


HOMELESS & HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER

The Basics of Disaster Response Planning for Homeless Service Providers



THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2022



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Disclaimer



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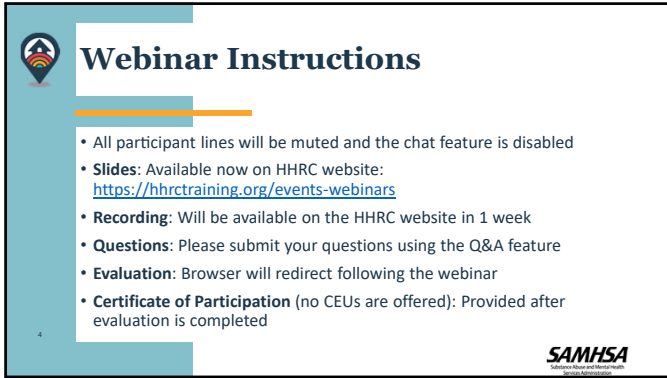
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ASL Interpretation and Transcription

- We have arranged for ASL interpretation services during this meeting. The ASL interpreters are:
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 - Jason Farr
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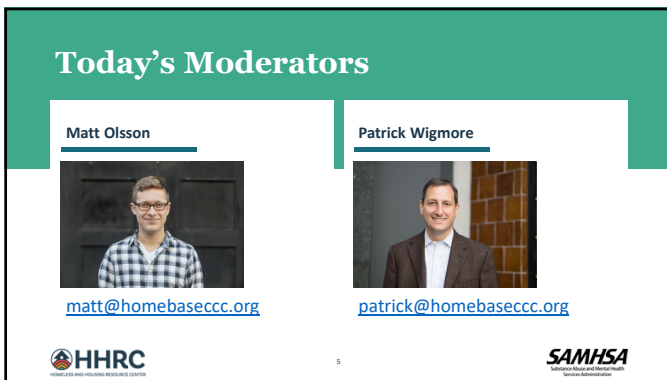


Webinar Instructions

- All participant lines will be muted and the chat feature is disabled
- **Slides:** Available now on HHRC website: <https://hhrctraining.org/events-webinars>
- **Recording:** Will be available on the HHRC website in 1 week
- **Questions:** Please submit your questions using the Q&A feature
- **Evaluation:** Browser will redirect following the webinar
- **Certificate of Participation** (no CEUs are offered): Provided after evaluation is completed


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Today's Moderators

Matt Olsson



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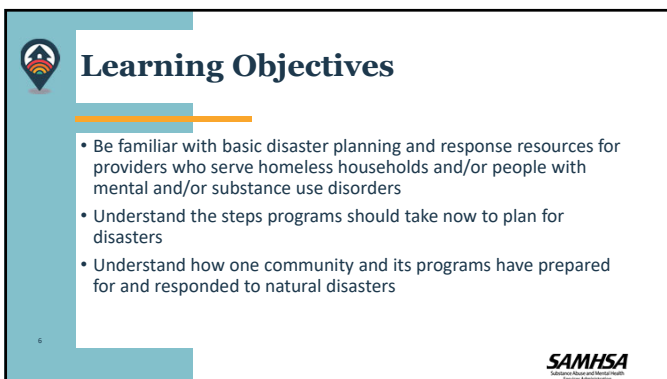
Patrick Wigmore



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Learning Objectives

- Be familiar with basic disaster planning and response resources for providers who serve homeless households and/or people with mental and/or substance use disorders
- Understand the steps programs should take now to plan for disasters
- Understand how one community and its programs have prepared for and responded to natural disasters

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Disaster Planning and Response

Existing Resources

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Disaster Technical Assistance Center (DTAC)

- SAMHSA's Disaster Technical Assistance Center (DTAC) is an excellent source for disaster planning and response resources
- Many of the resources we'll discuss today can be found in the SAMHSA DTAC Bulletin from January 13, 2022

Link: <http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac>

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Tips for Survivors: Coping with Retraumatization

• Helps providers identify and respond to traumatization and Retraumatization among program participants (and staff)

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Disaster Response for Homeless Individuals and Families: A Trauma-Informed Approach

- Includes high-level guidance on preparing for and responding to disasters specifically for programs that serve people experiencing homelessness
- Links to other planning resources provided by SAMHSA and other Federal agencies

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National Healthcare for the Homeless Council



