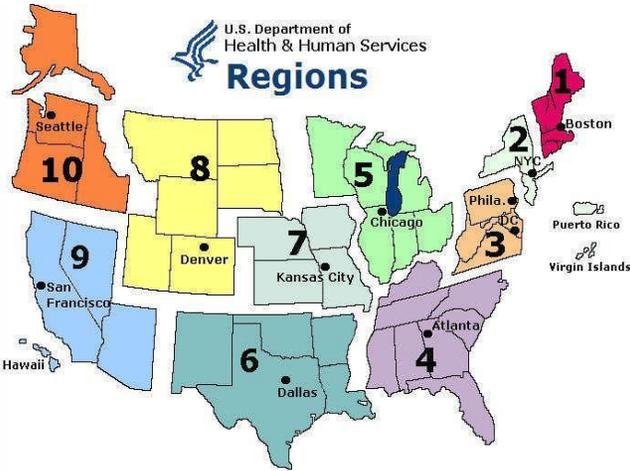


OUR MISSION

IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH THE MISSION OF PROVIDING ESF-6 SUPPORT TO FEMA AND STATE, LOCAL, TRIBAL AND TERRITORIAL PARTNERS, ACF DESIGNATES EACH REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR AND REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST TO PROVIDE DIRECT SUPPORT TO EACH OF THE 10 FEMA/HHS REGIONS.



ACF provides coordination before, during and after an incident occurs. Duties include:

Working with federal, state, local, tribal, territorial partners and non-governmental organizations in human services planning and preparedness activities to determine capabilities and identify gaps where federal assistance may be requested.

Staffing the NRCC, RRCC, Joint Field Office, HHS Incident Response Coordination Team and coordinating with the State Emergency Operations Center during a response.

Interacting with ESF-11 (USDA Food and Nutrition Service) to coordinate the utilization of the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and USDA APHIS for technical assistance in the sheltering of household pets.

Interacting with ESF-14 (Long-Term Community Recovery) on providing human services programs to victims of disasters in order to foster sustainable community recovery.

Communicating with our partner agencies, FEMA, HHS Secretary's Operation Center, NRCC and other Federal agencies to gather and disseminate critical information.

For more information on ACF and ESF-6 contact:

Administration for Children and Families/HHS
Region III

150 S. Independence Mall West
Public Ledger Building, Suite 864
Philadelphia, PA 19106
Website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/>

Phone: 215-861-4507
Fax: 215-861-4070
E-mail: william.evans@acf.hhs.gov

Emergency Support Function #6

Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing and Human Services



Our Role/Our Partners

Emergency Support Function (ESF) #6

Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing and Human Services

ESF #6 is one of the 15 Federal ESF's from the National Response Framework that provides the structure for coordinating federal interagency support to state, local, tribal and other federal agencies during a federal response to a disaster or event.

Led and activated by FEMA, ACF is the lead agency within the Department of Health and Human Services responsible for providing human services support, guidance, coordination, assistance, expertise and deployable assets to FEMA and other governmental and non-governmental partners for human services.

An ACF Regional Administrator will usually deploy to the FEMA Joint Field Office or HHS Incident Response Coordination Team in the affected state/region to serve as the HHS Lead Human Services Coordinator or Human Services Operations Branch Director. One or more ACF Regional Emergency Management Specialists will deploy to support the RA serving as Human Services Liaison Officer (LNO) to the NRCC, RRCC, JFO or IRCT.

Other HHS agencies that support the human services response and recovery activities include:

1. Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR)
2. Administration on Aging (AoA)
3. Centers for Medical and Medicaid Services (CMS)
4. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
5. Office of Civil Rights (OCR)
6. Office on Disability (OD)
7. Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA)
8. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

What We Do—ACF and ESF-6

HHS is a support agency to ESF-6. ACF's Office of Human Services Emergency Preparedness and Response (OHSEPR) located in Washington, DC leads the Department's human services emergency preparedness and response activities and efforts. These efforts include, but are not limited to:

Technical Assistance on Federal Rules: Provide technical assistance to States, Tribes and local governments on Federal human services programs and potential waivers or flexibilities that HHS can provide during a disaster to expedite benefits.

Continuity of Benefits for Clients: Work with States, Tribes and other entities to ensure continuity of benefits to current human services clients, such as TANF, Medicaid, Meals on Wheels, etc.

Assistance to States with New Enrollees: Work with States, Tribes and others who are hosting relocated populations or evacuees with human services needs.

Special Needs Populations: Work with FEMA, States, Tribes, the American Red Cross and other voluntary agencies to address special needs populations and other displaced persons in shelters. This may include Shelter Assessment Teams who visit shelters to identify critical unmet human services needs.

Subject Matter Experts: Provide human services subject matter experts and technical assistance teams that can be deployed to support States, Tribes and other entities.

Human Services Partnerships: Build relationships with States, Tribes, grantees, local governments, Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) and Voluntary Agency groups (VOLAGs) to address human services preparedness and response.

Disaster Case Management: ACF piloted a disaster case management program in Louisiana in 2008 to assist victims of Hurricane Gustav. Under this program, clients have one point of contact to help manage their recovery needs.

Assistance in Planning and Preparedness: ACF Regional staff can provide technical assistance and support to States, Tribes and others in their human services planning efforts for disasters.

Our Focus—Special Needs Populations

ACF, in coordination with ASPR, AoA, OCR and State agencies also works with ESF-6 partners to enhance planning and preparedness for populations with special needs to help ensure the delivery of appropriate services and support before, during and after an emergency. Consideration of populations with special needs is especially important in emergency human services planning, response and recovery, including communications, evacuation assistance, mass care support, transportation and housing.

ESF-6 uses the following definition of populations with "special needs": Before, during and after an incident, members of this population may have additional needs in one or more of the following functional life areas:

1. Maintaining independence
2. Communication
3. Transportation
4. Supervision, and
5. Medical care

Individuals in need of additional response assistance may include those who:

1. Have disabilities
2. Live in institutional settings
3. Are elderly
4. Are pregnant
5. Are from diverse cultures
6. Have limited English proficiency or who are non-English speaking
7. Are children
8. Do not have adequate transportation