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HEALTHCARE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS  
INFORMATION GATEWAY

# Pediatric Issues Informing Current and Future Disaster Planning

October 3, 2024



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**Rachel Lehman**  
**Acting Program Director, ASPR TRACIE**



# ASPR Key Priorities



# ASPR TRACIE: Three Domains



- Self-service collection of audience-tailored materials
- Subject-specific, SME-reviewed “Topic Collections”
- Unpublished and SME peer-reviewed materials highlighting real-life tools and experiences



[asprtracie.hhs.gov](http://asprtracie.hhs.gov)



- Personalized support and responses to requests for information and technical assistance
- Accessible by toll-free number (1844-5-TRACIE), email ([askasprtracie@hhs.gov](mailto:askasprtracie@hhs.gov)), or web form ([ASPRtracie.hhs.gov](http://ASPRtracie.hhs.gov))



1-844-5-TRACIE



- Area for password-protected discussion among vetted users in near real-time
- Ability to support chats and the peer-to-peer exchange of user-developed templates, plans, and other materials



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# Select ASPR TRACIE Pediatric Resources

- [Pediatric/Children Topic Collection](#)
- [Pediatric Surge Resources Page](#)
- [Managing a Pediatric Tripledemic: Lessons Learned from 2022](#)
- [Healthcare Coalition Pediatric Surge Annex Template](#)
- [Step by Step Guide to Implementing the Pediatric Surge Annex TTX Template](#)
- [Healthcare Pediatric Surge Annex: Leveraging Templates for Operational Impact \(Webinar\)](#)
- [Developing a Healthcare Coalition Pediatric Surge Annex \(Webinar\)](#)
- [Lessons Learned from the Pediatric Tripledemic-Systems, Staff, Space, and Supplies \(ASPR TRACIE Roundtable\)](#)





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**Michael Anderson, MD, MBA, FAP, FCCM, FAARC**  
Senior Advisor, HHS ASPR





# Pediatric Disaster Centers of Excellence

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**Deanna Dahl-Grove, MD, FAAP, Region V for Kids**

**Brent Kaziny, MD, MA, FAAP, Gulf 7 - Pediatric Disaster Network**

**Christopher Newton, MD, WRAP-EM**



# DISCLOSURE

The Pediatric Disaster Centers of Excellence are supported by awards from the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Gulf7 #6 U3REP220671-01-01, Region V for Kids #U3REP190615-10-10, and Western Regional Alliance for Pediatric Emergency Management #6-U3REP190616-01-02).



# THE NEED

Recent health crises exposed and exacerbated disparities: mental health crisis, respiratory surge, COVID-19.

Disproportionate risk, limited resources and infrastructure, and high consequence outcomes!



# 25%

Children make up  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the population and have unique healthcare needs.

# 47.5%

Of hospitals have a pediatric-specific disaster plan

# 30 MILLION

Children receive emergency care each year

# 69.5/100

Median score of emergency departments' pediatric readiness in the U.S.



# Timeline



2019



- **1984** – EMSC program authorized
- **2012** – Launch of National Pediatric Readiness Project
- **2016** – EMSC Innovation & Improvement Center replaces the National Resource Center

- Launch of **Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project**
- ASPR Launches two **PDCOE**s (WRAP-EM & Region V for Kids)

- **2021-2022** – Creation of Pediatric Pandemic Network
- **2022** – ASPR adds **Third PDCOE** (Gulf 7)



# Regional Disaster Health Response System (RDHRS)

- RDHRS 1 (Northeast)
- Region 7 (Central)
- Mountain Plains (Colorado)
- Region 4 (Emory)

## RDHRS Goals

The four primary goals of the RDHRS are to:



# Three Pediatric Disaster Centers of Excellence (PDCOE) s)

- Funded by the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR)
- Bring together children's hospitals, private and public entities, and national organizations
- Designed to disseminate best practices in pediatric disaster preparedness, response, and recovery on a regional level



