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Building a Roadmap to Resilience: A Whole Community Network

This roadmap outlines the establishment for a network of partnering Community Resource Centers (CRCs) and Neighborhood Team Centers (NTCs) in urban and rural areas to assist in providing necessary goods and services for vulnerable populations within the first 72-hours of an All Hazards Events (e.g., earthquake, floods). The CRC-NTC network focuses on encouraging local community social connectedness by strengthening individuals and community emergency preparedness in response and recovery through partnerships between local government and non-government organizations forming a Whole Community Network (i.e., CRC-NTC) resource capability. The implementation of the CRC-NTC network occurs in three phases:

- PHASE-1 (Planning) Initial meeting of public and private sectors organizations to brief and explain the CRC-NTC network concept and obtain commitment as CRC-NTCs partners;
- PHASE-2 (Training Workshops) train partnering organizations in CRC-NTC network processes and procedures, establish relationship and collaboration among all participating partners;
- PHASE-3 (Functional Exercise) identify locations of at-risk and vulnerable populations by canvassing the neighborhoods in the proximity of each NTC site.

Information gathered will help identify critical emergency resources and capabilities needed for life safety during an actual emergency or catastrophic events. This CRC-NTCs network was successfully piloted as a Proof of Concept in Tacoma, Washington and recognized as a best practice by Washington State Emergency Management Department. The concept also was replicated in San Antonio, Texas and continues to evolve. The project is currently being implemented in Laurel, Maryland.