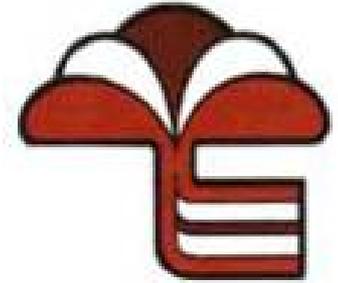




National VOAD

18th Annual Conference

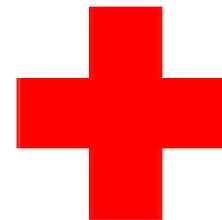
United in Waves of Hope and Help



Children in Disaster

Where Do They Stand Today?

What's Ahead?





National Commission on Children and Disasters



Children in Disaster - Where do they stand today? What's ahead?

Bruce Lockwood, CEM
Commissioner
National Commission on Children
and Disasters

Presented to the
National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster Conference
Orlando, Florida
May 13, 2010



National Commission on Children and Disasters

Why now?



National Commission on Children and Disasters



Children are 25% of the general population, but...

- Disaster training, exercising, medicines and equipment generally intended for able-bodied adults
- Children lumped into broad categories: “at-risk” “vulnerable” or “special needs”
- Shortfalls in meeting children’s needs are excruciatingly apparent in recent disasters: H1N1, American Samoa, Haiti



National Commission on Children and Disasters



Commission Background

- **Independent:** Authorized by Congress under Federal law
- **Bi-partisan:** 10 members appointed by President, Senate and House leaders
- **Diverse:** Expertise drawn from multiple disciplines: pediatrics, state and local emergency management, non-governmental organizations, and state elected office



National Commission on Children and Disasters



Commission Purpose

- Conduct a comprehensive study to assess the needs of children in relation to the preparation for, response to and recovery from all-hazards, including major disasters and emergencies
- Report findings and recommendations to the President and Congress



National Commission on Children and Disasters



Important Milestones

- **October 14, 2008: First Public Meeting**
 - Public meetings held on a quarterly basis
- **October 14, 2009: Interim Report delivered to President Obama and Congress**
- **February 1, 2010: Long-Term Disaster Recovery Workshop**
- **August, 2010: Next Public Meeting**
- **October 2010: Report due to the President and Congress**



National Commission on Children and Disasters



Commission Structure

- **Commission Chairperson, Mark Shriver, Save the Children**
- **Evacuation, Transportation, and Housing Subcommittee**
Chairperson, Bruce Lockwood, Bristol-Burlington (CT) Health District
- **Pediatric Medical Care Subcommittee**
Chairperson, Dr. Michael Anderson, University Hospitals (OH)
- **Education, Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Subcommittee**
Chairperson, Hon. Sheila Leslie, Nevada General Assembly
- **Human Services Recovery Subcommittee**
Chairperson, Dr. Irwin Redlener, Columbia University



National Commission on Children and Disasters



NATIONAL COMMISSION
ON
CHILDREN AND DISASTERS

INTERIM REPORT
OCTOBER 14, 2009



NATIONAL COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND DISASTERS

Interim Report

<http://www.childrenanddisasters.acf.hhs.gov/>



National Commission on Children and Disasters



Partnership

- Cooperative solutions to challenging problems
- No unfunded mandates
- Disaster planning as a shared responsibility
- Integration of children's needs across preparedness, response, and recovery
 - Children's Working Group and other interagency collaboration will increase sustainability, progress
 - FY10 HSGP approved planning, training, exercise, equipment



National Commission on Children and Disasters



Sheltering Standards, Services and Supplies

- Provide a safe and secure mass care shelter environment for children, including access to essential services and supplies.
- ❖ Developed National Standards and Indicators for Mass Care Emergency Shelters
 - ❖ Currently being piloted with the American Red Cross. Examples include:
 - ❖ Children sheltered together with their families or caregivers
 - ❖ Every effort to designate an area for families away from the general shelter population and set aside space for family interaction
- ❖ Developed Shelter Supply List for Infants and Toddlers
 - ❖ Identifies basic supplies necessary to sustain and support 10 infants and children up to 3 years of age for a 24 hour period.
 - ❖ Recommended supplies include baby food, formula, diapers, feeding bottles, cribs
 - ❖ FEMA created a cache based on this supply list, resulting in quick distribution to Haiti following the recent earthquake



National Commission on Children and Disasters



Child Care

- **Improve capacity to provide child care services in the immediate aftermath of and recovery from a disaster.**
 - ❖ FEMA recently clarified that it will reimburse state and local governments and private nonprofit organizations for child care provided in shelters or stand-alone facilities during the emergency sheltering period.
 - ❖ Eligible child care sheltering costs may include: labor costs, facility costs, and supplies and commodities.
 - ❖ HHS has initiated a collaborative effort with FEMA to provide guidance for developing comprehensive statewide child care disaster plans.