## Gulf 7-Pediatric Disaster Network

- Awarded in 2022
- Anchored at Texas Children's Hospital (Houston, TX)
- 7 states/territories: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Puerto Rico, Texas



## Western Regional Alliance for Pediatric Emergency Management (WRAP-EM)

- Awarded in 2019
- Anchored at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital (Oakland, CA)
- 6 states: Arizona, California, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington



## Region V for Kids (formerly EGLPCDR)

- Awarded in 2019
- Anchored at UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital (Cleveland, OH)
- 6 states: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin



ASPR's

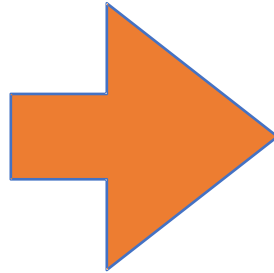
Vision of

Pediatric

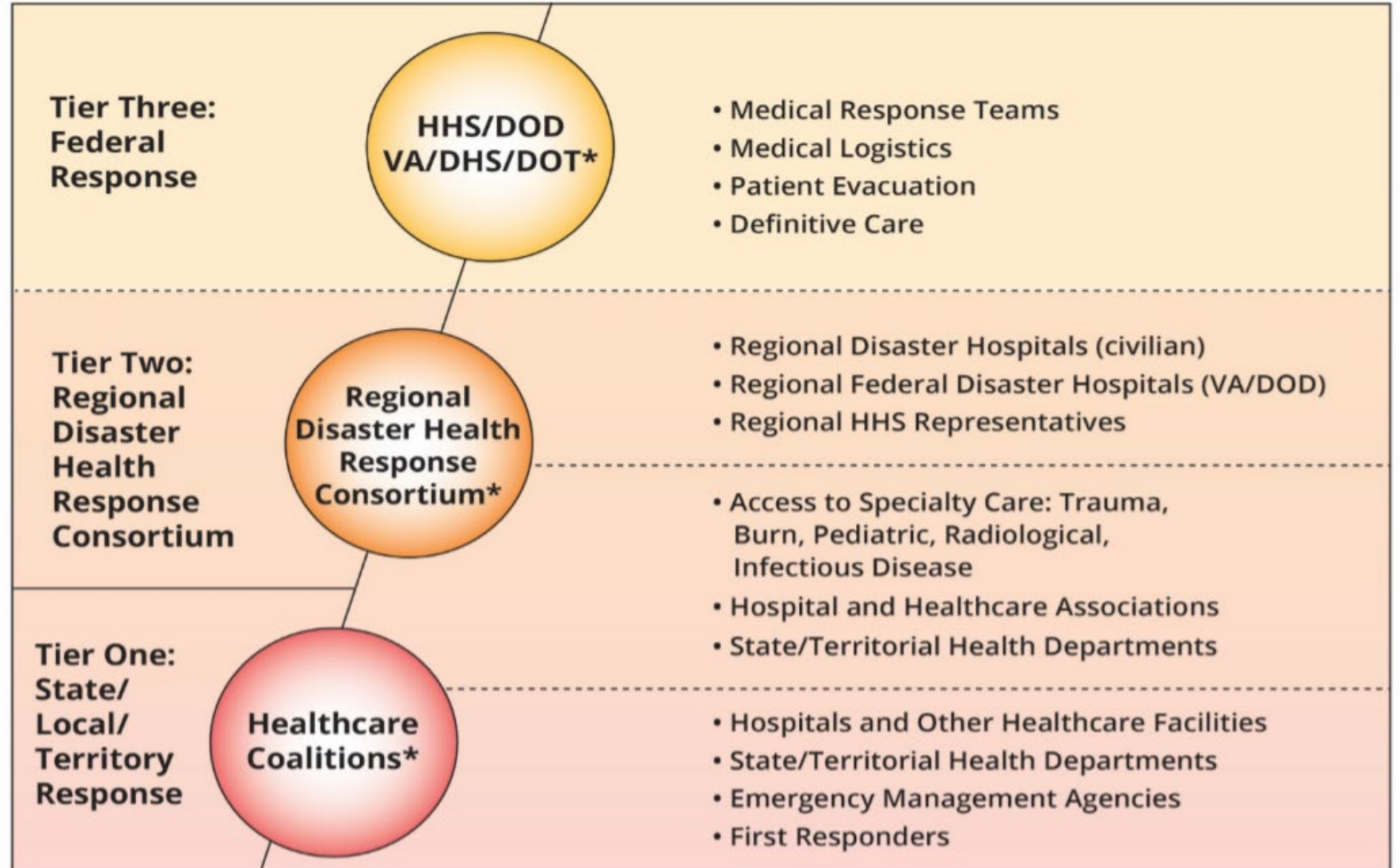
Disaster

Centers of

Excellence



# 21st Century National Disaster Medical System Framework A Tiered Response Structure

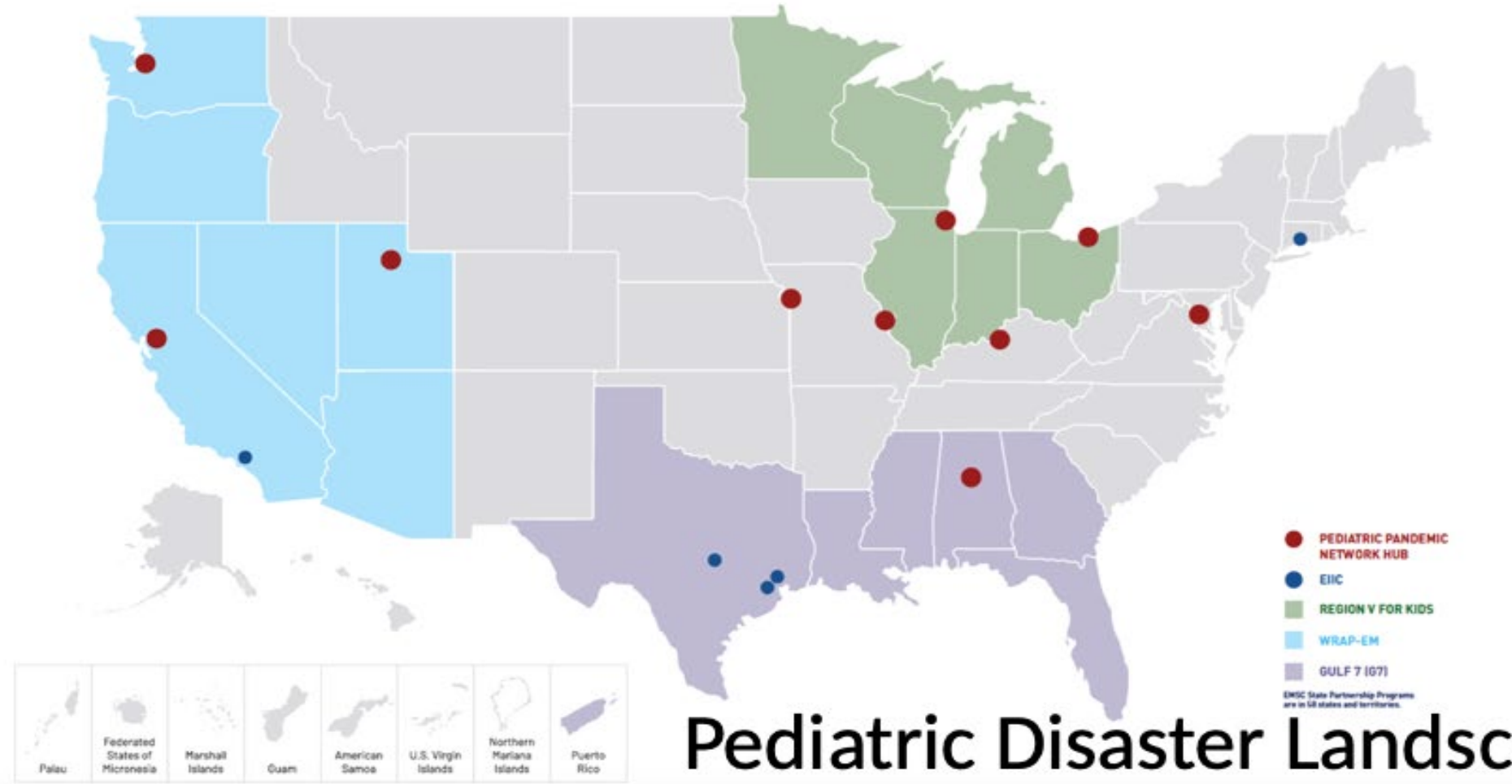


\*Disaster response coordinating entity at the local/state, regional, and federal levels.





# Federally Funded Networks for Children in Disasters



## Pediatric Disaster Landscape



# Core Principles



Public private  
partnership



Equity between  
