

DISASTER MITIGATION IN CALIFORNIA: BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

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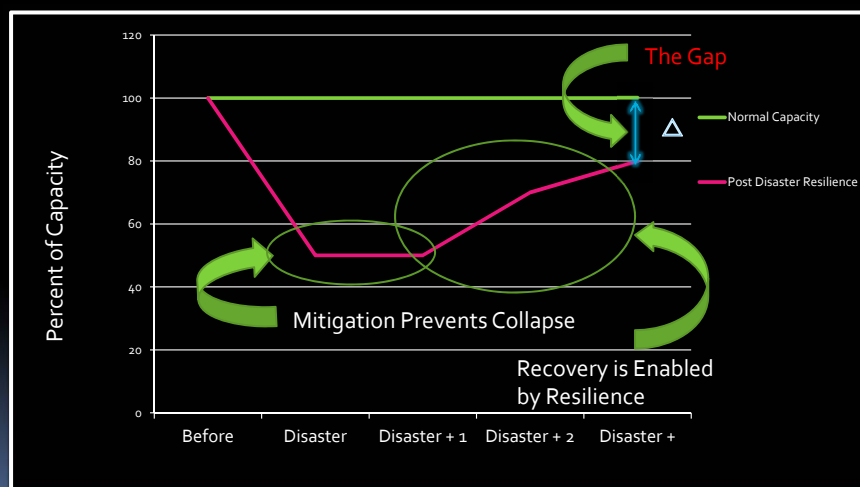
Reducing the Impact of Disasters: Mitigation

- Disaster Are Not Emergencies. They Are Extreme Events That Stress Our Structures, Our Communities, Our Government Capabilities, and Us.
- Objective of Mitigation is to Reduce Risk (Impact)
- Objective of Being Resilient is to Able to Adapt to the Damage That Occurs and Resume Service After a Disaster Occurs

Resilient: A Definition

- Resilience means that an organization or individual can absorb the impact of a disaster and bounce back to continue to function and serve their clients.
- Not just Prepared for Immediate Life Safety Activities But to Re-establish Self, Family, Business, & Delivery of Services in Schools and Social Support Agencies

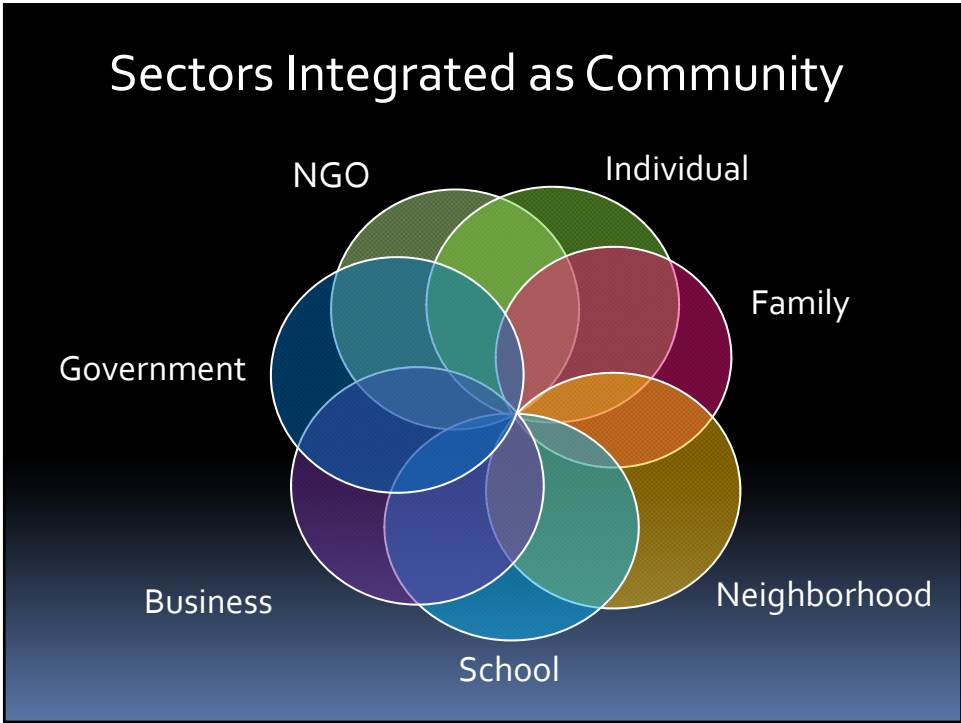
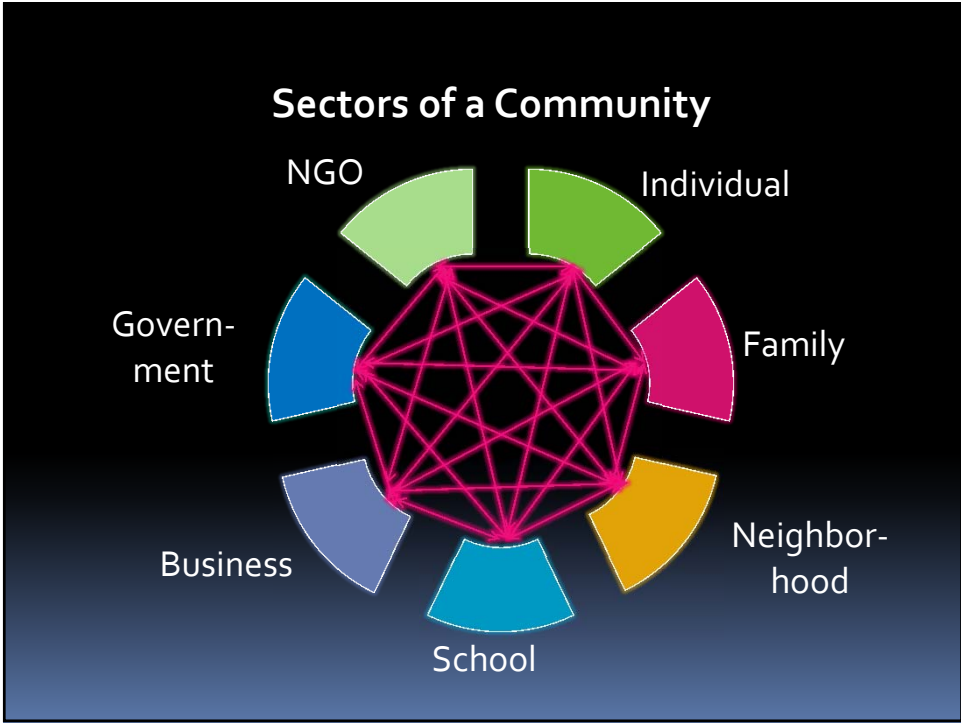
Mitigation and Resilience



