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Disasters Impact Childcare DRAMATICALLY!

• Superstorm Sandy (2012)
  – 11,500 childcare programs in NY were impacted
  – 697 closed long-term

* Data provided by ChildCare Aware of America (2017)
* Photo courtesy of CNN
Disasters Impact Childcare DRAMATICALLY!

- Louisiana Flooding (2016)
  - 88 childcare programs in Baton Rouge impacted, approximately 6,000 children

* Data provided by ChildCare Aware of America (2017)
Disaster Impacts Childcare DRAMATICALLY!

- Hurricane Matthew (2016)
  - Approximately 25% of childcare programs in Cumberland County, NC were affected (10,200 children)

* Data provided by ChildCare Aware of America (2017)
* Photo courtesy of CNN
Objectives

• Explain how childcare impacts community recovery through illustration of the prosperity support pyramid
• Explain recovery options available to childcare
• Recommend ways to enable community recovery by enabling childcare recovery
Children are our most Vulnerable Population

Children make up almost 23% of the population in the United States
Children **ARE at Risk**

- 61% of children under 6 spend 33 hours a week (or more) in childcare arrangements
- Older children spend an average of 13 hours a week in before & after school care programs
- Disasters **NEVER** happen at a convenient time / place
- There is a high probability that your family will **NOT** be together when a disaster happens
Prosperity Support Pyramid

- Parents and Individuals
- Business
- Community
- State
- Nation
Impact of Disaster on the Pyramid

- Children
- Parents
- Community
- State
- Nation
- Loved Ones

Individuals
How do we Maintain the Pyramid?

Children

Parents

Business

Community

State

Nation

Loved Ones
Childcare is “Critical Infrastructure” or “Mission Essential” to Parents
Childcare Recovery is Limited

- Public Childcare (state or federally funded)
- Private Childcare (for-profit)
- Nonprofit Childcare
Enable Community Recovery by Enabling Childcare Recovery

- State childcare organization
- Childcare vulnerabilities
- Recovery funding options
- Children’s task force
- Emergency childcare plan
Childcare Licensing & Registration Agencies Vary
Childcare Vulnerabilities

- Location
- Hazard mapping
- PSIP Integration
- Engagement
- CCDBG requirements
Childcare Recovery Funding Considerations

• Don’t assume
• Recovery funding qualification
• Unaware where to go
• Landlord engagement
• Social Service Block Grants (SSBG)?
Children’s Task Force Value

- Capacity
- Scalable and adaptable
- Holistic options
- Builds relationships
Emergency Childcare Services

- Talk with childcare accreditation agency
- Coordinate with NGOs
Community Recovery

After lack of housing, lack of childcare is the SECOND largest obstacle to community recovery.

Communities DO NOT Recover if Parents Don’t Go Back to Work
Disaster Is Coming…

Is Your Community Prepared?

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Children’s Unique Needs in Disasters

Children are not simply ‘little adults.’

Physical
- Reliance on caregivers:
  - Mobility
  - Communication
  - Safety & protection
- Nutritional & medical needs

Emotional
- Lack coping skills
- Routine & comfort

Developmental
- Disruption of learning
- Milestone setbacks
KEY FINDINGS

• 37% were not confident that community was prepared to meet children’s needs in emergencies.

• 54% believe children and parents would be reunified within several hours of a major disaster.

• 42% expect schools will resume within a week of a major disaster.

• Only half of the population reports having a family emergency plan.

FULL REPORT: http://ncdp.columbia.edu/rcrc
WORKING HYPOTHESIS: A community’s resilience and ability to rebound from a crisis can be measured by its ability to care for its children.
A New Approach to Child-Focused Resilience
Resilient Children, Resilient Community Initiative

Model for child-focused community resilience that is sustainable and replicable

Community Resilience Coalitions

Putnam County, NY

Washington County, AR

Community Preparedness Index

National Survey

National Children’s Resilience Leadership Board

National Policy Leadership

National Best Practices

Research & Evidence

National Survey & Evidence

Putnam County, NY

Washington County, AR

National Children’s Resilience Leadership Board

National Policy Leadership

National Best Practices
Community Resilience Coalitions: A Catalyst for Change

Who

• Representatives from child-serving sectors, government agencies and emergency management
• Public and private institutions and stakeholders

What

• Assess community strengths & gaps
• Develop community action plans
• Create a framework for national best practice
VIDEO: Community Resilience Coalitions

Phase 1: Engagement
- Identify Community Champion

Phase 2: Assessment
- Create Action Plan

Phase 3: Capacity Building
- Identify Working Groups

Phase 4: Sustainable Readiness
- Community Awareness & Engagement

Key Milestones

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3
CPI: Assessment tool which serves to guide community leaders and officials in determining their community’s readiness to serve children in a disaster.

Sectors:
- Child Care centers
- Family child care providers
- Public, Private and Charter Schools
- Foster Care
- Hospitals
- Emergency Shelters
- Lead Organizations
- Community-Wide Organizations
Improving National Practices
National Children’s Resilience Leadership Board

- Conjures the expertise and experience of thought leaders, practitioners and academics
- Provides guidance to the pilot communities
- Facilitates dialogue between the local and national levels

Representatives from:
- FEMA
- Save the Children
- NCDP
- Walt Disney Company
- GSK
- NYU
- US Chamber of Commerce
- City of San Francisco
Getting Results: Example Successes

Washington County, AR- Child Care Sector
• Child care emergency plans are now turned into the county EM office, as required by state regulations.

Washington County, AR- EM Sector
• A child-focused tabletop exercise was conducted in November 2016 that included over 65 participants from over 35 different organizations and all 8 sectors.

Putnam County, NY- School Sector
• The Board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES) of Westchester and Putnam Counties has emerged as a leader for school-based resilience.
Key Lessons Learned

• Differences in community strengths
• Varying engagement of different sectors
• Advantages of linking with an established community group
• Importance of EM buy-in and championing
• Child-serving institutions are very receptive and eager
• Need to strengthen CPI with accompanying practical guidance
• Small improvements can make a big difference
What You Can Do:
Protecting Children In Your Community

• Connect with child-serving institutions
• Include training on children’s needs in emergencies
• Add Children’s Annex to EOP
• Coordinate child-focused tabletop exercise

From RCRC Initiative
• Access Community Preparedness Index
• RCRC Toolkit
Questions?

http://ncdp.columbia.edu/rcrc

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