National Commission on Children and Disasters



Evacuation

- **Develop a standardized, interoperable national evacuee tracking and family reunification system.**
- ❖ **Key issues in evacuation the Commission is focusing on:**
 - ❖ Interoperability of existing evacuee tracking systems
 - ❖ What information should be collected, especially for purposes of identifying unaccompanied minors and aiding reunification efforts?
 - ❖ Who should information be shared with?
 - ❖ What are the barriers to information sharing under current law and policy, and what modifications can help us overcome these barriers?



National Commission on Children and Disasters



A Child-Focused Checklist for Preparedness

- ✓ Include needs of children across disaster training and exercises
- ✓ Designate individual as children's needs coordinator
- ✓ Include child tracking and family reunification procedures in emergency plan
- ✓ Provide safe shelter environment for children and families, including access to essential age-appropriate supplies



National Commission on Children and Disasters



A Child-Focused Checklist for Preparedness

- ✓ Capability of emergency personnel to transport children and provide effective pre-hospital pediatric care
- ✓ Capability of hospital Emergency Departments to provide effective care for children
- ✓ Basic psychological first aid training for emergency and school personnel to assist children



National Commission on Children and Disasters



A Child-Focused Checklist for Preparedness

- ✓ **Disaster plans for schools, child care providers and juvenile justice facilities**
 - ✓ Evacuation, reunification, children with disabilities or special medical needs training and drills
 - ✓ Plans on file with state emergency management office
 - ✓ Plan for establishing emergency facilities

- ✓ **Identify resources in state and surrounding states to address surge in needs for children...especially health and mental health needs**

- ✓ **Long-term disaster recovery plan for children and families**
 - ✓ Includes family-appropriate housing, schools, child care, mental health, medical care, child welfare, juvenile justice and court facilities



National Commission on Children and Disasters



Keeping A Spotlight on Children

- Children are not simply “small adults”
- Children are the center of family and community
- Disasters are especially disruptive to children
- Children as assets, not liabilities in disasters
- Recovery = more than rebuilding infrastructure
- Disaster planning is a shared responsibility
- Partner with the Commission to implement recommendations



National Commission on
Children and Disasters



For More Information:

Bruce Lockwood, Commissioner

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Christopher Revere, NCCD Executive Director

christopher.revere@acf.hhs.gov

Commission Website

www.childrenanddisasters.acf.hhs.gov

Thank You For Your Commitment to Children !



Children's Working Group

National VOAD Conference
May, 2010

Mark Tinsman
Mass Care Support Specialist
Member, FEMA Children's Working Group



FEMA

Purpose of Working Group

- Established by FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate in August 2009 and Charged with:
 - Evaluating recommendations of the National Commission on Children and Disasters
 - Implementing planning, preparedness, response, and recovery strategies specific to the needs of children and ensuring that they are integrated into FEMA's overall planning guidance and operations from the onset
 - Coordinating and collaborating with experts from other federal agencies, and non-governmental stakeholders to address and elevate the needs of children as they relate to disasters
 - Contributing to creating a lasting change, at every level of government, when it comes to planning for and addressing children's needs in times of disaster



FEMA

Core Working Group Membership

- Chaired by Tracy Wareing, Counselor to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Napolitano
- Vice-Chaired by Dr. Terry Adirim, Pediatrician and Senior Advisor within DHS Office of Health Affairs
- Designated Staff -- Lead Coordinator Supports Working Group
- Includes Representation from Virtually all FEMA Sectors



FEMA

Initial Focus Areas of the Children's Working Group

- Commission's Interim Report Recommendations:
 - Disaster Management and Recovery
 - Disaster Case Management
 - Child Care
 - Sheltering Guidance, Service and Supplies
 - Housing
- Building Relationships with Key Stakeholders
- Inclusion of Children's Working Group across Agency Initiatives



FEMA

Accomplishments

- Establishment of the Children's Working Group
- Incorporation of Children into Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) FY 2010 Guidance
- Disaster Case Management – Interagency Agreement Signed with the Department of Health and Human Services
- Clarification of Child Care Services and Facilities Eligible for Reimbursement under the Stafford Act
- Shelter Supply List for Infants and Toddlers



FEMA

Accomplishments

- FEMA Emergency Support Function #6 Coordination
- Coordination with Long Term Disaster Recovery Working Group and National Disaster Recovery Framework
- Coordination with National Disaster Housing Task Force
- FEMA's Emergency Management Institute – Course on Planning for Children and Disasters
- Incorporation of Children into Planning Guidance and Documents



