

PRIORITIZING SAFETY & BUILDING RESILIENCE: LESSONS LEARNED FROM HURRICANE IRMA

October 31, 2018

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Resiliency is shaped by what happens before the storm...

BUILDING A CULTURE OF SAFETY & PREPAREDNESS

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

Developing a training program to ensure safety and knowledge is a priority for residents (and students) before the storm



BASIC CERT TRAINING COURSE

Disaster Preparedness

Fire Suppression

Disaster Medical Operations

Search & Rescue Operations

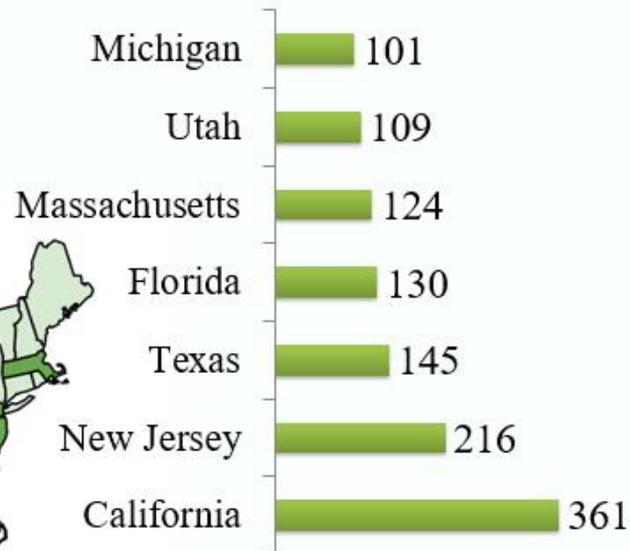
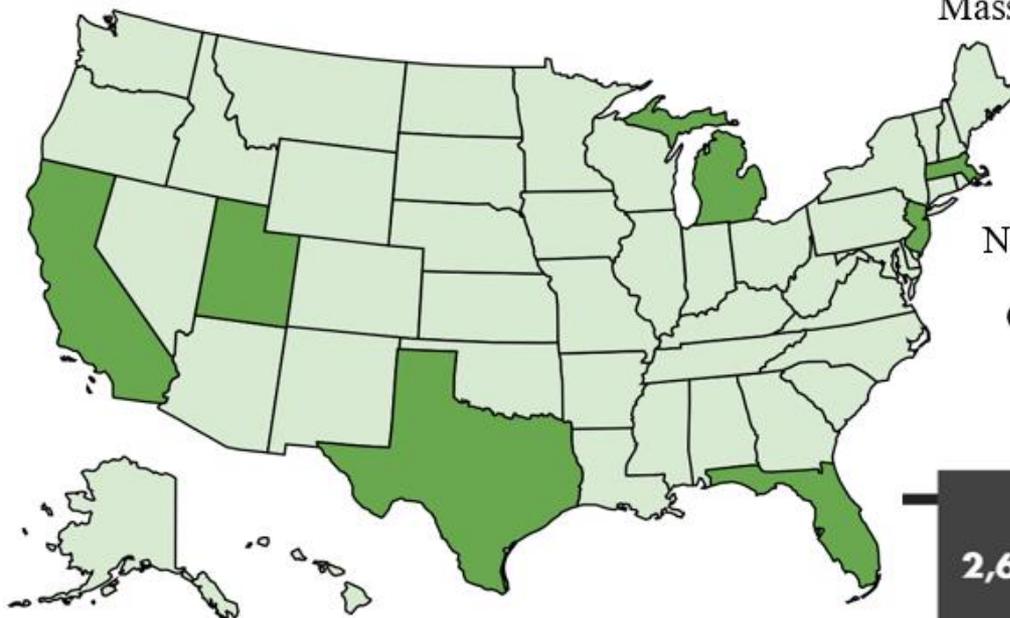
Disaster Psychology & Team Organization

Terrorism

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**States with the Largest
Number of CERT Programs**



2,611

**Total Number of CERT Programs
in the United States**

In the event of a large-scale disaster, emergency response agencies can be overwhelmed. Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) are nationally recognized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and are designed to improve personal preparedness in the event of a natural or man-made disaster.

University-Community Partnerships

Preparedness for those Experiencing Homelessness

- Homeless Count with Hillsborough County Social Services and conducting surveys
- Interviews with City & County emergency planners, and homeless services on Homelessness in disaster response
- Developed a pamphlet to educate homeless on disaster preparedness for the Tampa Bay Street Medicine (TBSM) Team



Tampa Bay Street Medicine

Disaster Preparedness
for Residents Experiencing Homelessness

Hillsborough County

Are you or someone you know experiencing homelessness?
Know Your Risks and How You Can be Better Prepared for a Natural Disaster

Storm Safety Tips...

- 1 Do not try and brave the storm outdoors, find a safe shelter to stay protected from hurricanes, thunderstorms, and extreme temperatures.
- 2 Avoid standing water. Floodwaters may contain fecal matter, hazardous chemicals, bacteria, and viruses.
- 3 Avoid downed power lines. Always assume power lines are live!
- 4 The weight of rain combined with strong winds can cause extreme damage and flying debris.
- 5 Just one cubic foot of rainwater weighs over 60 pounds. Avoid walking through water 6 inches or more, as it has enough potential force to sweep vehicles away let alone humans.

