



#IAEMstrongerstories

Warning: includes graphic language and sensitive topics. Viewer discretion is advised during this session.

Presented by: **Carrie Speranza, CEM, IAEM-USA Second Vice President, Director, Emergency Management Solutions, Esri; Kelly Drayton, Assistant Chief of Emergency Management, Town of Chapel Hill, North Carolina; Misty Sutton, Disaster Program Specialist, Territory 5, American Red Cross of Missouri and Arkansas; Allison Farole, Emergency Management Administrator, Grand Rapids, Michigan; Josh Morton, Director, Saluda County, South Carolina; David Barber, Senior Emergency Management Specialist, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Travis Cryan, Principal Consultant, Bent Ear Solutions**

Presentation Abstract: #IAEMstrongerstories is a new mental health initiative designed to provide members with a safe place to share stories about their lived experiences with their peers. During this session, three IAEM members will share their stories, followed by a question-and-answer panel session. Panelists include this session's storytellers, as well as those from the 2022 Annual Conference session. The goals of this session are to connect members with members, offer support, and provide mental health resources. By telling your story, or by listening and supporting others, we can work on our mental health wellness, together.

Speaker Bio: Carrie Speranza, CEM is the director of Emergency Management Solutions at Esri, where she is responsible for industry-wide

strategic initiatives, serving as Esri's subject matter expert in emergency management. Previously, Carrie worked at the District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency where she served as Deputy Director. She has been a deputy agency administrator and executive command staff member for two Presidential Inaugurations, two dozen national special security events, four-seasons of severe weather emergencies, multiple active shooter incidents, a World Series, the Stanley Cup Playoffs, and COVID-19. Carrie was also the senior executive overseeing the District's Emergency Operations Center during the United States Capitol Attack on January 6, 2021.

Carrie has held numerous leadership positions in state and international professional associations. Currently, she is Vice Chair of the FEMA National Advisory Council, serving as an Administrator's Appointee since 2019. Additionally, she is the IAEM 2nd Vice President, and an advisory board member of the Private Sector Emergency Management Agency.

Carrie is a graduate of the National Emergency Management Executive Academy, and in 2021, was selected for IAEM-USA Region 3's inaugural class of Top 40 Under 40. Carrie received a BS in Environmental Science from Oregon State University, and a MS in Engineering Management from The George Washington University.