

ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Request

Requestor:

Requestor Phone:

Requestor Email:

Request Receipt Date (by ASPR TRACIE): 27 September 2017

Response Date: 27 September 2017

Type of TA Request: Standard

Request:

██████████ indicated that the ██████████ Collaborative was interested in disaster response resources for child welfare agencies.

Response:

The ASPR TRACIE team reviewed existing technical assistance response documents, as well as various ASPR TRACIE Topic Collections.

Materials gathered are provided in the following sections of this document. Please note that online courses and training resources are also provided, as appropriate, since they may also help with your request. For more information on ASPR TRACIE, access our [fact sheet](#).

Section I includes links to general pediatric preparedness videos and other materials. Section II provides resources specific to family reunification and support with a focus on young disaster survivors. Section III includes information on pediatric mental/behavioral health-related resources, general resources are included in Section IV, and links to helpful ASPR TRACIE Topic Collections are listed in Section V.

I. Pediatric-Specific Access and Functional Needs Resources

American Academy of Pediatrics. (2013). [Children and Disasters: Children and Youth with Special Needs](#).

This fact sheet discusses how pediatricians can help families with children and youth with special needs prepare for emergencies. It includes information for pediatricians to speak with families about preparedness kits; written disaster plans; transportation needs; medication and equipment; and coping and adjustment.

American Academy of Pediatrics. (2013). [Pediatric Preparedness Resource Kit](#).

This kit allows pediatricians, public health leaders and other pediatric care providers to assess what is happening in their community or state, and help determine what needs to be done before an emergency or disaster. The kit also promotes collaborative discussions and decision making about pediatric preparedness planning.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2013). [Caring for Children in a Disaster](#).

Parents, teachers, doctors and nurses are just some of the people who can help children get ready for and cope with disasters. Parents, schools, and childcare centers can prepare so that children can be as safe as possible during and after a disaster. These comprehensive resources help the whole community address the unique needs of children in disasters.

Disaster and Community Crisis Center, University of Missouri. (2016). [Disasters and Child Abuse: A Fact Sheet for Disaster Responders and Providers](#). University of Missouri Disaster and Community Crisis Center.

This fact sheet can help disaster responders understand the potential connections between disasters and child abuse or neglect. Links to related resources and strategies responders can use before, during, and after a disaster are included.

Disaster Preparedness Advisory Council, Committee on Pediatric Emergency Medicine. (2015). [Ensuring the Health of Children in Disasters](#). American Academy of Pediatrics. 136(5): e1407-e1417.

This policy statement addresses how pediatricians and others involved in the care and well-being of children can prepare for and mitigate the effects of disasters, encourage preparedness and resiliency among children and families and within communities, and ensure that children's needs, including those of children and youth with special healthcare needs, are not neglected in planning, response, and recovery efforts.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Youth and Families, Family and Youth Services Bureau. (2009). [Ready for Anything: A Disaster Planning Manual for Runaway and Homeless Youth Programs](#).

This document is designed to help staff at youth-serving agencies construct a successful emergency preparedness plan. It includes worksheets and checklists to guide staff step-by-step through the process of creating an emergency preparedness plan for their agency.

II. Family Reunification and Support Resources with Pediatric Focus

Broughton, D., Allen, E., Hannemann, R., Petrikin, J. (2006). [Getting 5000 Families Back Together: Reuniting Fractured Families after a Disaster: The Role of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children](#). Pediatrics, 117(4): 442-445.

This article highlights the efforts made by NCMEC post-Katrina to reunify children and their families. Both Project ALERT and Team Adam were utilized along with the help of private organizations.

Chung, S., Christoudias, C.M., Darrell, T., et al. (2012). [A Novel Image-based Tool to Reunite Children with Their Families after Disasters](#). Academic Emergency Medicine, 19(11): 1227-1234.

This article reports the findings of tests completed to determine the accuracy of various child identification tools. One tool, "Feature-Attribute-Matching," extracts facial features from photographs to be matched with a parent's description of their child. The other tool, "User-Feedback," allows parents to choose photographs resembling their child which then reprioritizes the images in the database.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Citizen Corps. (2011). [Integrating Child Reunification into Emergency Preparedness Plans: Community Preparedness Webinar Series.](#)

This webinar transcript (webinar video is no longer available online) describes the presentation made by representatives from FEMA, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Department of Justice, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the District of Columbia and a state and local emergency manager from the state of Connecticut. The presentation focused on different types of reunification systems available and strategies for integrating these procedures and protocols into your jurisdiction's emergency plans.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), American Red Cross (ARC), and National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). (2013). [Post-Disaster Reunification of Children: A Nationwide Approach.](#)

This guidance document provides a comprehensive overview of the coordination processes necessary to reunify children separated from their parents/legal guardians in the event of a large-scale disaster and reflects how the whole community - to include educational, child care, medical, and juvenile justice facilities, nongovernmental organizations, state, local and federal partners, voluntary and faith based organizations, disability and pediatric experts, and private sector partners can work together to achieve one wide ranging mission. This document can assist in developing new, or apply to existing, emergency preparedness plans and/or reunification procedures.

Katrina Citizens Leadership Corps. (n.d.). [What It Takes To Rebuild A Village After A Disaster: Stories from Internally Displaced Children and Families of Hurricane Katrina and Their Lessons for Our Nation.](#) Children's Defense Fund Library.

This article includes excerpts to the President from internally displaced children regarding what they expect to be done within the government that will allow them to be reunified with their families. It also lists ways to prepare for future disasters that will prevent families being split up due to a disaster.

