

after action report emergency management

After Action Report: Emergency Management: A Critical Analysis and Best Practices

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Editor: Mr. David Miller, MPA, has over 15 years of experience in disaster response coordination and has directly overseen the creation and implementation of numerous after-action reports following large-scale emergencies. His expertise lies in analyzing data collected from AARs to identify areas for improvement in emergency response systems.

Keywords: After action report emergency management, AAR, emergency management, disaster response, incident review, lessons learned, continuous improvement, emergency preparedness, post-incident analysis, performance evaluation

Summary: This report provides a comprehensive overview of the crucial role of the after action report

emergency management process. It emphasizes the importance of conducting thorough post-incident analyses to identify strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement in emergency response systems. The report utilizes research findings to support best practices for AAR development, implementation, and utilization, highlighting the contribution of data analysis in driving continuous improvement within emergency management organizations. It also addresses common challenges in the AAR process and offers strategies for overcoming them. Ultimately, the report concludes that a robust after action report emergency management system is essential for enhancing organizational resilience and ensuring more effective responses to future emergencies.

1. The Critical Role of After Action Reports in Emergency Management

The after action report emergency management (AAR) process is a cornerstone of continuous improvement in emergency response. Following any significant emergency event – whether a natural disaster, terrorist attack, or industrial accident – a comprehensive AAR is vital. It provides a structured framework for analyzing the event, identifying what worked well, what went wrong, and what changes are necessary to improve future response efforts. Research consistently demonstrates a positive correlation between regular and thorough AARs and improvements in response efficiency and effectiveness (National Institute of Standards and Technology, 2010).

2. Data and Research Findings: Improving the After Action Report Emergency Management Process

Effective after action report emergency management relies on the meticulous collection and analysis of data. This includes incident timelines, communication logs, resource allocation records, casualty data, and feedback from responders, victims, and the community. Data analysis techniques such as root cause analysis, fault tree analysis, and statistical process control can identify trends, patterns, and systemic issues that contribute to response inefficiencies (National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, 2017).

Studies show that incorporating quantitative data into AARs significantly enhances their value. For

example, analyzing response times, resource utilization rates, and casualty numbers can provide objective evidence to support recommendations for improved strategies and resource allocation. Qualitative data, such as interviews and surveys, can provide crucial insights into human factors, communication breakdowns, and the overall experience of responders and affected populations.

3. Best Practices for Developing and Implementing After Action Reports

Several best practices contribute to the effectiveness of after action report emergency management:

Timeliness: AARs should be conducted promptly after the incident to ensure that information is still fresh in people's minds and that lessons learned aren't forgotten.

Objectivity: The process must be conducted objectively, focusing on facts and avoiding blame.

Collaboration: Involve a diverse group of stakeholders, including responders, affected populations, and community leaders, in the AAR process.

Structured Format: Utilizing a standardized format ensures consistency and completeness.

Data-Driven Analysis: Data analysis should form the core of the AAR, guiding recommendations for improvement.

Actionable Recommendations: The AAR should conclude with concrete, actionable recommendations for improvement, with assigned responsibilities and deadlines.

Follow-up and Monitoring: It's crucial to track the implementation of the recommendations outlined in the after action report emergency management and assess their effectiveness.

4. Challenges in the After Action Report Emergency Management Process and Strategies for Overcoming Them

Common challenges include resource constraints, time pressures, resistance to change, and difficulty in obtaining honest feedback. Strategies to overcome these include:

Prioritize resources: Allocate sufficient resources, including personnel and funding, to the AAR

process.

Streamline the process: Utilize technology and efficient methodologies to reduce time demands.

Foster a culture of learning: Encourage open communication and a blame-free environment to promote honest feedback.

Utilize external expertise: Engage external experts to provide objective perspectives and facilitate the AAR process.

5. The Future of After Action Reports in Emergency Management

The future of after action report emergency management involves increased utilization of technology, such as data analytics platforms and simulation tools, to enhance the analysis and efficiency of the process. The integration of AAR data into broader emergency management information systems will also be vital for identifying systemic vulnerabilities and promoting proactive risk reduction. Furthermore, ongoing research into best practices and effective strategies for conducting and utilizing AARs remains crucial for ensuring effective emergency response.

Conclusion: The after action report emergency management process is not merely a post-incident formality; it is a critical component of continuous improvement in emergency management. By systematically analyzing data, identifying areas for improvement, and implementing actionable recommendations, organizations can enhance their resilience and ensure more effective responses to future emergencies. The implementation of best practices, coupled with a commitment to continuous learning, is essential for building a more robust and effective emergency management system.