FEMA

Leaning Forward

- Augment Communication and Coordination with FEMA Regions, Federal Partners and External Stakeholders
 - Key Federal partnerships: HHS; DOE; DOJ
- National Preparedness Coordination
 - Student Tools for Emergency Preparedness (STEP) Program
 - Updating and consolidating FEMA Public Web-Sites aimed at children
 - Educational Youth Summit
 - Integration of children into FEMA's planning guidance and documents
 - Development of Guidance Documents and Toolkit
- Information Collection and Sharing
- Support Federal Partnerships
- Family Reunification and Evacuation Tracking



FEMA

American Red Cross

and

**International Association
of Assembly Managers**

Meeting the Needs of Children

- Every shelter is an environment where we help parents and caregivers meet the unique needs of their children
- Every shelter has the services of trained health professionals that can help children and their families cope with the emotional trauma of a disaster
- Every shelter has sufficient supplies of child-specific items (cribs, blankets, diapers, formula, etc.) quickly after opening
- Every shelter has access to family reunification systems to help locate lost family members

Shelter Standards for Children

- When selecting and laying out shelter facilities, we carefully consider children's needs and look to quickly supply these resources accordingly. The Red Cross strives to provide the following:
 - Designated space that is free from outside media for family interaction in shelters
 - A safe, access-controlled space for temporary child care that is near restrooms, drinking water, and hand washing
 - Background checks and appropriate supervision for those providing temporary childcare
 - Distinct areas for families in dormitory/sleeping areas
 - Health care professionals that are available to meet the needs of a range of residents
 - Reunification tools to help families reconnect

Supply List

- A tool to assist shelter planners and operators obtain sufficient quantities of child-specific items such as cribs, blankets, diapers, and baby formula

Workforce

- Identifying skills of our volunteers and partners—we have rich expertise within Health Services and Disaster Mental Health and through our partners
- Working to integrate child specific skills into the menu of Direct Services Training programs using partner expertise

Family Casework

- An increased focus on one-on-one casework, detailed client needs assessments, and emphasis on distributing a greater variety of supplies to meet emergency needs
- Provide specific resources and referrals for children. Focus on additional assessment tools and timely referrals to maintain family stability (minor home repairs, schools, etc)

- Planning guide outlines overarching principles for management of mega-shelters
- Guide developed in collaboration with Red Cross, International Association of Assembly Managers, additional partners
- Final document should be coming out this summer
- Planning document will be useful for assembly operators, Red Cross, other partners involved in mega-shelter operations

- Specific items of interest for those involved in children's related issues
- Tables in document have considerations, supporting tasks and resources

Sample Tables for Mega-Shelter Planning Guide



<p>Coordination of children's needs (Dormitory Services)</p>	<p>What areas are set aside for children?</p>	<p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family areas for sleeping Family play area Temporary respite care Special needs and considerations <p>Ensure areas are age appropriate and safe for all ages</p>
	<p>How will safe and comfortable sleeping environments be ensured for children and residents?</p>	<p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portable cribs for young infants Covering electrical outlets Monitoring of young mobile children Proximity of restrooms to dormitory area <p>Lighting</p>
	<p>What is the procedure for unaccompanied minors?</p>	<p>Determine legal responsibility</p> <p>Identify who in social services or government should assume responsibility</p>

Sample Tables for Mega-Shelter Planning Guide



What are the needs for defined children's areas?

Determine the child population by the following age groups:

Birth to 35 months

3 to 7 years

8 to 12 years

13 to 18 years

Determine the needs for the following services and resources:

Child recreation (indoor and outdoor green areas)

Temporary respite care – providing supervised areas for purposes such as recreational

Family friendly area

Breast feeding area

Bottle washing area

Diaper changing

Ensure all children's areas are safe, secure, sanitary and well lit

*Caring for Our Children:
National Health and Safety
Performance Standards:
Guidelines for Out-of-Home Child
Care, 2nd Edition*

<http://nrc.uchsc.edu/CFOC/index.html>

*Women and Infants Service
Package (WISP)*

<http://www.whiteribbonalliance.org/Resources/Documents/WISP.Final.07.27.07.pdf>

*State Emergency Planning and
Preparedness Recommendations
for Maternal and Child*

<http://www.amchp.org/PUBLICATIONS/EMERGENCYPREPAREDNESS/Pages/StateEmergencyPlanningandPreparednessRecommendationsforMaternalandChildHealthPopulations.aspx>