Kimmer, S., Altman, B., Strauss-Riggs, K. (2013). [Tracking and Reunification of Children in Disasters: A Lesson and Reference for Health Professionals.](#) Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health (NCDMPH).

This free, online, self-paced training course uses three case studies (tornado, earthquake, and wildfires) to discuss the key tasks for tracking and reunification of children in disaster, identify designated individuals or agencies to assist in tracking and reunification, and access information on key tasks and contacts. The course length is approximately one-hour and is accredited for Continuing Education credit. There is also guidance available for those that want to use the lesson for in-person training.

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). (n.d.). [National Emergency Child Locator Center](#). Accessed 9/27/2017.)

This dedicated call center operated by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) can be activated at the request of a disaster-impacted state to intake child-related reunification calls, to alleviate some of the call load from the impacted state's emergency communications systems, and to coordinate tips and leads with on-the-ground reunification efforts. The NECLC has the capacity to expand or relocate to back-up sites.

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). (n.d.). [Unaccompanied Minors Registry](#). (Accessed 9/27/2017.)

This data collection tool is focused on collecting basic information of children who have been separated from their families as a result of a disaster. Individuals can provide basic information and photos concerning a located child whose parents are missing. Once registration information is submitted, NCMEC will cross-reference it against any potential phone calls from a child's parents who may be searching for their child.

III. Pediatric Mental/ Behavioral Health-Related Resources

Illinois Emergency Medical Services for Children. (n.d.). [Disaster Mental Health Response for Children: Educational Module](#). (Accessed 9/27/2017.) Loyola Medicine.

This course can be used as just in time training to prepare emergency healthcare providers to identify the mental health needs of pediatric disaster survivors. Links to the PowerPoint presentation and a narrated version of the module are provided.

Schonfeld, D.J. (2011). [Supporting Children's Mental Health Needs in the Aftermath of A Disaster: Pediatric Pearls](#). (Requires Real Player or Windows Media Player.) Alabama Department of Public Health.

This 90-minute video includes information on how healthcare providers can help children cope with stress in the wake of a disaster. The target audience includes clinical staff (e.g., pediatricians and family physicians), and mental health professionals and social workers who work with children and their families. A link to the slides and reading list are also available.

Schonfeld, D.J. (2013). [Psychosocial Impacts of Disasters on Children](#). Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health.

This online training can help health professionals learn more about the unique psychosocial needs of children in disasters.

IV. General Pediatric Preparedness Resources

Fargason, C., Johnston, C., and Wingate, M.S. (2014). [Needs of Our Children: Pediatric Care Before, During and After Disasters](#). (Requires free registration.) South Central Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Center.

This training provides information related to children's needs during emergency or disaster events from both a clinical care and a public health planning perspective. A brief overview of the needs of the pediatric population and the delivery system that specifically serves children, and experiences from recent disasters where resources for children were limited are discussed.

Federal Emergency Management Agency. (2010). [IS-366: Planning for the Needs of Children in Disasters](#).

This 4-hour course provides guidance for emergency managers and implementers of children's programs to meet the unique needs that arise among children as a result of a disaster or emergency. At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to create, update, or revise an emergency operations plan for their community or organization to effectively address the unique needs of children in disasters. Printable versions of each lesson are available.

Krug, S. (2012). [Disaster Preparedness: Are We Ready for Kids?](#) (Requires Real Player or Windows Media Player to view.) Alabama Department of Public Health.

The speakers in this 90-minute webinar discuss how improved readiness can be achieved through collaboration between public health, emergency management leadership, and key pediatric care experts and stakeholders in the private sector. The target audience includes pediatricians, nurses, social workers, emergency medical response providers, healthcare providers, and disaster management personnel.

Peacock, G., Anderson, M., Chernak, E., et al. (2015). [Addressing Preparedness Challenges for Children in Public Health Emergencies](#). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Presenters discuss strategies to address the unique vulnerabilities of children in every stage of emergency planning. They also discuss the need for enhanced collaboration between public health professionals and pediatric care providers to improve the outcomes for children during emergencies.

Tennessee Emergency Medical Services for Children (TN EMSC). (2017). [Pediatric Disaster Preparedness Educational Toolbox Online Courses](#).

This website provides several courses designed to help improve disaster response in the state of Tennessee. The courses are for families, and healthcare and other professionals who may be expected to respond in the event of large-scale disasters. Each course has a pediatric focus in keeping with the mission of TN EMSC, however much of the information applies equally well in non-pediatric situations. **NOTE:** Some of the videos on this website are also included in various ASPR TRACIE Topic Collections.

Various authors. (n.d.). [Children in Disasters: PowerPoints](#). (Accessed 9/27/2017. Some presentations require login.) American Academy of Pediatrics.

This webpage provides links to presentations developed by American Academy of Pediatrics leaders for educational purposes. Members may review, use, or adapt these presentations as needed.

Yale New Haven Health System Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response. (n.d.). [Small Victims, Big Challenges: Pediatric Triage, Treatment, and Recovery for Emergencies](#). (Accessed 6/5/2017. Requires login.)

This hour-long course introduces clinicians acting as first receivers to the unique challenges presented by pediatric disaster survivors.

V. Links to ASPR TRACIE Topic Collections (alphabetical order)

Access and Functional Needs -- [Population-Specific Resources: Children](#)

Access and Functional Needs -- [Women and Gender Issues](#)

[Family Reunification and Support](#)

[Pediatric](#)