FAQs:

1. What is the difference between an after-action report and a post-incident analysis? While often used interchangeably, post-incident analysis is a broader term encompassing various review methods, including the AAR. An AAR focuses specifically on the response to an incident, while

post-incident analysis may also include pre-incident planning and preparedness aspects.

1. Who should be involved in the AAR process? A diverse range of stakeholders, including responders from different agencies, affected populations, community leaders, and subject-matter experts, should participate.
1. How often should AARs be conducted? AARs should be conducted after every significant emergency event, the frequency depending on the size and impact of the event. Smaller incidents may require less formal reviews.
1. How can we ensure the objectivity of the AAR process? Utilize a structured methodology, involve a diverse range of stakeholders, and focus on facts and data rather than assigning blame.
1. How can we overcome resistance to change following an AAR? Foster a culture of continuous improvement and learning, highlight the benefits of implementing recommendations, and provide adequate resources and support.
1. What technology can be used to improve the AAR process? Data analytics platforms, simulation tools, and collaborative online platforms can streamline data collection, analysis, and dissemination.

1. How can we measure the effectiveness of an AAR? Track the implementation of recommendations and assess their impact on subsequent response efforts.

1. What are the legal implications of AARs? AARs are generally considered internal documents but should be handled carefully to protect privacy and confidentiality.

1. How can we ensure the AAR is actionable? Develop clear, concise, and specific recommendations with assigned responsibilities and deadlines.

Related Articles:

1. "Improving Emergency Response Through Data-Driven After-Action Reports": This article focuses on the role of data analysis in improving the effectiveness of after-action reports.

1. "Best Practices for Conducting After-Action Reviews in Disaster Response": This article provides a detailed guide to conducting effective AARs in disaster response contexts.

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1. "Integrating After-Action Reports into Emergency Management Information Systems": This article focuses on integrating AAR data into broader emergency management systems for improved situational awareness.
1. "Case Study: A Successful After-Action Report in a Major Hurricane Response": A detailed case study demonstrating the application and benefits of an effective AAR.
1. "The Impact of After-Action Reports on Organizational Resilience": This article examines the link between the implementation of AARs and increased organizational resilience.
1. "Legal and Ethical Considerations in After-Action Reporting": This article focuses on the legal and ethical aspects of collecting and using information from AARs.

1. "Training and Education for Effective After-Action Reporting": This article details programs and resources for effective training in creating and utilizing AARs.

after action report emergency management: Evidence-Based Practice for Public Health

Emergency Preparedness and Response National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Health and Medicine Division, Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice, Board on Health Sciences Policy, Committee on Evidence-Based Practices for Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response, 2020-11-28 When communities face complex public health emergencies, state local, tribal, and territorial public health agencies must make difficult decisions regarding how to effectively respond. The public health emergency preparedness and response (PHEPR) system, with its multifaceted mission to prevent, protect against, quickly respond to, and recover from public health emergencies, is inherently complex and encompasses policies, organizations, and programs. Since the events of September 11, 2001, the United States has invested billions of dollars and immeasurable amounts of human capital to develop and enhance public health emergency preparedness and infrastructure to respond to a wide range of public health threats, including infectious diseases, natural disasters, and chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear events. Despite the investments in research and the growing body of empirical literature on a range of preparedness and response capabilities and functions, there has been no national-level, comprehensive review and grading of evidence for public health emergency preparedness and response practices comparable to those utilized in medicine and other public health fields. Evidence-Based Practice for Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response reviews the state of the evidence on PHEPR practices and the improvements necessary to move the field forward and to strengthen the PHEPR system. This publication evaluates PHEPR evidence to understand the balance of benefits and harms of PHEPR practices, with a focus on four main areas of PHEPR: engagement with and training of community-based partners to improve the outcomes of at-risk populations after public health emergencies; activation of a public health emergency operations center; communication of public health alerts and guidance to technical audiences during a public health emergency; and implementation of quarantine to reduce the spread of contagious illness.