Sample Tables for Mega-Shelter Planning Guide



<p>What will be the plan be when normal programming is not available? (Normal programming is optimal.)</p>	<p>Determine what normal programming is available (e.g. schools, child care, after-school activities, camps) Identify external resources that can provide alternative emergency programming at local facilities Arrange for access within and outside of shelter facility Supplement programming by programs offered within the shelter as resources allow</p>	<p>State Child Care Licensing Agency & Resource and Referral Lists</p> <p>http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/statedata/dirs/index.cfm</p>
<p>How will access to normal programming be provided?</p>	<p>Approach and determine access points to normal programming (e.g. school boards, county parks and recreation programs, child care) Determine the transportation needs for accessing services</p>	

Thank you!

Lynn Crabb

Director, Mass Care

American Red Cross

crabbl@usa.redcross.org



Children's Disaster Services

A Church of the Brethren Disaster Ministry
since 1980



~Nurturing Children

~ Equipping Volunteers

~ Supporting Families



Children's Disaster Services Centers



- Set up child care centers across the nation in shelters and assistance centers







American Red Cross
Disaster Relief

DISASTER RELIEF
HELPING PEOPLE
IN NEED
CONTRIBUTE TO
THE CAUSE
ALL
RED CROSS DONATIONS
ARE FREE

THE BRO TOY GROUP
PLEASE DO NOT REUSE
DISPOSABLE TOYS
SERVING CHILDREN
IN NEED
874 28 745

CDS Volunteers



- **Provides certified volunteers who**
 - **create a calm, safe and reassuring presence in the midst of chaos.**
 - **encourage children to express themselves – thereby starting the healing process.**

CDS Volunteers

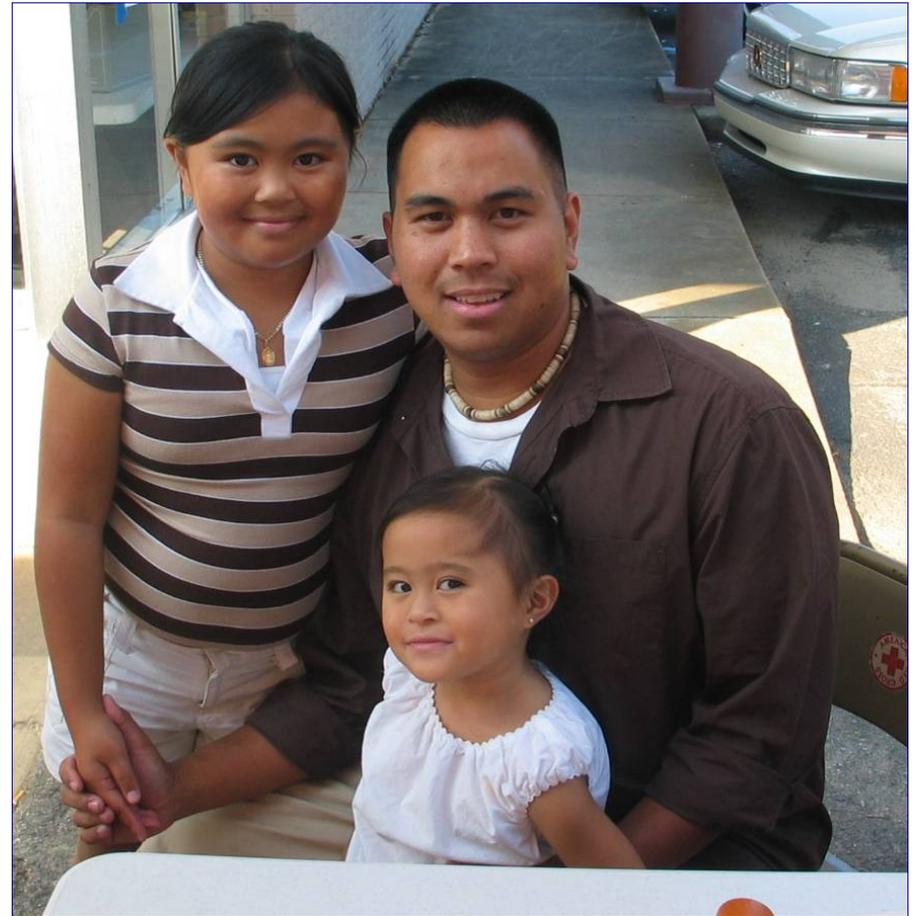


- **CDS Volunteers**
 - Mobilize rapidly
 - Respond both locally and nationally



Although many volunteers are motivated by faith, CDS' training is open to anyone over 18 years old.