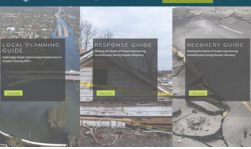
Surviving Severe Weather: Tools to Promote Emergency Preparedness for People Experiencing Homelessness

- Information flyers about different types of natural disasters that can be provided to program participants
- Guidance and marketing templates for holding planning discussions with program participants

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Disaster Recovery Homelessness Toolkit

- Three guides with sample documents that cover three stages: planning, response, and long-term recovery
- Very detailed guidance intended for community-wide response planning helpful for program staff and even individuals
- Upcoming slides provide an overview of the planning guide with a focus on what individual programs and providers can do to prepare for natural disasters

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Disaster Planning and Response

Three sets of questions you should consider now

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Find and assess disaster plans that already exist in your community



- Is there a person, department, or unit in your jurisdiction with the responsibility for emergency preparedness? They are your best resource
- Does your community have a current disaster response plan? Each level of government will likely have one (or more) plans for disaster response, called a "Multi-hazard mitigation plan" or "Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)" to conform to FEMA guidance
- Do existing plans identify the population you serve as a vulnerable population? Do they provide specific steps for outreach, evacuation, shelter, and/or services for the population you serve?

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Understand the needs of your population

Use quantitative and/or qualitative program data to determine needs for your program participants that may be impacted by disaster:

- What services do they utilize?
- Medications or regular medical needs?
- What specialized housing or shelter may be needed if an evacuation is necessary?

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Create your own written disaster response plan

- Which of your population's needs can be met by accessing the community's existing disaster response infrastructure? I.e., evacuation transportation, shelter, etc.
- Which needs do you need to address outside of the community's existing disaster response infrastructure?
- What are the defined roles and responsibilities for your internal staff? If you rely on other providers, execute written agreements or MOUs and make sure all staff are aware of roles and responsibilities
- Ensure your program participants are involved in the planning process and aware of their role in responding to the disaster

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Community Presentation/Panel

- Michael Gause, Ending Homelessness Program Manager, Sonoma County Community Development Commission
- Jennielynn Holmes, Chief Program Officer, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa

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Overview

- Overview of Sonoma County and Catholic Charities' roles in disaster planning and response
- History of natural disasters in Sonoma County, CA
 - Fires
 - Floods
 - Public Safety Shutoffs
 - Pandemic

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Initial Disaster Response Lessons Learned

- Role of disaster shelters and existing emergency shelters
- Closure of disaster shelters and placement
- Communication with those experiencing homelessness
- Geographic considerations
- Primary and secondary needs of those displaced by disaster
- Unique needs of those with mental and/or substance use disorders

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Recovery Lessons Learned

- Recovery needs to have equity centered at its core
- Importance of long-term recovery groups
- Impact of trauma on the community

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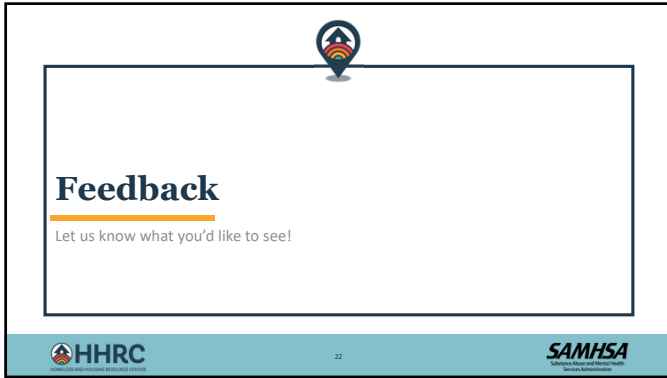
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How Your Community Can Be Prepared

- Establish a Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) chapter
- Have a philanthropic plan to distribute funds beforehand
- Be engaged with local Emergency Operations Centers
- Have individual agency disaster preparedness plans

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Feedback


Let us know what you'd like to see!


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Feedback

HHRC is interested in providing more support around disaster planning and response. Please be sure to complete the post-session survey to help us plan for written products that could assist you!



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Thank You!

SAMHSA's Homeless and Housing Resource Center provides high-quality, no-cost training for health and housing professionals in evidence-based practices that contributes to housing stability, recovery, and an end to homelessness.

Contact Us:

<http://hhrctraining.org/> | info@hhrctraining.org | 518-439-7415x4





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