after action report emergency management: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans United States. Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2010 Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) 101 provides guidelines on developing emergency operations plans (EOP). It promotes a common understanding of the fundamentals of risk-informed planning and decision making to help planners examine a hazard or threat and produce integrated, coordinated, and synchronized plans. The goal of CPG 101 is to make the planning process routine across all phases of emergency management and for all homeland security mission areas. This Guide helps planners at all levels of government in their efforts to develop and maintain viable all-hazards, all-threats EOPs. Accomplished properly, planning provides a methodical way to engage the whole community in thinking through the life cycle of a potential crisis, determining required capabilities, and establishing a framework for roles and responsibilities. It shapes how a community envisions and shares a desired outcome, selects effective ways to achieve it, and communicates expected results. Each jurisdiction's plans must reflect what that community will do to address its specific

risks with the unique resources it has or can obtain.

after action report emergency management: Preparing for Terrorism Institute of Medicine, Board on Health Sciences Policy, Committee on Evaluation of the Metropolitan Medical Response System Program, 2002-07-11 The Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) program of the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) provides funds to major U. S. cities to help them develop plans for coping with the health and medical consequences of a terrorist attack with chemical, biological, or radiological (CBR) agents. DHHS asked the Institute of Medicine (IOM) to assist in assessing the effectiveness of the MMRS program by developing appropriate evaluation methods, tools, and processes to assess both its own management of the program and local preparedness in the cities that have participated in the program. This book provides the managers of the MMRS program and others concerned about local capabilities to cope with CBR terrorism with three evaluation tools and a three-part assessment method. The tools are a questionnaire survey eliciting feedback about the management of the MMRS program, a table of preparedness indicators for 23 essential response capabilities, and a set of three scenarios and related questions for group discussion. The assessment method described integrates document inspection, a site visit by a team of expert peer reviewers, and observations at community exercises and drills.

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after action report emergency management: Learning in Action David A. Garvin, 2003-03-25 Most managers today understand the value of building a learning organization. Their goal is to leverage knowledge and make it a key corporate asset, yet they remain uncertain about how best to get started. What they lack are guidelines and tools that transform abstract theory—the learning organization as an ideal—into hands-on implementation. For the first time in *Learning in Action*, David Garvin helps managers make the leap from theory to proven practice. Garvin argues that at the heart of organizational learning lies a set of processes that can be designed, deployed, and led. He starts by describing the basic steps in every learning process—acquiring, interpreting, and applying knowledge—then examines the critical challenges facing managers at each of these stages and the various ways the challenges can be met. Drawing on decades of scholarship and a wealth of examples from a wide range of fields, Garvin next introduces three modes of learning—intelligence gathering, experience, and experimentation—and shows how each mode is most effectively deployed. These approaches are brought to life in complete, richly detailed case studies of learning in action at organizations such as Xerox, L. L. Bean, the U. S. Army, and GE. The book concludes with a discussion of the leadership role that senior executives must play to make learning a day-to-day reality in their organizations.

after action report emergency management: Improved Seismic Monitoring - Improved Decision-Making National Research Council, Division on Earth and Life Studies, Board on Earth Sciences and Resources, Committee on Seismology and Geodynamics, Committee on the Economic Benefits of Improved Seismic Monitoring, 2006-01-04 Improved Seismic Monitoring—Improved Decision-Making, describes and assesses the varied economic benefits potentially derived from modernizing and expanding seismic monitoring activities in the United States. These benefits include more effective loss avoidance regulations and strategies, improved understanding of earthquake processes, better engineering design, more effective hazard mitigation strategies, and improved emergency response and recovery. The economic principles that must be applied to

determine potential benefits are reviewed and the report concludes that although there is insufficient information available at present to fully quantify all the potential benefits, the annual dollar costs for improved seismic monitoring are in the tens of millions and the potential annual dollar benefits are in the hundreds of millions.

after action report emergency management: Strengthening Post-Hurricane Supply Chain Resilience National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Policy and Global Affairs, Office of Special Projects, Committee on Building Adaptable and Resilient Supply Chains After Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, 2020-04-02 Resilient supply chains are crucial to maintaining the consistent delivery of goods and services to the American people. The modern economy has made supply chains more interconnected than ever, while also expanding both their range and fragility. In the third quarter of 2017, Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria revealed some significant vulnerabilities in the national and regional supply chains of Texas, Florida, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. The broad impacts and quick succession of these three hurricanes also shed light on the effectiveness of the nation's disaster logistics efforts during response through recovery. Drawing on lessons learned during the 2017 hurricanes, this report explores future strategies to improve supply chain management in disaster situations. This report makes recommendations to strengthen the roles of continuity planning, partnerships between civic leaders with small businesses, and infrastructure investment to ensure that essential supply chains will remain operational in the next major disaster. Focusing on the supply chains food, fuel, water, pharmaceutical, and medical supplies, the recommendations of this report will assist the Federal Emergency Management Agency as well as state and local officials, private sector decision makers, civic leaders, and others who can help ensure that supply chains remain robust and resilient in the face of natural disasters.