states



Collaborative  
academic  
environment:

No Ego



Talented staff  
that is shared



Simple and constant  
communication



Operations  
focused



# PDCOE Pillars

- **Develop** a coordinated pediatric disaster care capability
- **Strengthen** pediatric disaster preparedness plans and coordination
- **Enhance** state and regional medical pediatric surge capacity
- **Increase** healthcare professional educational competency
- **Enhance situational awareness** of pediatric disaster care across the spectrum



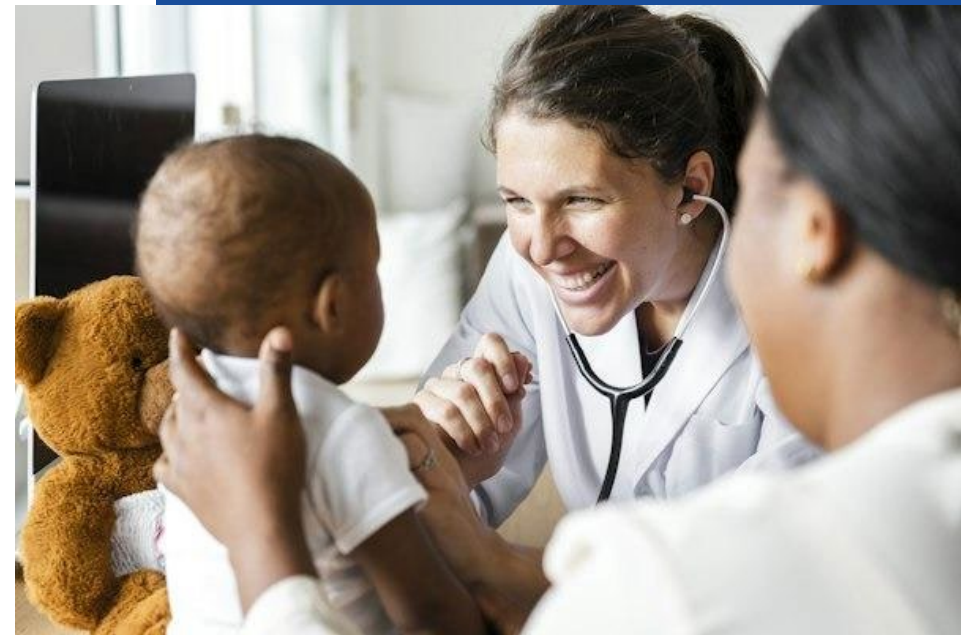
# The PDCOE's are Making a Difference Today