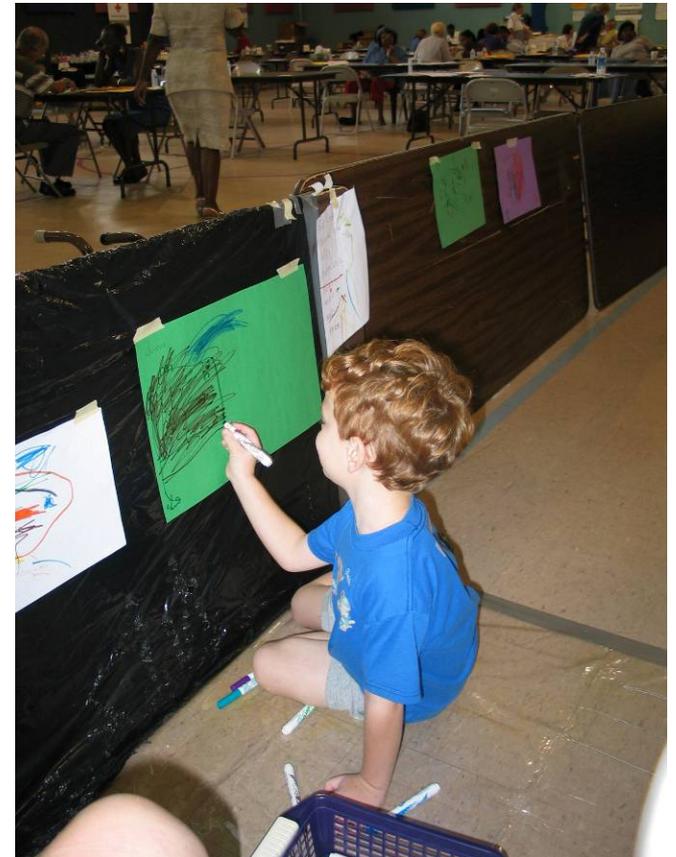
CDS Supports Families



CDS Works with Partners



Partner agencies report CDS creates an environment that makes it easier to give aid to those in need.



CDS Workshops



- Volunteers from across the country
 - participate in a 27 hour experiential workshop
 - learn to work with children after a disaster
 - undergo a rigorous screening process for certification



CDS Workshops



- CDS workshops utilize a variety of hands-on activities that give the participants experience with the skills being taught.





In 1997, CDS was invited to join the Red Cross
Critical Response Team



Critical Response Childcare volunteers:

- receive additional training
- A team of 6 is on call 24/7
- Can deploy within 4 hours of the event
- Provide respite and support to children and families after a catastrophe.

Current Statistics



Since 1980...

(through 5/13/10)

**Children's Disaster Services has responded
to:**

207 Disasters

with

2836 volunteers

caring for

83,280 children

CDS Nurtures Children





Children's Disaster Services

Judy Bezon, Associate Director
LethaJoy Martin, Program Assistant

800-451-4407 or 410-635-8735

CDS@brethren.org

www.childrensdisasterservices.org

A Program of Church of the Brethren Disaster Ministries



DISASTER RELIEF TEMPORARY CHILD CARE

"Let the little children come unto me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

WHAT IS OUR PURPOSE?

Disaster Relief Temporary Child Care is the caring for children in the aftermath of a disaster. It is a ministry where children and parents are shown the love of Jesus at a time when care and attention are vital needs in their lives.

- To care for children when a disaster strikes - natural or man made
- Show the love of Jesus to the children and their parents



Providing for Children

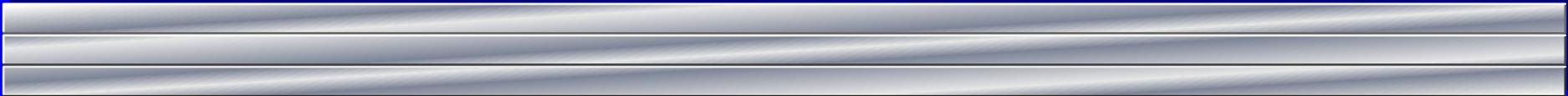
- ❑ Loving care in a calm atmosphere
- ❑ Provide a clean, safe and secure environment
- ❑ Bring some continuity and normalcy to the lives of the children
- ❑ Try to meet the individual need of each child



Ministry to Family



- ❖ Provide Relief
- ❖ Show the parents love and acceptance
- ❖ Provide them with referrals
- ❖ Have a listening ear
- ❖ Share a verbal witness for the Lord



