



DiversityPreparedness.Org E-Newsletter

Produced by the Center for Public Health Readiness & Communication at the Drexel University School of Public Health, developed with support from the USDHHS Office of Minority Health

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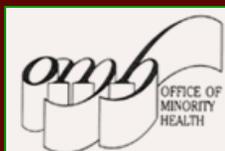
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Dear Colleagues,

This issue of the DiversityPreparedness.org E-Newsletter contains information on upcoming events, recent publications, and features Promoting All Aspects of Recovery in Diverse Communities as the Topic of the Month—providing links to variety of resources and planning tools.

Topic of the Month: Promoting All Aspects of Recovery in Diverse Communities

Recovering from a disaster or public health emergency is a non-linear process which is marked by no clear start and an even less precise end. While there is general consensus that recovery is a lengthy, costly, and complex process, there is little agreement on what complete recovery looks like—particularly in impoverished communities with sub-standard living conditions prior to the event. Recovery efforts have also typically focused on rebuilding physical infrastructure and revitalizing local economies, but largely neglected to address issues related to psychological health and regaining social normalcy. Below is a select list of guidance documents, journal articles, and translated materials to inform integrated recovery efforts that promote social, psychological, economic, and physical recovery in diverse communities.



Journal Articles:

- **Church-based social capital, networks and geographical scale- Katrina evacuation, relocation, and recovery in a New Orleans Vietnamese American community:** Examines the role of social capital and networks in the evacuation, relocation, and recovery experiences of Vietnamese Americans following Hurricane Katrina.
- **The Effects of Hurricane Katrina on Food Access Disparities in New Orleans:** Documents racial disparities in food access during the Hurricane Katrina recovery period.

- **Katrina’s Vietnamese Victims- Falls Church Area Agency Aids Gulf Coast Victims:** Describes cultural barriers which impeded the recovery of Vietnamese individuals following Hurricane Katrina and one organization’s effort to help rebuild.
- **The Northridge Earthquake- Community-based Approaches to Unmet Recovery Needs:** Documents the efforts of community-based organizations to meet the post-disaster needs of vulnerable populations in two ethnically diverse communities following the 1994 Northridge Earthquake.

Reports :

- **Cultural Competency in Disaster Recovery- Lessons Learned from the Hurricane Katrina Experience for Better Serving Marginalized Communities:** Examines federal and state recovery initiatives following hurricane Katrina from a legal perspective and provides recommendations for meeting the disaster related needs of diverse populations in the future.
- **Understanding the Role of African American Churches and Clergy in Community Crisis Response:** Explores the extent to which government and nonprofit agencies engaged African American clergy and churches when responding to the urgent needs of people of color in Hurricane Katrina’s aftermath.
- **In the Wake of Katrina- The Continuing Saga of Housing and Rebuilding in New Orleans:** Discusses role of housing in shaping social and economic recovery in New Orleans while highlighting racial disparities and the social determinants of displacement.

Translated Materials :

- **Volunteers Needed!:** Provides information on offering volunteer help in an emergency. The resource is available in **English, Somali, Spanish, Arabic,** and **Bosnian.**



- **Wash Your Hands:** Discusses the importance of frequently washing one’s hands after a disaster to prevent the spread of disease. The resource is available in **English, Vietnamese,** and **Spanish.**
- **Protect Yourself From Mold:** Provides information regarding how to identify mold and prevent future growth. The resource is available in **English** and **Vietnamese.**
- **Reentering Your Flooded Home:** Provides information regarding precautions to take when reentering your home after a flood and tips on how begin the drying process. The resource is available in **English** and **Vietnamese.**



Mental Health:

- **Developing Cultural Competence in Disaster Mental Health Programs- Guiding Principles and Recommendations:** This resource guide provides information on methods for integrating culturally competent practices into mental health services for disaster survivors.
- **Post traumatic stress, context, and the lingering effects of the Hurricane Katrina disaster among ethnic minority youth:** This study examined changes in the prevalence of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms in a predominantly ethnic minority sample of youth exposed to Hurricane Katrina.
- **Tips for Teachers- The Role of Culture in Helping Children Recover from a Disaster:** This fact sheet provides advice for teachers to better understand how cultural differences contribute to a child’s psychological responses to disaster.

Government Assistance:

- **Hurricane Recovery- Federal Government Provided a Range of Assistance to Non-profits following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita:** This GAO report describes how the federal government worked with non-profit organizations to facilitate recovery efforts following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.
- **Addressing the Needs of Immigrants and Limited English Proficient (LEP) Communities in Disaster Planning and Relief:** Describes lessons learned from working with immigrant and LEP communities as well as challenges to accessing government recovery benefits and services.
- **Memorandum- Noncitizen Eligibility for Disaster Related Assistance:** Provides a table listing disaster-related assistance programs for individuals with different eligibility statuses—such as qualified aliens, non-immigrants, and unqualified aliens.

