

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**August 7, 2013**

*Mobilizing Faith-Based  
Community Organizations in  
Preparing for Disasters.*  
Warrenton, Missouri  
8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.  
<http://training.dps.mo.gov/>

*Get Ready to Drop, Cover,  
and Hold On*  
**October 17, 2013**  
**10:17 a.m.**  
*in the Great Central U.S.  
ShakeOut  
Earthquake Drill*

## **COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS DISASTER ROLE**

Community health centers play an important role in emergency preparedness and response. By planning and developing policies, they are able to manage emergencies, protect staff and patients, and enhance their ability to deliver health care during and after a crisis situation.



Generally, community health centers serve uninsured, underinsured, or low-income individuals. These centers are sometimes located in areas where little access to primary health care is available. Health centers may not have extensive emergency services available during a disaster. However, outreach workers, volunteer and paid frontline public health workers who are trusted community members or who have an unusually close understanding of the community, can help direct citizens to services they need.

For example, outreach workers can:

- Assist community members with locating necessary resources such as food, shelter, clean water, etc.
- Convey information from local relief agencies to the community in culturally and linguistically appropriate ways.
- Educate survivors about services they may be eligible to receive.

A tip sheet which outlines how health centers can include outreach workers in emergency preparedness can be found at: <http://www.outreach-partners.org/other/outreach-and-emergency-prep-tip-sheet>

## **SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INCOME (SSD OR SSI)**

The Social Security Disability Resource Center page <http://www.ssdrc.com/> explains the process and provides guidance for applicants seeking social security disability (SSD) or (SSI) income. You do not have to be permanently disabled to collect social security income. In fact, the social security administration anticipates that at any given point a claimant's condition may substantially improve. This may be a very useful resource for individuals when a disaster causes a disability, permanent or temporary. It is also a handy resource to have on an ongoing basis.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS**

### **Disaster Response Template Toolkit: Introduction– (SAMHSA)**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Disaster Response Template Toolkit features public education materials that disaster behavioral health response programs can use to create resources for reaching people affected by a disaster. The Template Toolkit includes print, website, audio, video, and multimedia materials that disaster behavioral health response programs can use to provide outreach, psycho-education, and recovery news for disaster survivors. [http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac/dbhis/dbhis\\_templates\\_intro.asp](http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac/dbhis/dbhis_templates_intro.asp)

**The Dialogue** is a quarterly technical assistance journal on Disaster Behavioral Health and is produced by the SAMHSA Disaster Technical Assistance Center. There are great articles regarding cross-cultural work, the Shelter Field Guide, and The Healing Joplin Mural: Tree of Hope, as well as others. [http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac/dialogue/Dialogue\\_vol9\\_issue1.pdf](http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac/dialogue/Dialogue_vol9_issue1.pdf)

**Access and Functional Needs: The Medical Reserve Corp of Greater Kansas City** has released more functional needs assistance videos. These can assist volunteers at shelters and in other places in helping persons with functional needs. Some examples include assisting persons with an autism spectrum disorder, mental illness or attention deficit disorder, or with physical needs such as using a gait belt, assisting with oxygen, or helping a person who is blind. The short videos can be viewed at: [www.mrckc.org/shelter-videos.html](http://www.mrckc.org/shelter-videos.html) You may also request a free DVD copy by emailing Allison Breeze at [abreeze@marc.org](mailto:abreeze@marc.org). [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZLLMDOScE4g&feature=youtube\\_gdata](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZLLMDOScE4g&feature=youtube_gdata)

### **Preparedness: Documentary Highlights 1811-12 New Madrid Earthquakes**

*New Madrid: The Earthquakes of 1811-1812*, a documentary recently released in the central U.S., takes a look at the New Madrid Seismic Zone and the history behind several of the most powerful earthquakes in continental U.S. history.

This documentary also explains why earthquakes occur in the central U.S., and why they are more powerful and destructive than those in the west coast. Selected by dozens of PBS affiliates for showing, this program has aired across the nation, from Los Angeles to Boston, with prime-time showings in several areas. Since the fall of 2012, this documentary has been seen in at least 13 states with over 51 million potential viewers.

*New Madrid: The Earthquakes of 1811-1812* sponsored by the West TN Seismic Safety Commission (WTSSC), the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA), the University of Memphis' Center for Earthquake Research and Information (CERI) and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). It was produced by Gary Patterson, (CERI) and Pale Moon Media, and the full video can be found on the CERI homepage at <http://www.ceri.memphis.edu>.

**CHECK THIS OUT**

## **TRAINING**

*Integrating Access and Functional Needs into Emergency Planning*

July 23-24, 2013

Missouri State Emergency Management Agency  
<http://training.dps.mo.gov/>

## Children: Child Trends

The Positive Mental Health:Resilience brief <http://www.childtrends.org/?publications=positive-mental-health-resilience> presents key research findings on characteristics that are associated with resilience. The brief describes program strategies that promote resilience, discusses links between resilience and avoidance of risk-taking behaviors, and provides helpful resources.

