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

[geocities.com/HotSprings/Bath/7769/](http://geocities.com/HotSprings/Bath/7769/)

[nursewebsearch.com/Volunteer\\_Opportunities.htm](http://nursewebsearch.com/Volunteer_Opportunities.htm)

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

[projecthope.org/employment.htm](http://projecthope.org/employment.htm)

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

[takingitglobal.org/opps/orgdir.html](http://takingitglobal.org/opps/orgdir.html)

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[7442/sandy\\_fema\\_aar.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1923-25045-7442/sandy_fema_aar.pdf)

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