


# Supporting Child Care Programs to Keep Children Safe in an Emergency

November 10, 2016

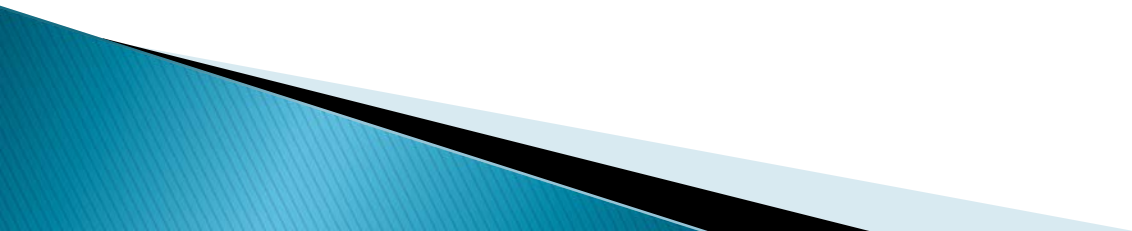
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**David Bloom**, *Senior Research Analyst, Child Care Resource Center*



# Our Program

- ▶ Funding from LA Co. Dept of Public Health in fall of 2012
  - ▶ Development of **Toolkit** and **Quick Guide** for child care programs
  - ▶ Development of videos
  - ▶ Trainings for child care providers
  - ▶ Collaborative county-wide meetings with R&Rs
  - ▶ Partnership with Save the Children – R&R trainings and Toolkit
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# Why Focus on Emergency Preparedness of Child Care

- ▶ Help keep children safe
  - ▶ Providers learn about hazards and risks in their community
  - ▶ Reduce the impact (incl. trauma) of the emergency/disaster to children and adults
  - ▶ Child care programs resume business faster
  - ▶ Help R&Rs/APs resume business faster
  - ▶ Help child care programs be more self reliant
  - ▶ Help reunify children with parents faster
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# Current Practices of Providers

Current Practices Employed by ECE Attendees	English is Primary	English is Second	All
	Language	Language	Attendees
I Keep a stock of supplies for emergency purposes (Yes)	100.0%	77.3%	83.3%
I keep an evacuation plan for children and adults at my child care setting (Yes)*	91.7%	95.5%	97.1%
I practice our evacuation plan at my child care setting (2 or more times per-year)*	66.7%	75.0%	72.7%
I keep up to date emergency contact information for children at my child care setting (current)	81.8%	90.5%	87.9%
I keep a reunification plan at my child care setting to reunite children with parents/guardians (Yes)	58.3%	80.0%	72.7%
I share information regarding evacuation and reunification plans with parents and guardians of the children at my child care setting (Yes)	81.8%	55.0%	65.6%
<b>I have discussed plans to assist me during an emergency with the following people/organizations</b>			
Fire Department	54.5%	47.1%	51.7%
Police Department	54.5%	37.5%	46.4%
Family/Friends/Neighbors	81.8%	63.2%	71.0%
Local Medical Facilities	57.1%	40.0%	47.8%
Schools	66.7%	37.5%	50.0%
Volunteer organizations that provide relief and support during an emergency such as Red Cross, Salvation Army, or any other voluntary organization	42.9%	5.9%	20.0%
Community based organizations such as a local Resource and Referral agency or Church	42.9%	31.6%	33.3%

**Table 3.** Current Practices Employed by ECE attendees. Percentage of compliant respondents is provided for ECE attendees indicating English as their primary language spoken at home, a language other than English as their primary language spoken at home, and the sample as a whole.

\* Denotes Regulatory Requirement for Licensing

# Knowledge and Awareness Change


<i>My knowledge on how to address the stress and emotions with the children in my care after a disaster.</i>				
Pre-Training (N=251)	Post None/Low	Post Fair/Great	% Change	McNemar P ( $<.05$ )
None/Low (n = 67)	0	67	100%	$<.001$

<i>My knowledge of supplies needed to respond to different emergencies or disasters.</i>				
Pre-Training (N=254)	Post None/Low	Post Fair/Great	% Change	McNemar P ( $<.05$ )
None/Low (n = 65)	1	64	99.6%	$<.001$

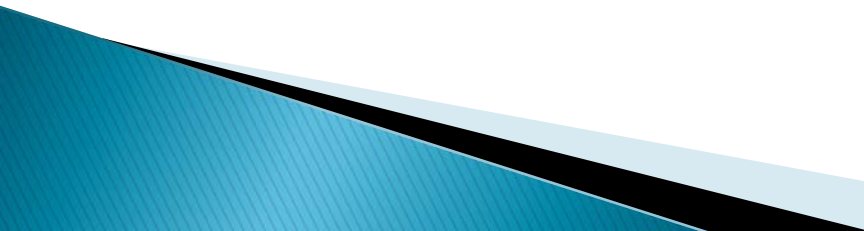
<i>My knowledge on how to keep information needed for an emergency up to date</i>				
Pre-Training (N=255)	Post None/Low	Post Fair/Great	% Change	McNemar P ( $<.05$ )
None/Low (n = 68)	0	68	100%	$<.001$