Child TRENDS Fact Sheet:

What works for Promoting and Enhancing Positive Social Skills [http://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/child\\_trends\\_2011\\_03\\_02\\_RB\\_WWSocialSkills.pdf](http://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/child_trends_2011_03_02_RB_WWSocialSkills.pdf) Discover how children within different age groups react to traumas, such as the school shooting in Newtown, Connecticut, and learn the best ways to support their recovery.

## ***DON'T BE SCARED...LET'S PREPARE***

Sesame Street has created a series of videos that introduce kids to emergency preparedness. They discuss knowing your first and last name, address, having an emergency kit and a family plan! Zoë and Grover discuss exercising plans and making sure your kit is ready to go all the time. The characters also encourage kids to have a stuffed animal in their emergency kit. The characters do a great job of encouraging kids not to be afraid of emergency responders! The videos are available in Spanish and English, and include children with access and functional needs.



The main video is about 16 minutes long. Additionally, there is a Prairie Dawn video that is a little over four minutes, and two shorter PSA's that are 30 seconds in length. The PSA's are great! Short, sweet and to the point! These videos and activities are great tools for teachers as well.

The site also offers a toolkit including a family emergency plan, a tip sheet, information for parents and an activity guide for kids. The guide has games and activities for kids to do while learning their full name, address, phone number, and how to dial 911.

<http://www.sesamestreet.org/parents/topicsandactivities/toolkits/ready>

## ***TALK ABOUT IT***

The last piece of the Joplin Recovery puzzle is complete. The link below is to the "Talk About It" crisis counseling texting project. Funding for the project came from the city of Joplin and the Missouri Foundation for Health.

<http://www.freemanhealth.com/talkaboutit>



**CHECK THIS OUT**

## TRAINING

*ICS 400 Advanced Incident  
Command System  
Jefferson City*

**October 23-24, 2013**

*Prerequisites required*

*Missouri State Emergency  
Management Agency  
[http://training.dps.  
mo.gov/sematraining.nsf/](http://training.dps.mo.gov/sematraining.nsf/)*

## PET PROJECT

Have you ever started to drive away from your house and looked back only to see the sad eyes of your four-legged family member peering at you through the window with tail wagging as though to say, “take me with you!” Now think about in a disaster situation having to make a decision to evacuate to a shelter and being told you cannot take your pet with you—No Pets Allowed in the Shelter. What decision would you be inclined to make?

According to Diane Robinson, Emergency Services Training Manager for the American Humane Association, “In 2005, when Hurricane Katrina struck, companion animals were denied shelter. Some people refused to evacuate without their animals, while others were forced to retreat to safety and leave their companion animals behind. It was not the first time this type of situation had occurred, but due to the disaster’s scope and the media coverage it received, it was the first time the general public paid attention to the heartbreaking separation of people and their beloved pets on such a large scale.

The brochure titled, *Preparing Your Pets for Emergencies Makes Sense* [http://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/pets\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/pets_brochure.pdf) encourages pet owners to prepare for the unexpected by assembling an animal emergency supply kit and developing a pet care buddy system. Whether you decide to stay put or evacuate to a safer location, you will need to make plans in advance for your pets. Keep in mind that what’s best for you is typically what’s best for your animals.



*Spookie and Yogi are belted in and waiting to go!*

If you must evacuate, take your pets with you, if possible. However, if you are going to a public shelter, it is important to understand that animals may not be allowed inside. Plan in advance for shelter alternatives that will work for both you and your pets. Develop a buddy system with neighbors, friends and relatives to make sure that someone is available to care for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so.

After Hurricane Katrina, new Federal legislation requires states to plan for pet sheltering in a disaster. Finding suitable places for humans to go where they can have their animals sheltered close by is a major consideration in getting people to willingly evacuate to safety. In a disaster, the stress and trauma is amplified when people leave a furry family member behind that they may never see again.

For many of us, animals are a significant part of our lives. To even think about leaving them is more than we can bear—especially when they are always there for us. With their comfort and support our own recovery could be a little easier.

Watch the video on preparing for your pet’s safety at [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aUbSF\\_S20bE&feature=youtube\\_gdata](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aUbSF_S20bE&feature=youtube_gdata)



*Ben is just hangin’ out!*



*Roxy takes her turn keeping watch while Trudy gets some shut eye!*

## CHECK THIS OUT

Visit the DMH Disaster Services website:  
<http://dmh.mo.gov/disaster>

“Like” us on Facebook at:  
“Disaster Services-Missouri Dept of Mental Health”

Follow us on Twitter at:  
[http://twitter.com/ShowMe\\_HOPE](http://twitter.com/ShowMe_HOPE)



Missouri Department of  
Mental Health  
Office of Disaster Services  
1706 E. Elm Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65101  
573/751-4122  
800/364-9687