after action report emergency management: Facing Hazards and Disasters National Research Council, Division on Earth and Life Studies, Committee on Disaster Research in the Social Sciences: Future Challenges and Opportunities, 2006-09-10 Social science research conducted since the late 1970's has contributed greatly to society's ability to mitigate and adapt to natural, technological, and willful disasters. However, as evidenced by Hurricane Katrina, the Indian Ocean tsunami, the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, and other recent events, hazards and disaster research and its application could be improved greatly. In particular, more studies should be pursued that compare how the characteristics of different types of events-including predictability, forewarning, magnitude, and duration of impact-affect societal vulnerability and response. This book includes more than thirty recommendations for the hazards and disaster community.

after action report emergency management: Hazardous Materials Incidents Chris Hawley, 2002 Marked by its risk-based response philosophy, Hazardous Materials Incidents is an invaluable procedural manual and all-inclusive information resource for emergency services professionals faced with the challenge of responding swiftly and effectively to hazardous materials and terrorism incidents. Easy-to-read and perfect for use in HazMat awareness, operations, and technician-level training courses, this Operations Plus book begins by acquainting readers with current laws and regulations, including those governing emergency planning and workplace safety. Subsequent chapters provide in-depth information about personal protective equipment and its limitations; protective actions ranging from site management and rescue through evacuation and decontamination; product control including the use of carbon monoxide detectors; responses to terrorism and terrorist groups; law enforcement activities such as SWAT operations and evidence collection; and more! A key resource for every fire, police, EMS, and industrial responder, Hazardous Materials Incidents is one of the few books available today that is modeled on current ways of thinking about HazMat and terrorism responses and operations.

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delivery model have sought guidance on how to better integrate their emergency preparedness and response activities into similar processes occurring at the local, regional, State, tribal, and Federal levels. This primary purpose of this project is to begin the process of providing that guidance as it relates to mass care incident deployment.

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after action report emergency management: Facing the Unexpected Ronald W. Perry, Michael K. Lindell, Kathleen J. Tierney, 2001-11-06 Facing the Unexpected presents the wealth of information derived from disasters around the world over the past 25 years. The authors explore how these findings can improve disaster programs, identify remaining research needs, and discuss disaster within the broader context of sustainable development. How do different people think about disaster? Are we more likely to panic or to respond with altruism? Why are 110 people killed in a ValuJet crash considered disaster victims while the 50,000 killed annually in traffic accidents in the U.S. are not? At the crossroads of social, cultural, and economic factors, this book examines these and other compelling questions. The authors review the influences that shape the U.S. governmental system for disaster planning and response, the effectiveness of local emergency agencies, and the level of professionalism in the field. They also compare technological versus natural disaster and examine the impact of technology on disaster programs.

after action report emergency management: Framework for a Public Health Emergency Operations Centre World Health Organization, 2015-12-15 The Framework for a Public Health Emergency Operations Centre (PHEOC framework) document is intended to be used by practitioners of public health; health policy makers; and authorities and agencies responsible for managing emergencies, incidents, or events where the health of populations is at risk. This document provides high-level methodical guidance for designing, developing, and strengthening of public health emergency operations centers. This interim document outlines the key concepts and essential requirements for developing and managing a public health EOC (PHEOC). The overall approach is generic and based on widely acknowledged elements of all-hazards emergency management. It provides an outline for developing and managing a PHEOC to achieve a goal-oriented response to public health emergencies and unity of effort among response agencies. The document will be revised as necessary. Practical guidance on specific aspects of the PHEOC framework will be developed and published separately. A public health emergency is here defined as an occurrence, or imminent threat, of an illness or health condition that poses a substantial risk of a significant number of human fatalities, injuries or permanent or long-term disability. Public health emergencies

can result from a wide range of hazards and complex emergencies. Experience has shown that timely implementation of an EOC provides an essential platform for the effective management of public health emergencies. Public health emergencies involve increased incidence of illness, injury and/or death and require special measures to address increased morbidity, mortality and interruption of essential health services. For such emergencies, a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional response is often required, working with the national disaster management organization. When normal resources and capacities are exceeded, support from outside the affected areas will also be required. External assistance could include national, cross-border, regional or international resources.