<i>My awareness of the need for a plan on how to reunite parents and children after an emergency.</i>				
Pre-Training (N=251)	Post None/Low	Post Fair/Great	% Change	McNemar P ( $<.05$ )
None/Low (n = 71)	1	70	98.6%	$<.001$

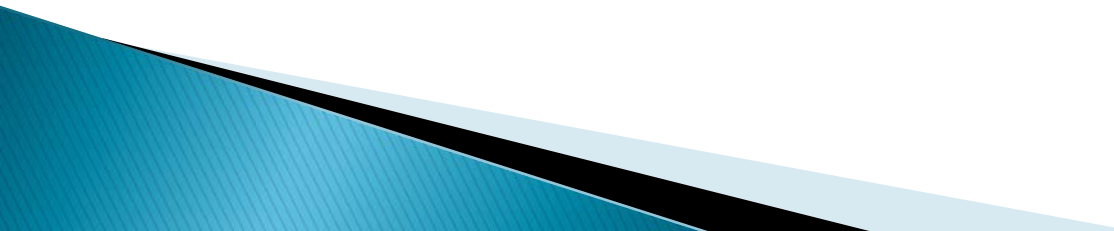
# Why should your agency help providers be prepared for emergencies and disasters?

- ▶ An existing relationship with providers
  - ▶ Minimize the trauma and injuries to children and staff
  - ▶ Help families reunify faster
  - ▶ Providers assume you will help them after a disaster
  - ▶ What can/will your agency do and not do to help providers
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# How can your agency educate providers about emergency preparedness?

- ▶ Training
    - Group Workshops
    - Visits
    - Coaching Sessions
  - ▶ Communication
    - Social Media
    - Emails/newsletters
    - Robo Calls
    - Provide information in native language
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# Training Providers

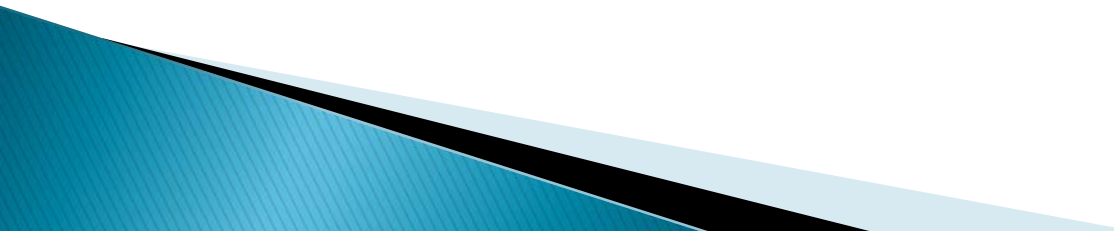
- ▶ Practice Drills
  - ▶ Emergency Comfort Kits for Children
  - ▶ Emergency Supplies
  - ▶ Site Diagram
  - ▶ Your Neighborhood Site Diagram
  - ▶ Assign Roles and Responsibilities of Staff
  - ▶ Update Child Emergency Card periodically
  - ▶ Emotional Support and Recovery of Children and Adults
  - ▶ Business Continuity
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# Attendee Comments

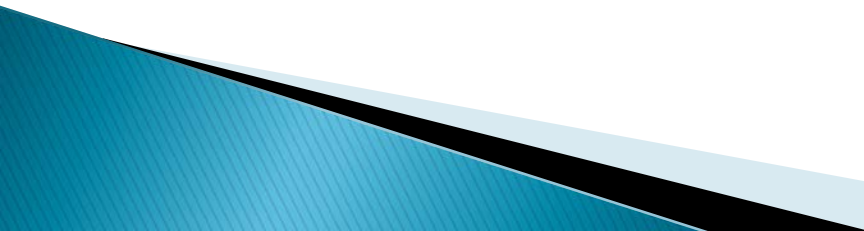
- Thank you for offering these workshops. They are vital to my professional and personal life.
- The materials were very useful for not only myself but for my parents as well.
- Thanks to the training I noticed that we did not have a lock down procedure and I brought it to my director's attention and now we have a plan. We also updated all of the children's emergency kits.
- This workshop was very interesting. It was helpful to plan a safe space for the children. After your training we set up a notification system that enabled us to notify parents of the LAUSD closure before they saw it on the news! We informed parents we would be open full day to care for their school age kids.