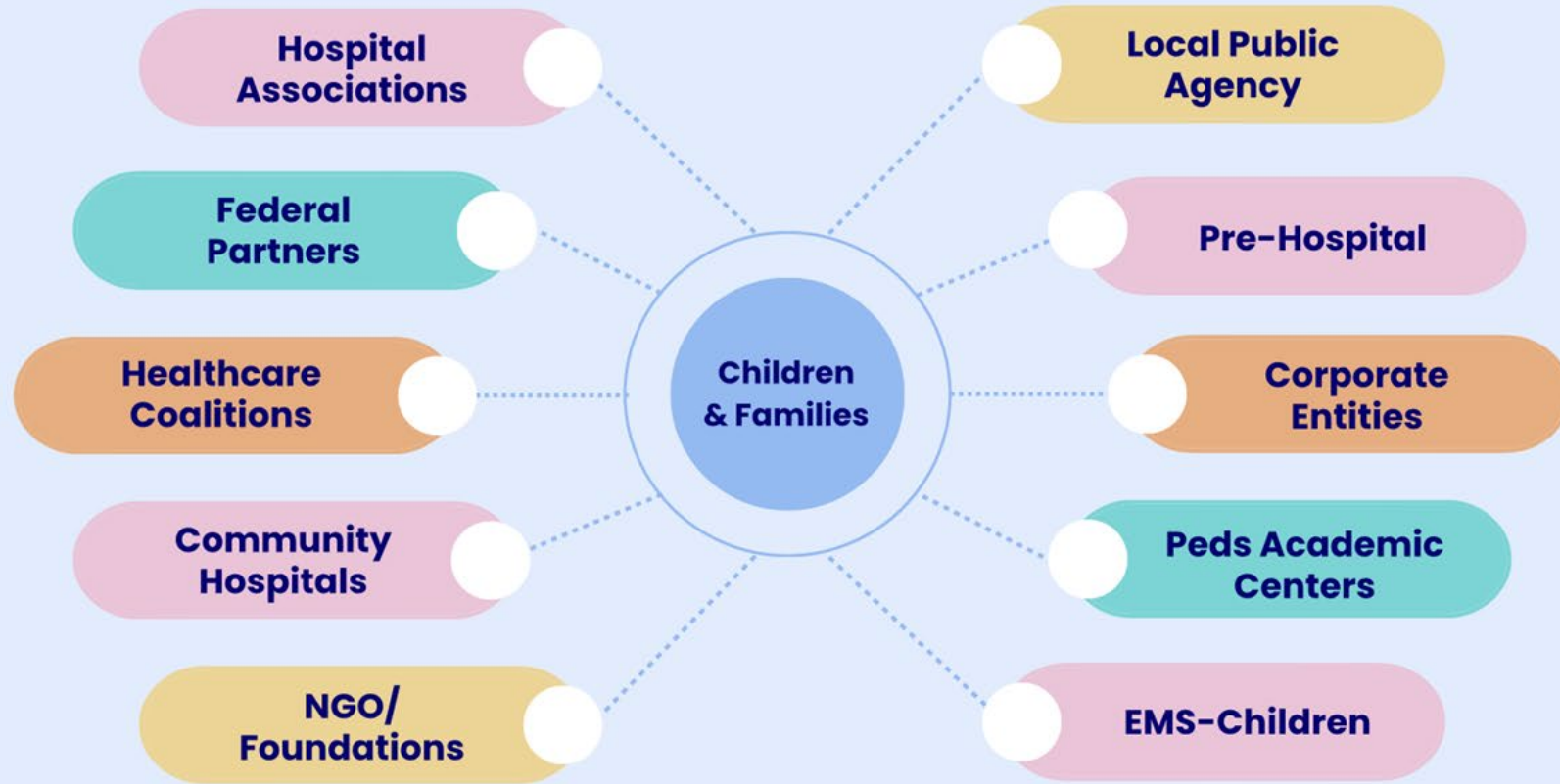
[St. Louis Missouri City Emergency Management Agency](#)