after action report emergency management: *Practical Lessons from the Loma Prieta Earthquake* National Research Council, Division on Engineering and Physical Sciences, Commission on Engineering and Technical Systems, Geotechnical Board, 1994-02-01 The Loma Prieta earthquake struck the San Francisco area on October 17, 1989, causing 63 deaths and \$10 billion worth of damage. This book reviews existing research on the Loma Prieta quake and draws from it practical lessons that could be applied to other earthquake-prone areas of the country. The volume contains seven keynote papers presented at a symposium on the earthquake and includes an overview written by the committee offering recommendations to improve seismic safety and earthquake awareness in parts of the country susceptible to earthquakes.

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after action report emergency management: *The Pig Book* Citizens Against Government Waste, 2013-09-17 The federal government wastes your tax dollars worse than a drunken sailor on shore leave. The 1984 Grace Commission uncovered that the Department of Defense spent \$640 for a toilet seat and \$436 for a hammer. Twenty years later things weren't much better. In 2004, Congress spent a record-breaking \$22.9 billion dollars of your money on 10,656 of their pork-barrel projects. The war on terror has a lot to do with the record \$413 billion in deficit spending, but it's also the result of pork over the last 18 years the likes of: - \$50 million for an indoor rain forest in Iowa - \$102 million to study screwworms which were long ago eradicated from American soil - \$273,000 to combat goth culture in Missouri - \$2.2 million to renovate the North Pole (Lucky for Santa!) - \$50,000 for a tattoo removal program in California - \$1 million for ornamental fish research Funny in some instances and jaw-droppingly stupid and wasteful in others, The Pig Book proves one thing about Capitol Hill: pork is king!

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edition was published in 2001. It consists of 25 chapters and presents examples from Canada, the UK, and the United States. It first provides an overview of the healthcare environment, including categories of healthcare, types of hospitals, the nonhospital side of healthcare, and the different stakeholders. It then describes basic healthcare security risks/vulnerabilities and offers tips on security management planning. The book also discusses security department organization and staffing, management and supervision of the security force, training of security personnel, security force deployment and patrol activities, employee involvement and awareness of security issues, implementation of physical security safeguards, parking control and security, and emergency preparedness. Healthcare security practitioners and hospital administrators will find this book invaluable. - Practical support for healthcare security professionals, including operationally proven policies, and procedures - Specific assistance in preparing plans and materials tailored to healthcare security programs - Summary tables and sample forms bring together key data, facilitating ROI discussions with administrators and other departments - General principles clearly laid out so readers can apply the industry standards most appropriate to their own environment NEW TO THIS EDITION: - Quick-start section for hospital administrators who need an overview of security issues and best practices

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after action report emergency management: Pain Management and the Opioid Epidemic National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Health and Medicine Division, Board on Health Sciences Policy, Committee on Pain Management and Regulatory Strategies to Address Prescription Opioid Abuse, 2017-09-28 Drug overdose, driven largely by overdose related to the use of opioids, is now the leading cause of unintentional injury death in the United States. The ongoing opioid crisis lies at the intersection of two public health challenges: reducing the burden of suffering from pain and containing the rising toll of the harms that can arise from the use of opioid medications. Chronic pain and opioid use disorder both represent complex

human conditions affecting millions of Americans and causing untold disability and loss of function. In the context of the growing opioid problem, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) launched an Opioids Action Plan in early 2016. As part of this plan, the FDA asked the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to convene a committee to update the state of the science on pain research, care, and education and to identify actions the FDA and others can take to respond to the opioid epidemic, with a particular focus on informing FDA's development of a formal method for incorporating individual and societal considerations into its risk-benefit framework for opioid approval and monitoring.

after action report emergency management: IS-700 National Incident Management System (NIMS), an Introduction Fema, 2010-08-11 Course Overview On February 28, 2003, President Bush issued Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5. HSPD-5 directed the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template to enable all government, private-sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work together during domestic incidents. You can also find information about NIMS at <http://www.fema.gov/nims/> This course introduces NIMS and takes approximately three hours to complete. It explains the purpose, principles, key components and benefits of NIMS. The course also contains Planning Activity screens giving you an opportunity to complete some planning tasks during this course. The planning activity screens are printable so that you can use them after you complete the course. What will I be able to do when I finish this course? * Describe the key concepts and principles underlying NIMS. * Identify the benefits of using ICS as the national incident management model. * Describe when it is appropriate to institute an Area Command. * Describe when it is appropriate to institute a Multiagency Coordination System. * Describe the benefits of using a Joint Information System (JIS) for public information. * Identify the ways in which NIMS affects preparedness. * Describe how NIMS affects how resources are managed. * Describe the advantages of common communication and information management systems. * Explain how NIMS influences technology and technology systems. * Describe the purpose of the NIMS Integration Center CEUs: 0.3