- Mitigation Reduces Loss of Capacity
- Resilience Enables Communities to “Bounce Back” to a “New Normal”

A Resilient Community Is Comprised of Resilient Sectors

- All Sectors Participate in Mitigation and Planning
- All Sectors Have a Role in Being Prepared
- The Collapse of Any One Sector Jeopardizes the Community
- Resilience Emphasizes
 - Mitigation
 - Collaboration and Coordination
 - Sharing Resources



Creating a Resilient Individual

- Know the Hazards You Face
 - At Home
 - In Your Neighborhood
 - At Work or Commuting
- Learn How to Mitigate the Hazard
- Know How to Protect Yourself
- Know How to Respond to Save Your Life, Your Family, Your Colleagues, Your Neighbors
- Work to Mitigate Hazards

Creating a Resilient Family

- Have a Family Plan for Disasters at Home
- Have A Plan to Communicate and Re-unite if Separated
- Have Emergency Supplies, Food and Water
- Have Flash Lights, Radios, Extra Batteries, Tools
- Have First Aid Kit and Training
- Mitigate Hazards in the Home

Creating a Resilient Community –The First Response

- Know the Hazards in Your Neighborhood
- Work with Neighbors to Make the Neighborhood Safer
- Organize to Respond with Neighbors
- Create a Disaster Plan in Your Neighborhood
- Each Family Should Know How to Save Lives
- Each Family Should Know Their Neighbors and Who Will Need Help During A Disaster
- *Bosai-Fukushi Komuniti (BOKOMI)*