New Articles & Promising Practices:

Guidance for Integrating Culturally Diverse Communities into Planning and Responding to Emergencies: A Toolkit

Developed from the recommendations of the **National Consensus Panel on Emergency Preparedness and Cultural Diversity**, and with support from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Minority Health, this toolkit provides strategies to integrate issues related to race, ethnicity, culture, language, and trust into emergency preparedness, response, and recovery activities. It provides concrete steps and links to a wide range of web-based resources. To access the free Toolkit, [CLICK HERE](#).

Racial Identity–Related Differential Attributions of Inadequate Responses to Hurricane Katrina: A Social Identity Perspective

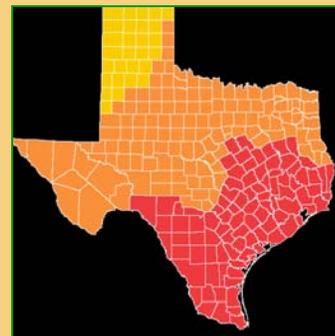
This article, recently appearing in *Race and Social Problems*, draws on social identity theory to examine how race contributed to variations in perceived responsibility for problematic responses to Hurricane Katrina. Implications for disaster planning, future research, and social service delivery are discussed. To access the article [CLICK HERE](#).

How to Include Diverse, Vulnerable Populations in Emergency Preparedness

This recent article from *Emergency Management News* describes promising practices from across the country to integrate the needs of diverse and vulnerable population into preparedness planning; including: the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, the Greater Boston Jewish Emergency Management System, Drexel University School of Public Health, and others. To access the article [CLICK HERE](#).

An Achilles Heel in Emergency Communications: The Deplorable Policies and Practices Pertaining to Non-English Speaking Populations

This project and report documents emergency communication policies and practices related to Spanish-speaking populations in Central Texas. Field research was conducted and an expert panel was convened to explore questions regarding current emergency communication plans and policies, identify existing resources and assets, and generate programmatic and policy recommendations. To view the full report [CLICK HERE](#).



Events & Training

Webinar: Integrating Culturally Diverse Populations into Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans

Tuesday, April 26, 2011
10:00am- 11:00am (PDT)

This webinar, sponsored by the California Primary Care Association, will present a new resource entitled, *Guidance for Integrating Culturally Diverse Communities into Planning for and Responding to Emergencies: A Toolkit*. For more information and to register [CLICK HERE](#).

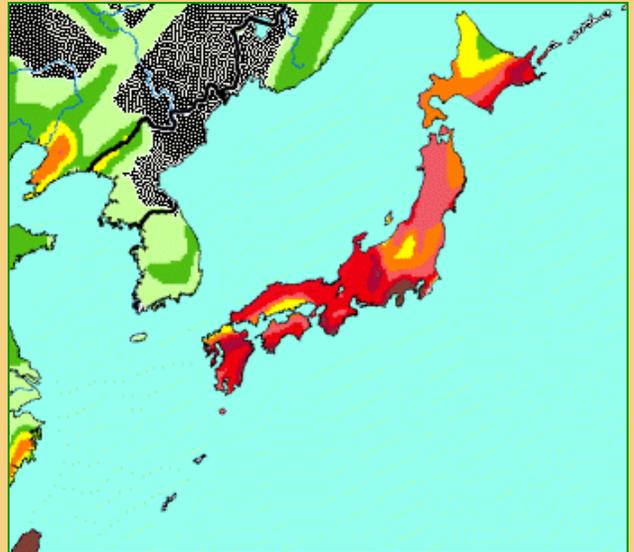
Annual Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) Conference

May 24-26, 2011
Kansas City, Missouri

This conference is a gathering of various volunteer agencies from across the country that are active in emergency preparedness and disaster response. For more information [CLICK HERE](#).

Evolving Situation: Nuclear Emergency in Japan

Japanese officials are working to control the effects of a nuclear disaster after a 8.9 magnitude earthquake and tsunami on March 11, 2011 **crippled nuclear reactors** at power plants across the country. Given the current status of the situation, and the location of the damaged facilities, the **United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission** states that the United States and its territories at no risk of radiation. Depending on dose, ionizing radiation can have severe consequences for human health, including carcinogenetic and genetic effects. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has centralized resources on **radiation emergencies**—including fact sheets about **potassium iodine**, which can be used for primary prevention, and **Prussian blue**, which can be used as a secondary or tertiary measure. Information on nuclear radiation emergencies in various languages is available [HERE](#).



We encourage you to share the [National Resource Center](#) with your peers and colleagues and welcome you to link to the website. Please also feel free to e-mail your comments and any feedback to our team. We look forward to working with you to making this site a resourceful and useful tool in advancing the preparedness of our nation's diverse communities.

Sincerely,

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