Hierarchy of Organizational Preparedness

Each Tier is designed to allow organizations to achieve a level of disaster resilience. Nested within each Tier is a range of activities that, in the aggregate, build capacity.

Tier 1 - Life Safety and Survival Actions

- 1. Facility emergency procedures life safety, evacuation, alternate sites, sheltering in place
- 2. Identifying staff roles for emergency coordination
- 3. Generally, things easily accomplished at no or low cost

Tier 2 - Re-establishing Operations and Service Delivery

- 1. Focused on restoring capacity (resilience) to provide essential client services during response
- 2. Identifying essential support functions
- 3. Identifying resources that support operations staffing, communications, etc.

Tier 3 - Fulfilling a Broader Community Role

- 1. Identifying neighbors, vendors, government partners and CBO peers for coordination and planning
- 2. Establishing relationships and agreements with key agencies and organizations
- 3. Integrating into whole community response
- 4. Sustaining operations and maintaining emergency plans



Graphic prepared by the Fritz Institute in collaboration with CaliforniaVolunteers—Office of the Governor. Produced with funds from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Grant # 2009-0019, Cal EMA ID 000-92297

Emergency Planning Elements that Support Organizational Preparedness

Tier 1-Life Safety and Survival Actions	Tier 2-Re-establishing Operations and Service Delivery	Tier 3-Sustaining Operations and External Collaboration
A. PERSONAL PREPAREDNESS	A. DISASTER MISSION STATEMENT	A. COORDINATION WITH OTHERS
-Essential for everyone—if people aren't	-Do this early on in your planning	-Who else is in your building?
prepared, they can't help	-Assume you can't do everything	-Who's in your neighborhood?
-Offer training such as first aid, CPR	-What do you intend to focus on?	-Whom do you connect with at city and county
-Identify preparedness resources	-Get buy-in from staff and leadership	levels, CBO networks, contractors?
B. EMERGENCY COORDINATION TEAM	B. ESSENTIAL SERVICES	B. DISASTER SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS/MOUS
-Identify team that leads your response	-Describe services that need to continue or be	-With cities and County Op Area
(ICS or other model)	quickly restored	-How resources will be coordinated
-Identify positions and duties in advance	-Note any differences from normal operations	-Reimbursement or contracts for services
C. HAZARD AND RISK ASSESSMENT	C. ESSENTIAL ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS	C. VITAL RECORDS AND COST RECOVERY
-What types of disasters might occur?	-What functions are needed to support	-Focus on records needed to support essential
-What are your vulnerabilities?	essential services delivery?	functions
-How will these impact services?	-Consider payroll, check signing, supplies,	-Track disaster-related direct costs, personnel
	emergency spending procedure, etc.	time and volunteer hours
D. RESILIENT FACILITIES	D. COMMUNICATIONS	D. DONATIONS
-What facilities will you need to use?	-Whom you need to communicate with	-Plan for monetary donations
-Have they been assessed for resilience?	-Purpose of communications, e.g., alert and	-Plan for donations of goods and/or services to
-What mitigation tasks should you	notification	support essential services
tackle?	-Methods and tools	
E. EMERGENCY PROCEDURES	E. STAFFING AND VOLUNTEERS	E. RECOVERY PLAN
-Evacuation/alternate sites	-Plan staffing needs, shifts, rotations, etc.	-Plan for continued staffing and volunteers
-Shelter in place/supplies	-Plan to involve volunteers, if appropriate	-Plan for transition back to normal operations
-Hazard-specific plans	-Job descriptions for spontaneous volunteers	
	F. Succession Planning	F. TRAINING AND EXERCISES
	-For coverage when individuals are unable to	-Train leadership and let them practice
	perform their essential duties	-Exercise with government and other entities
	-Plan for timely filling of vacancies	-Keep your plan up to date