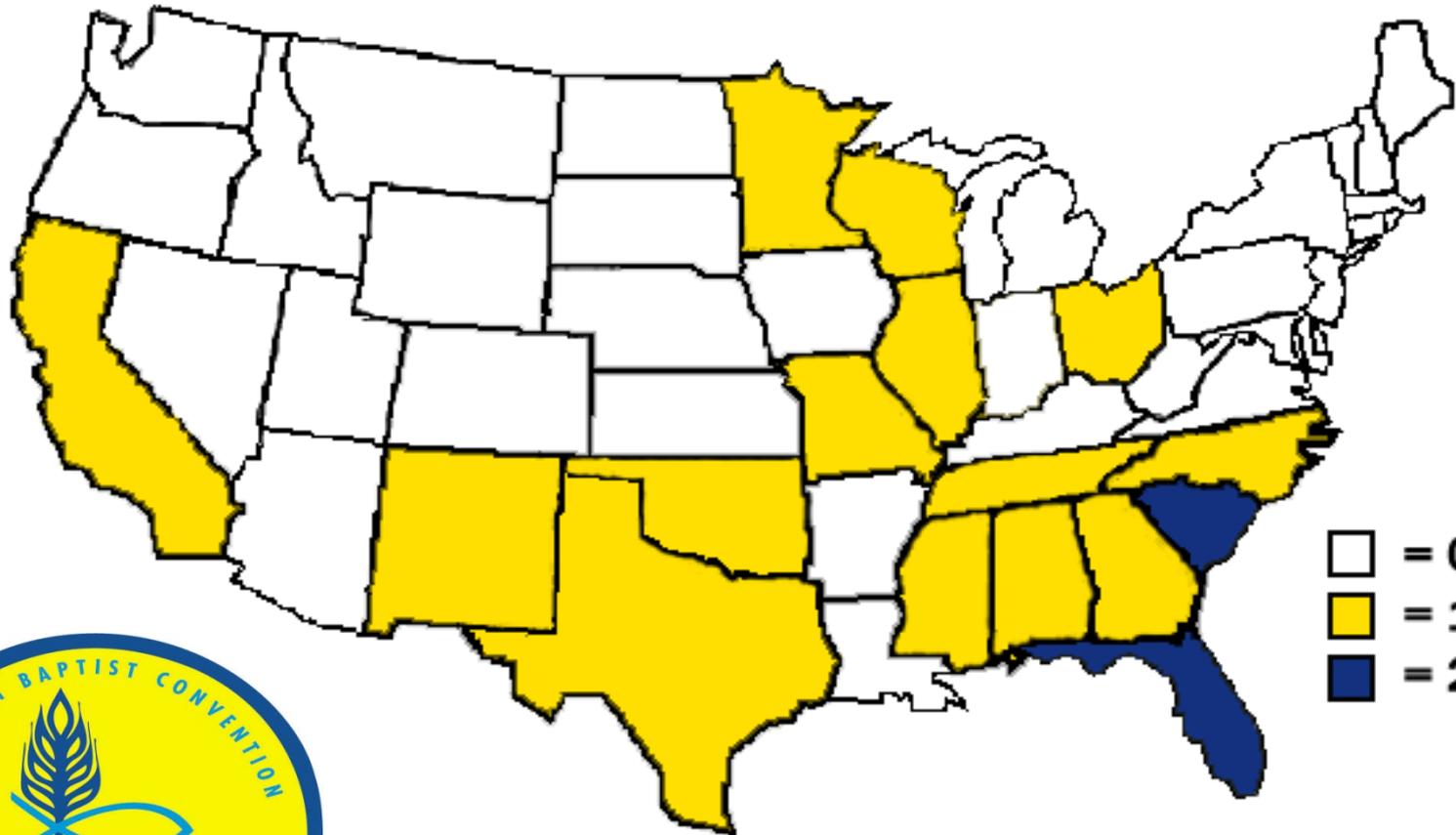
Coordinating with other Relief Organizations

- ❖ Cooperate with other SBC Disaster Relief Units
- ❖ Communicate with NAMB, State Office, Associations and Churches when appropriate
- ❖ Be Flexible - Needs change in disasters



DRTCC Units USA

Child Care Units



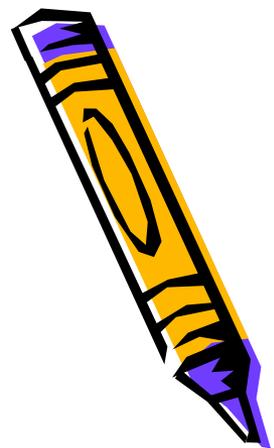
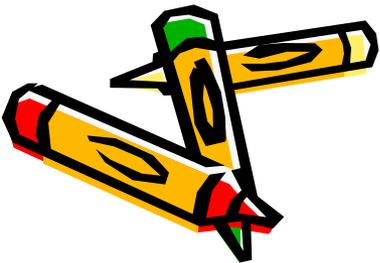
WHO MAKES UP A DRTC TEAM?