after action report emergency management: Crisis Standards of Care Institute of Medicine, Board on Health Sciences Policy, Committee on Crisis Standards of Care: A Toolkit for Indicators and Triggers, 2013-10-27 Disasters and public health emergencies can stress health care systems to the breaking point and disrupt delivery of vital medical services. During such crises, hospitals and long-term care facilities may be without power; trained staff, ambulances, medical supplies and beds could be in short supply; and alternate care facilities may need to be used. Planning for these situations is necessary to provide the best possible health care during a crisis and, if needed, equitably allocate scarce resources. Crisis Standards of Care: A Toolkit for Indicators and Triggers examines indicators and triggers that guide the implementation of crisis standards of care and provides a discussion toolkit to help stakeholders establish indicators and triggers for their own communities. Together, indicators and triggers help guide operational decision making about providing care during public health and medical emergencies and disasters. Indicators and triggers represent the information and actions taken at specific thresholds that guide incident recognition, response, and recovery. This report discusses indicators and triggers for both a slow onset scenario, such as pandemic influenza, and a no-notice scenario, such as an earthquake. Crisis Standards of Care features discussion toolkits customized to help various stakeholders develop indicators and triggers for their own organizations, agencies, and jurisdictions. The toolkit contains scenarios, key questions, and examples of indicators, triggers, and tactics to help promote discussion. In addition to common elements designed to facilitate integrated planning, the toolkit contains chapters specifically customized for emergency management, public health, emergency medical services, hospital and acute care, and out-of-hospital care.

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after action report emergency management: A Citizen's Guide to Disaster Assistance Fema, 2010-08-04 IS-7 Course Overview This independent study course provides a basic

understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the local community, State, and the federal government in providing disaster assistance. It is appropriate for both the general public and those involved in emergency management who need a general introduction to disaster assistance. CEUs: 1.0 Course Length: 10 hours

after action report emergency management: Evidence-Based Practice for Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Health and Medicine Division, Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice, Board on Health Sciences Policy, Committee on Evidence-Based Practices for Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response, 2020-10-28 When communities face complex public health emergencies, state local, tribal, and territorial public health agencies must make difficult decisions regarding how to effectively respond. The public health emergency preparedness and response (PHEPR) system, with its multifaceted mission to prevent, protect against, quickly respond to, and recover from public health emergencies, is inherently complex and encompasses policies, organizations, and programs. Since the events of September 11, 2001, the United States has invested billions of dollars and immeasurable amounts of human capital to develop and enhance public health emergency preparedness and infrastructure to respond to a wide range of public health threats, including infectious diseases, natural disasters, and chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear events. Despite the investments in research and the growing body of empirical literature on a range of preparedness and response capabilities and functions, there has been no national-level, comprehensive review and grading of evidence for public health emergency preparedness and response practices comparable to those utilized in medicine and other public health fields. Evidence-Based Practice for Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response reviews the state of the evidence on PHEPR practices and the improvements necessary to move the field forward and to strengthen the PHEPR system. This publication evaluates PHEPR evidence to understand the balance of benefits and harms of PHEPR practices, with a focus on four main areas of PHEPR: engagement with and training of community-based partners to improve the outcomes of at-risk populations after public health emergencies; activation of a public health emergency operations center; communication of public health alerts and guidance to technical audiences during a public health emergency; and implementation of quarantine to reduce the spread of contagious illness.

after action report emergency management: Communicating Risk in Public Health Emergencies World Health Organization, 2017 During public health emergencies, people need to know what health risks they face, and what actions they can take to protect their health and lives. Accurate information provided early, often, and in languages and channels that people understand, trust and use, enables individuals to make choices and take actions to protect themselves, their families and communities from threatening health hazards. -- Publisher's description.

after action report emergency management: National Preparedness Goal United States. Department of Homeland Security, 2011-09-30 Presidential Policy Directive 8: National Preparedness (PPD-8) describes the Nation's approach to preparing for the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk to the security of the United States. This document describes our security and resilience posture through the core capabilities (Prevention; Protection; Mitigation; Response; and Recovery) that are necessary to deal with great risks, and we will use an integrated, layered, and all-of-Nation approach as our foundation.