# HOW WE CONTRIBUTE TO PEDIATRIC PREPAREDNESS CAPABILITIES

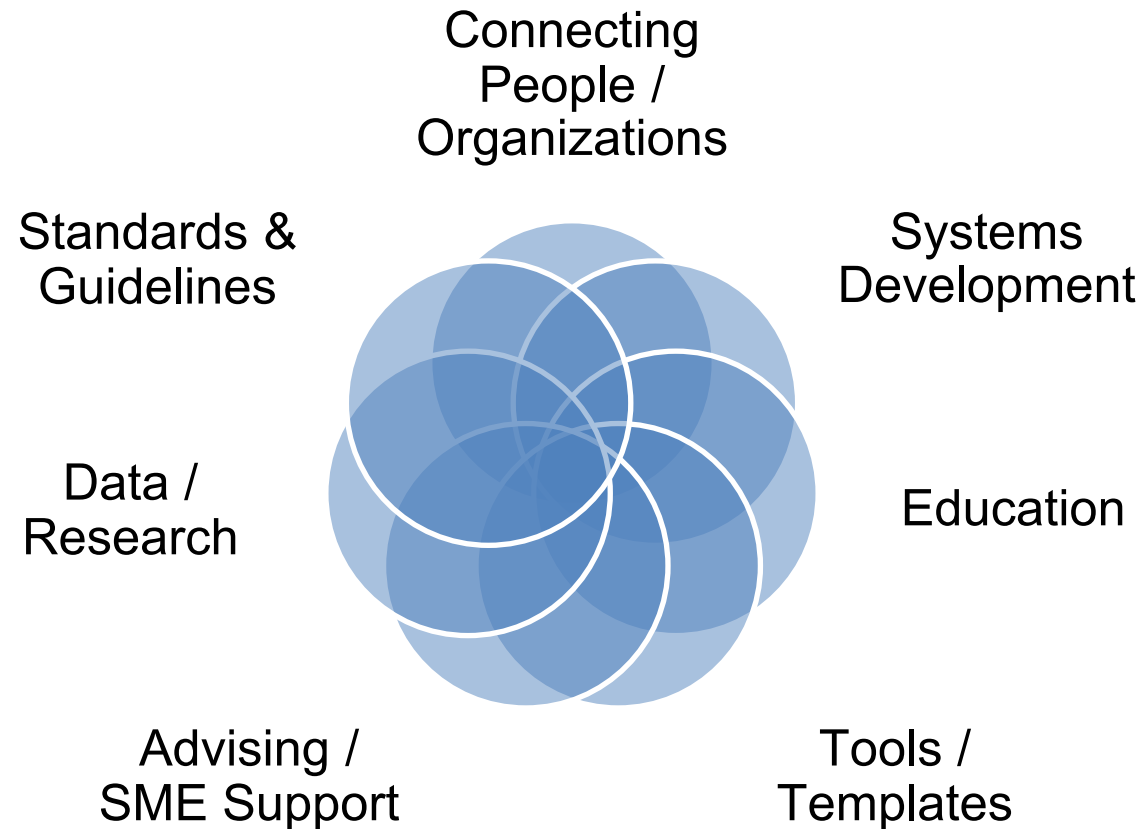
- Approachable subject matter experts
- Trusted Consultation: preparedness & response efforts
- Real time situational awareness in region
- Identify gaps in addressing pediatric-specific concerns
- Create resources to educate pediatricians, hospitals, and caregivers of children
- Discussions inclusive of health disparities & inequities



# PDCOE Partners



# The PDCOE's: WE ARE HERE FOR YOU.



# What do we do?

Surge Planning	CBRN	Trauma / MCI	Education	Telemedicine
Infectious Disease	Mental Health	Reunification	Pediatric Readiness	Legal
Movement / Coordination	Health Equity & DEI	Research	Tracking / Situation Awareness	Drills

CYSHCN





## PDCOE in Action

- Respiratory surge
- Responded to our regional healthcare coalitions (HCCs)
- Real-time situational awareness
- Disseminated tools for just-in-time
- Participated in 10 ASPR-hosted regional webinars to listen to HCCs, hospitals and others



# JOINT PDCOE PEDIATRIC SURGE REPORT



**2021-2023**

Pediatric Disaster  
Centers of Excellence

[www.pediatricdisaster.org/](http://www.pediatricdisaster.org/)



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# Panel Roundtable

*Featuring PDCOEs and Dr. Jonathan Kohler, University of California-Davis*



# Contact ASPR TRACIE



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