- Blue Hat/Smock
 1. Unit Director
 2. Supervisor

- Yellow Hat/Smock:
 1. Age Group Leader
 2. Age Group Assistant(s)

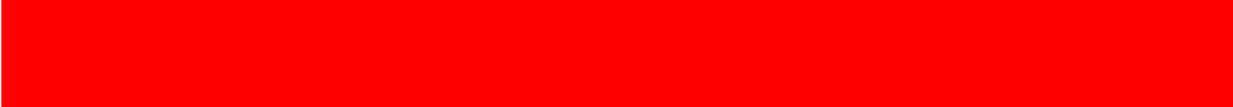


"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." Ephesians 5:1-2



Save the Children

- Goal: Reduce risks for children through:**
- **Advocacy & Policy Change**
 - **Disaster Risk Reduction, and**
 - **Response & Recovery Programming**



Save the Children

Preparedness: Advocacy and DRR

Advocacy:

Leading National Commission on Children and Disasters, chaired by Mark Shriver

SC is the sole child-focused advocate on FEMA's National Advisory Council and on NVOAD

Annual Report Card highlighting lack of preparedness planning for children in schools and licensed child care facilities

Disaster Risk Reduction:

Comprehensive regional preparedness initiatives: Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi, New York City and Washington, DC

Save the Children Response and Recovery

We Respond When:

Large numbers of children are at risk
Overwhelms local and state capacity

Programs:

Protection in Shelters (Child Friendly Spaces)

Child Care Recovery

Restoration of services for children and families

Psychosocial recovery

PROJECT
**JECT**

K.I.D.

PlayCare

What is PlayCare[®]?

PlayCare is a model of emergency/ disaster response that specifically attends to the developmental needs of children providing protective, nurturing and restorative environments.

Why PlayCare[®]?



“Play allows us to develop alternatives to violence and despair; it helps us learn perseverance and gain optimism.”

—Stuart Brown, M.D.



What is a PlayCare Kit?

One kit consists of six boxes to set up an entire child-friendly play environment for children affected by disaster.

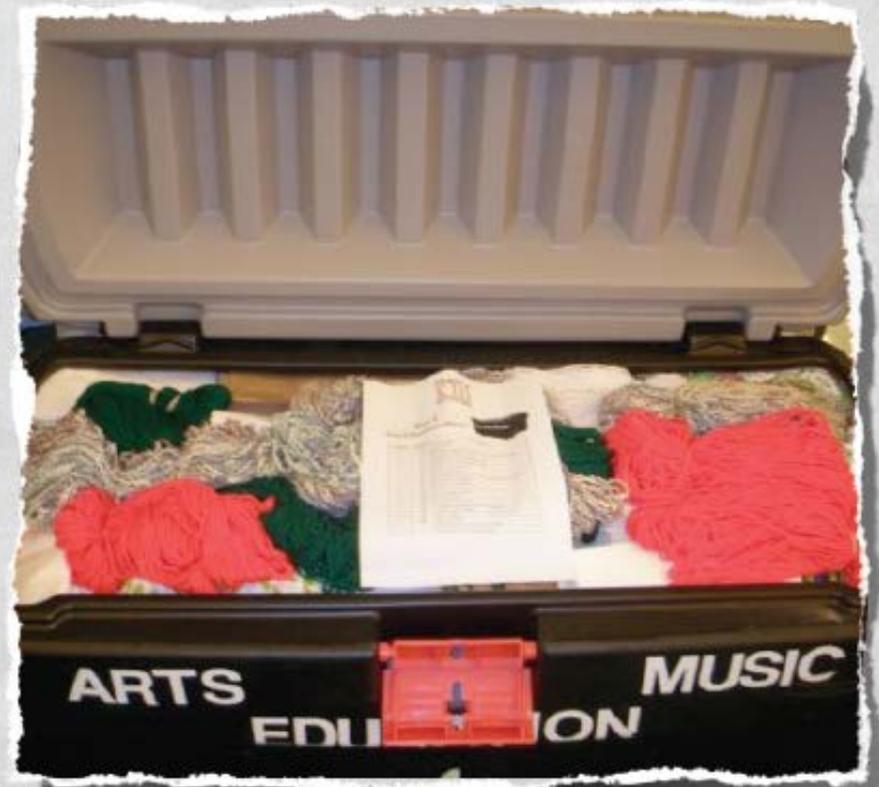
The six PlayCare boxes . . .

contain the materials and resources to support approximately 25 children at any one time.