after action report emergency management: Introduction to Emergency Management Jane Bullock, George Haddow, Damon Coppola, 2020-03-05 Introduction to Emergency Management, Seventh Edition, sets the standard for excellence in the field and has educated a generation of emergency managers. This long-trusted resource provides a broad overview of the key aspects of the emergency management profession. Readers will gain an understanding of why the emergency management profession exists, what actions its professionals and practitioners are tasked with performing, and what achievements are sought through the conduct of these various efforts. Students and new professionals alike will further gain an enhanced understanding of key

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after action report emergency management: Emergency and Disaster Management: Concepts, Methodologies, Tools, and Applications Management Association, Information Resources, 2018-07-06 In a world of earthquakes, tsunamis, and terrorist attacks, emergency response plans are crucial to solving problems, overcoming challenges, and restoring and improving communities that have been affected by these catastrophic events. Although the necessity for quick and efficient aid is understood, researchers and professionals continue to strive for the best practices and methodologies to properly handle such significant events. *Emergency and Disaster Management: Concepts, Methodologies, Tools, and Applications* is an innovative reference source for the latest research on the theoretical and practical components of initiating crisis management and emergency response. Highlighting a range of topics such as preparedness and assessment, aid and relief, and the integration of smart technologies, this multi-volume book is designed for emergency professionals, policy makers, practitioners, academicians, and researchers interested in all aspects of disaster, crisis, and emergency studies.

after action report emergency management: *After Action Report* , 2002

after action report emergency management: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Desk Reference (FEMA 345) Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2013-02-01 FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program is a powerful resource in the combined effort by Federal, State, and local government, as well as private industry and homeowners, to end the cycle of repetitive disaster damage. The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act was passed on November 23, 1988, amending Public Law 93-288, the Disaster Relief Act of 1974. The Stafford Act included Section 404, which established the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. In 1993, the Hazard Mitigation and Relocation Act amended Section 404 to increase the amount of HMGP funds available and the cost-share to 75 percent Federal. This amendment also encouraged the use of property acquisition and other non-structural flood mitigation measures. In an effort to streamline HMGP delivery, FEMA encourages States to develop their mitigation programs before disaster strikes. States are adopting a more active HMGP management role. Increased capabilities may include: Conducting comprehensive all-hazard mitigation planning prior to disaster events; Providing applicants technical assistance on sound mitigation techniques and hazard mitigation policy and procedures; Coordinating mitigation programs through interagency teams or councils. Conducting benefit-cost analyses; and Preparing National Environmental Policy Act reviews for FEMA approval. States that integrate the HMGP with their frequently updated State Administrative and Hazard Mitigation Plans will create cohesive and effective approaches to loss reduction. This type of coordinated approach minimizes the distinction between "predisaster" and "post-disaster" time periods, and instead produces an ongoing mitigation effort. Hazard mitigation is any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural hazards and their effects. A key purpose of the HMGP is to ensure that the opportunity to take critical mitigation measures to protect life and property from future disasters is not lost during the recovery and reconstruction process following a disaster. Program grant funds available under Section 404 of the Stafford Act provide States with the incentive and capability to implement mitigation measures that previously may have been infeasible. The purpose of this Desk Reference is to: Provide comprehensive information about FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP); Increase awareness of the HMGP as an integral part of statewide hazard mitigation efforts; and Encourage deeper commitments and increased responsibilities on the part of all States and communities to reduce damage and losses from natural disasters. This Desk Reference is organized to simplify program information and assist the reader with practical guidance for successful participation in the program. Lists of program-related acronyms and definitions are included, along with appendices that amplify selected aspects of the HMGP. This Desk Reference is organized into 14 sections, each of

which presents a major HMGP subject area. In each section, information is presented on the right side of the page. In several sections, job aids containing supplemental material are provided. The job aids for each section can be found at the end of the section. At the front of each section, there is a detailed table of contents to help you locate specific information.