Hurricane season is from early June to late November

Get Connected. Stay Alert.

HCFL Alert is Hillsborough County's official notification system for emergencies and other threats that residents may face here in Hillsborough County. By signing up, you will receive important messages to keep you informed. Register online at www.hillsboroughcounty.org.

For additional information or assistance registering, call (813) 372-6662.

HCL Alert
Hillsborough County

Hillsborough County Emergency Shelter Information

In the event of a community emergency, Hillsborough County has emergency shelters for residents and visitors available as a last resort. Become familiar with the shelter information provided and make sure you know the following facts:

- ✓ Shelters are opened on an "as-needed basis."
- ✓ Shelter openings may vary with each emergency.
- ✓ Never go to a shelter unless local officials have announced it is open.
- ✓ Current shelter information is available from local radio and television stations, and the Hillsborough County website at (813) 372-5900. More information is available on the county website, HCLF.Gov.net/5169a1e.

HURRICANE EVACUATION ROUTES

MOVING YOU TO SAFETY
When a hurricane warning is announced or a mandatory evacuation order is issued, HART buses run special evacuation routes for people who need transportation to shelters. HART provides free emergency evacuation bus services to one of the following open public shelters:

- 📍 Sgt. Smith Middle School, 14303 Citrus Pointe Drive in the Citrus Park area (Routes D and I)
- 📍 Pizzo Elementary School, on Bull Run and Fowler in Tampa (Routes A, B, F, J)
- 📍 Middleton High School on Osborne and 23rd Street in Tampa (Route E, G, H)
- 📍 Sidale Middle School, 15723 Beech Shields Way, Ruskin (Route H)

Emergency Evacuation Bus Routes and Flood Zones

Las Rutas De Autobus Para Evacuación De Emergencias y las Zonas de Diluvio

HART EMERGENCY ASSISTED BUS STOP

Disaster Distress Helpline
PHONE: 1-800-985-5990
TEXT: "TalkWithUs" to 66746

If you or someone you know is struggling after a disaster, you are not alone.

Community Engagement in Public Health Preparedness

Hospital Mass Casualty Exercises

- Collaborate with Hillsborough County Department of Health
- Placed in 16 hospitals
- Students serve as evaluators for hospital response to mass casualty event
- Submit official reports for after action report

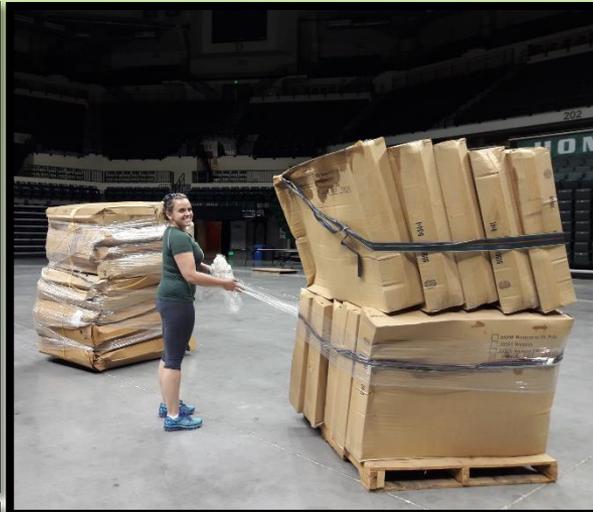


Preparedness & Outreach... Prior to the Storm

- Collaborate with Hillsborough County OEM for their State-wide Hurricane Exercise
- Planning with HC & City of Tampa OEM for their Annual Hurricane Expos & Port Safety Day Events
- Community canvassing and outreach in area with high Social Vulnerability
- Help develop training modules on safety for the Florida Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services
- Installing smoke alarms with the American Red Cross



When Disaster Strikes: Preparing for Irma Special Needs Shelter at USF Sun Dome



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Our Roll in the Response to Hurricane Irma

- Support staff at both the Hillsborough County & City of Tampa Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) assisting with calls, mass care, volunteer & donation management, transportation, training;
- Staffing call centers in four different locations (HC & City of Tampa EOC, Channel 8 & ABC Action News)
- Setting-up and staffing three special needs shelters throughout Hillsborough County
- Managing and staffing 18 shelters
- Assisted the Sunshine Line arrange transportation of residents to special needs shelters & hospitals
- Assisting with Points of Distribution (POD) sites for food and water
- Joined Code Enforcement Damage Assessment Teams serving as the Disaster Survivor Assistance Teams (DSAT) conducting surveys from residents who were impacted so HC Social Services can begin identifying the population needs in the community



Hurricane Irma Response: EOC



Hurricane Irma Recovery



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Community Vulnerability Study



Partnership with USF College of Public Health, Florida Center for Community Design & Research (FCCD+R), Hillsborough County & City of Tampa Government to look at Vulnerability.

Protecting our residents, environment & designing with the future in mind

Community Vulnerability Study

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The project will conduct a Risk Assessment and Vulnerability Analysis, considering how sea level rise and the perils of flood will affect:

- Built Environment Assets
- Community and Population Vulnerabilities
- Environmental Hazards
- Ecological Services

It will also provide:

- Design Scenario Examples
- Policy Recommendations



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