# How can your agency be prepared?

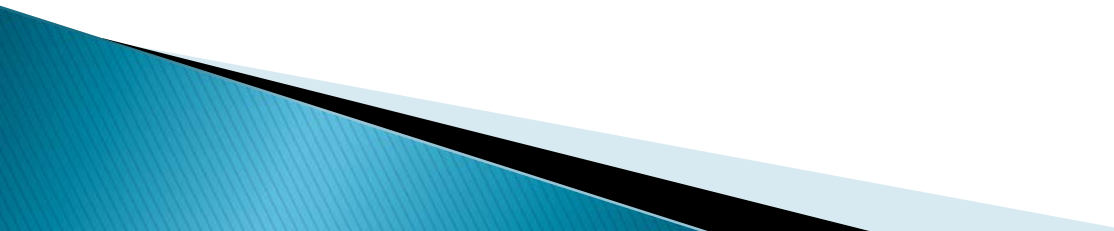
- ▶ Conduct drills – include staff, volunteers, clients
  - ▶ Have an Emergency Team
  - ▶ Identify Roles and Responsibilities
  - ▶ Review and Update Business Continuity Plan
  - ▶ Review and Update Emergency Plan
  - ▶ Update Contact Info for Staff
  - ▶ Off-site Data Storage
  - ▶ Establish Community Partners
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# How can your agency be prepared?

## Tips from the Field

- ▶ Conduct a Table Top Activity
  - ▶ Offer Trainings to Your Staff
    - Child Friendly Spaces – Save the Children
    - Journey of Hope – Save the Children
    - CERT – Community Emergency Response Team
  - ▶ Communicate with Others in Your Building
  - ▶ Considerations for Alternate Staffing and Workplace Options
  - ▶ Replenish 1<sup>st</sup> Aid Kits and Know What is in Them
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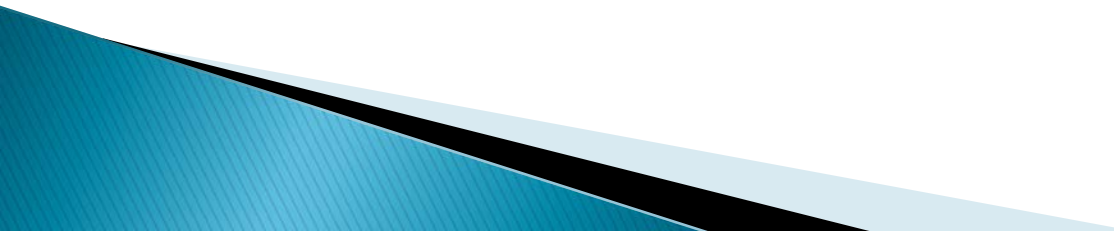
# Preparing Staff

- ▶ Conduct Drills
  - ▶ Share tips
  - ▶ Kit for each staff
  - ▶ Detailed schedule – electronic and paper
  - ▶ Update emergency contacts
  - ▶ Phone line to communicate with staff
  - ▶ Encourage family plans
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# Responding to an Emergency: What Can Your Agency Do?

- ▶ Notify providers of emergencies
- ▶ Temporary Respite Care
- ▶ Finding Child Care for First Responders
- ▶ Offer Training on Disaster Recovery including Social Emotional Recovery
- ▶ Participate in Child Care Response and Recovery Working Group
- ▶ Help reunification process by contacting parents
- ▶ Social Emotional Comfort Kits
- ▶ Staffing of temporary respite care / Child Friendly Spaces
- ▶ Donation Distribution and Management
- ▶ Grants
- ▶ COULD HAVE done more *if they were prepared*

# Potential Partners

- ▶ American Red Cross
  - ▶ Office of Emergency Management/Services (OEM/OES)
  - ▶ Fire Department
  - ▶ Dept of Public Health
  - ▶ Dept of Mental Health
  - ▶ Resource & Referral agency
  - ▶ Office of Child Care
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# Resources

- ▶ Save the Children
  - Get Ready Get Safe
  - Child Friendly Spaces
  - Journey of Hope
  - Training Hub
- ▶ American Red Cross
  - Safe and Well
  - Ready Rating
- ▶ Ready.gov (FEMA)
- ▶ Administration of Children and Families (ACF)
- ▶ Local Resource & Referral
- ▶ SAMHSA
- ▶ [Childcareprepare.org](http://Childcareprepare.org)
- ▶ Alert Notifications
- ▶ [Readyla.org](http://Readyla.org)
- ▶ [ReadySanDiego.org/childcare](http://ReadySanDiego.org/childcare)
- ▶ National Child Traumatic Stress Network

# Contact Us

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