after action report emergency management: Crisis Standards of Care Institute of Medicine, Board on Health Sciences Policy, Committee on Guidance for Establishing Standards of Care for Use in Disaster Situations, 2012-08-26 Catastrophic disasters occurring in 2011 in the United States and worldwide—from the tornado in Joplin, Missouri, to the earthquake and tsunami in Japan, to the earthquake in New Zealand—have demonstrated that even prepared communities can be overwhelmed. In 2009, at the height of the influenza A (H1N1) pandemic, the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response at the Department of Health and Human Services, along with the Department of Veterans Affairs and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, asked the Institute of Medicine (IOM) to convene a committee of experts to develop national guidance for use by state and local public health officials and health-sector agencies and institutions in establishing and implementing standards of care that should apply in disaster situations—both naturally occurring and man-made—under conditions of scarce resources. Building on the work of phase one (which is described in IOM's 2009 letter report, *Guidance for Establishing Crisis Standards of Care for Use in Disaster Situations*), the committee developed detailed templates enumerating the functions and tasks of the key stakeholder groups involved in crisis standards of care (CSC) planning, implementation, and public engagement—state and local governments, emergency medical services (EMS), hospitals and acute care facilities, and out-of-hospital and alternate care systems. *Crisis Standards of Care* provides a framework for a systems approach to the development and implementation of CSC plans, and addresses the legal issues and the ethical, palliative care, and mental health issues that agencies and organizations at each level of a disaster response should address. Please note: this report is not intended to be a detailed guide to emergency preparedness or disaster response. What is described in this report is an extrapolation of existing incident management practices and principles. *Crisis Standards of Care* is a seven-volume set: Volume 1 provides an overview; Volume 2 pertains to state and local governments; Volume 3 pertains to emergency medical services; Volume 4 pertains to hospitals and acute care facilities; Volume 5 pertains to out-of-hospital care and alternate care systems; Volume 6 contains a public engagement toolkit; and Volume 7 contains appendixes with additional resources.

after action report emergency management: National Emergency Communications Plan U. S. Department of Homeland Security, 2012-12-11 Every day in cities and towns across the Nation, emergency response personnel respond to incidents of varying scope and magnitude. Their ability to communicate in real time is critical to establishing command and control at the scene of an emergency, to maintaining event situational awareness, and to operating overall within a broad range of incidents. However, as numerous after-action reports and national assessments have revealed, there are still communications deficiencies that affect the ability of responders to manage routine incidents and support responses to natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other incidents. Recognizing the need for an overarching emergency communications strategy to address these shortfalls, Congress directed the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) to develop the first National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP). Title XVIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 United States Code 101 et seq.), as amended, calls for the NECP to be developed in coordination with stakeholders from all levels of government and from the private sector. In response, DHS worked with stakeholders from Federal, State, local, and tribal agencies to develop the NECP—a strategic plan that establishes a national vision for the future state of emergency communications. To realize this national vision and meet these goals, the NECP established the following seven objectives for improving emergency communications for the Nation's Federal, State, local, and tribal emergency responders: 1. Formal decision-making structures and clearly defined leadership roles coordinate emergency communications capabilities. 2. Federal emergency communications programs and initiatives are collaborative across agencies and aligned

to achieve national goals. 3. Emergency responders employ common planning and operational protocols to effectively use their resources and personnel. 4. Emerging technologies are integrated with current emergency communications capabilities through standards implementation, research and development, and testing and evaluation. 5. Emergency responders have shared approaches to training and exercises, improved technical expertise, and enhanced response capabilities. 6. All levels of government drive long-term advancements in emergency communications through integrated strategic planning procedures, appropriate resource allocations, and public-private partnerships. 7. The Nation has integrated preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery capabilities to communicate during significant events. The NECP also provides recommended initiatives and milestones to guide emergency response providers and relevant government officials in making measurable improvements in emergency communications capabilities. The NECP recommendations help to guide, but do not dictate, the distribution of homeland security funds to improve emergency communications at the Federal, State, and local levels, and to support the NECP implementation. Communications investments are among the most significant, substantial, and long-lasting capital investments that agencies make; in addition, technological innovations for emergency communications are constantly evolving at a rapid pace. With these realities in mind, DHS recognizes that the emergency response community will realize this national vision in stages, as agencies invest in new communications systems and as new technologies emerge.

after action report emergency management: *Emergency Management* Lucien G. Canton, 2007-02-03 This book propounds an all-hazards, multidisciplinary approach to emergency management. It discusses the emergency manager's role, details how to establish an effective, integrated program, and explores the components, including: assessing risk; developing strategies; planning concepts; planning techniques and methods; coordinating response; and managing crisis. Complete with case studies, this is an excellent reference for professionals involved with emergency preparedness and response.

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