The Challenge to Government

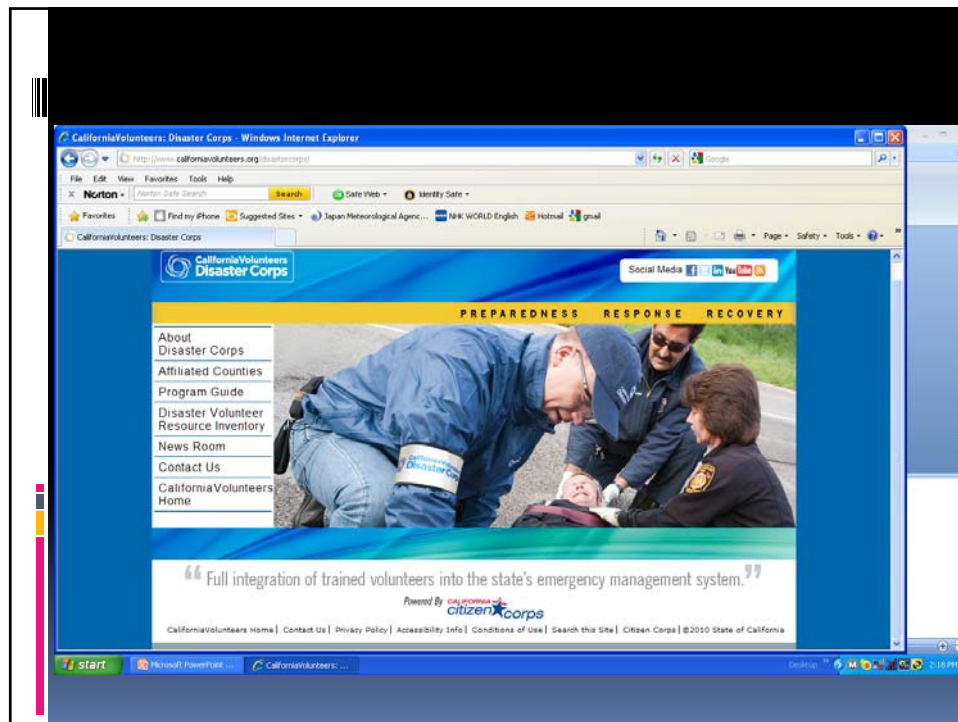
- Local Governments are Key Responders
- Many Local Governments Do Not Have Enough Staff to Respond
- Many Officials Have Not Experienced a Disaster
- Sudden (No Warning) Disasters !
- Government Needs to Expand Capacity Rapidly

Creating a Resilient Government

- Government is Part of Local, Regional and National Mutual Aid System
- All Employees have a Disaster Mission and Assignment, Not Just Fire, Police and Health Staff
- Agencies and Staff are prepared to Provide Mutual Aid to Other Agencies in Need
- Agencies Have a Plan to Sustain Disaster Operations for Weeks or Months
- Government partners with NGOs, Business, Faith- and Community-Based Organizations
- Plan to Use Volunteers -- Recruit Before the Disaster
- Disasters are a Risk Management Issue for Every Agency

One Role of Government

- Create a Disaster Volunteer Network
- Recruit and Train Volunteers
- Sort, Screen and Assign Skilled Volunteers
- Provide "Overhead" Management of Volunteers



Create A Resilient School

- Have a School Disaster Plan for Security and Site Safety After a Disaster
 - Disaster Assignments for Staff, Teachers, Students and Parents
 - Have a Plan to Communicate with Parents
 - Have a Plan to Relocate and Care for, or Release Students
- Have Teachers Trained About Safety In the Classroom and How to Mitigate Hazards
- Science, History, Geography and Geology Classes Should Introduce Natural and Technological hazards
- Teachers Should Prepare Their Families for Impact of Their Roles as "Child Caretakers"

- Teachers, Student Teachers, Students & Parents Should Partner in School Safety and Know the School's Disaster Plan (Learn, Teach, Act, Communicate, Promote Preparedness)
- If the School Will be Used as a Community Refuge or Shelter, Identify an Alternative Site for Providing Classes
- Students Should Bring "Emergency Supply Bags" During First Week of School Each Year
 - Water , Juice & Energy Bars
 - Emergency Contact Information
 - Family Pictures
 - Light Sticks

Create Resilient Businesses

- Encourage Employees to be Prepared at Home
- Provide Life Safety Training in the Work Place & Conduct Response and Evacuation Drills
- Provide for Employees or Clients Who Cannot get Home
- Have a Disaster Plan
 - Disaster Response Plan
 - Business Recovery (BRP) & Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP)
- Encourage Employees to be Volunteers
- Identify a Disaster Response or Recovery Role

- A Resilient Community Starts With One – The Individual
- Plan to Be a Resource to Your Family, Your Neighborhood, Your School, Your Business and Your Community
- Identify and Mitigate Hazards
- Practice “Drop, Cover and Hold!”
- Be Prepared to Respond to Save Lives
- Be A Volunteer and Train as if it is an Important Job
- Each of us Needs to Become Advocates for Resilient Communities

Observations and Lessons

- Emergency Response is Local. Rescue and Saving Lives is Local. Local Government Needs to be In-charge. Logistics is a Role for State and National Government.
- Prepared and Trained Residents, and Local Police and Fire Staff are More Effective Than “International Search & Rescue Teams”
- The Job is Too Big for Local Governments Alone. They Need to Partner With NGOs to Open and Operate Shelters, Provide Food and Care, and Sustain Relief Operations.
- Trained and Managed Volunteers are Essential!