

In order for communities to effectively prepare and respond to disasters, all stakeholders (governmental agencies, businesses and the nonprofit sector) must work together to develop a disaster action plan and a process for response. The following outline provides a framework for community partners to consider in developing appropriate plans and actions.

❖ *Identify the types of disasters a community might face*

- Pandemic
- Weather related (Hurricanes, Tornados, Floods, Ice storms, Excessive snow, etc.)
- Fire
- Earthquake
- Bio-terrorism

❖ *Identify community partners for each type of disaster - Example: Pandemic*

- Health Department
- City officials
- Hospitals and staff
- Community Service Agencies and Programs
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
 - Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
 - Food Banks
 - Local Shelters
- Civic organizations
- School district(s)
- Churches
- Media
- Local businesses (restaurants, grocers, pharmacies)

❖ *Identify, define and describe levels of disaster*

- Mild
- Medium
- Severe

❖ *Identify action steps necessary to protect local community*

❖ *Identify chain-of-command for each level of disaster*

❖ *Identify vulnerable populations*

- Infants and small children
- Senior citizens
- Low income

❖ *Identify contacts and communication plan*

❖ *Develop medical care plan*

- Hospital care
- In-home care
- Quarantine procedures

❖ *Develop feeding plan*

- Food and water availability
- Utilization of USDA commodities
- Food preparation for those unable to prepare for themselves
 - Utilizing restaurants
 - Utilizing school facilities
 - Utilizing church facilities
- Transportation of food as needed
 - Local transit operations (buses and cabs)
 - Local school buses

❖ *Develop shelter plan*

- Utilization of public facilities
- Utilization of private facilities

❖ *Develop and organize volunteer staff*