The six PlayCare boxes . . .

- Infrastructure
- Health and Hygiene
- Infant and Toddler
- Arts, Music and Education
- Manipulatives
- Gross Motor and Sports



How does it work for Kids in Disaster?





**PlayCare is for all ages -
small to big kids.**



**PlayCare is
developmentally appropriate.**



**PlayCare Volunteers are trained
to work with children.**



**PlayCare spaces are arranged
for child safety.**



PlayCare is a haven where children can interact with toys and peers.



PlayCare materials are organized into spaces for older and younger children.



PlayCare materials are adaptable to individual children's needs.



PlayCare volunteers respond to the unique feelings and emotional needs of children in care.



PlayCare volunteers participate on the child's level.



PlayCare is part of the journey towards healing and recovery.

PlayCare offers a welcoming, nurturing place for all children in disasters.

“Play fosters belonging and encourages cooperation.”

—Stuart Brown, M.D.

“Play, while it cannot change the external realities of children’s lives, can be a vehicle for children to explore and enjoy their differences and similarities and to create, even for a brief time, a more just world where everyone is an equal and valued participant.”

—Patricia Ramsey
American Educational Psychologist



**PlayCare: A respite for children to
create, dream and heal.**



Visit www.project-kid.org or contact:

Project K.I.D. c/o The Children's Forum

2807 Remington Green Circle • Tallahassee, FL 32308

(850) 681-7002 • 1-888-FLCHILD (toll-free)



Lutheran Social Service of MN

CAMP NOAH

What is Camp Noah?



- A long term, disaster response program for children in 1st through 6th grades
- Week-long day camp in the disaster affected community
- Five day resiliency skill curriculum
- Trained volunteer teams with on-site mental health professional(s)

The History of Camp Noah

- Began in 1997 as a response to flooding in the Red River Valley (North Dakota + MN)
- Became a national program in 2006 as a response to hurricane Katrina
- 167 camps in 17 states serving over 6400 children in past four years



Disaster Affects Children

- 25%+ of disaster survivors are children
- 69% of all school aged children likely to suffer some emotional impairment following a disaster
- 1 in 2 children following Katrina show signs of emotional or behavioral difficulties
- 15 – 20% of children who suffer a major trauma such as a disaster will have related problems throughout life
- After severe disasters, children as young as 7 to 8 years old have attempted suicide
- In a recent study of children who survived a severe disaster event, 51.7% had developed PTSD at some time during the 5 years following the event

How can children experiencing disaster be helped?



- Studies show children can learn to cope if given the opportunity to process their disaster experience
- Studies show children need psychological first aid, but in addition, benefit from long-term therapeutic programming

Camp Noah does help children!

In a 2009 independent study on the effect of Camp Noah on 562 children in Iowa...



- 80% of parents said their children's disaster-related behavioral concerns improved
- 86% of children were less afraid of the weather
- 89% of parents thought Camp Noah activities helped their child work through their feelings about the disaster
- 98% of parents said they would recommend Camp Noah to other families affected by disaster
- 100% of children said camp was fun

How Camp Noahs Happen



The Camp Noah Daily Schedule

- 8:00am-9:00am Breakfast and free time
- 9:00-9:30 Large Group Opening
- 9:30-noon Resiliency Curriculum
(small groups by age)
- Noon-1:00pm Lunch and planned 'free' time
- 1:00-1:30 Relaxation - "Time with Noah"
and puppet show
- 1:30-2:45 Intentional afternoon activities
(crafts, recreation and planned events)
- 2:45-3:00 Large group closing
- 3:00-4:30 optional local day care

Camp Noah's Five Day Curriculum

- Day One – You are Somebody Special!
- Day Two – Storm Stories
- Day Three – Why am I feeling this way?
- Day Four – I can do that!
- Day five - Can I help you?

Where has Camp Noah been?



In the past four years 167 camps in 17 states including:

- Following hurricanes in Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Puerto Rico
- Following floods in Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Indiana
- Following tornados in Minnesota, Kansas, Arkansas, Alabama,
- Following wildfires in California
- Following the 35W Bridge Collapse in Minnesota
- Following community economic hardship in Iowa

How is Camp Noah supported?

Partnerships with organizations, congregations and community agencies including:

- American Red Cross
- Religions for Peace
- Unicef
- LSS of the South
- Church World Service
- Christian Church Disciples of Christ (Week of Compassion)
- Thrivent
- LA Spirit/MS Recovery
- Lutheran Disaster Response
- Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church
- Numerous community grant foundations and long term recovery committees