

“Dynamic All Hazards Preparedness and Response (DAPR)
–First Responder Partnerships with Disability Stakeholders
and the Whole Community Approach”
Central Texas Pilot

Presentation to:

Austin Mayor’s Committee for People with Disabilities

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Coming together is a
beginning. Keeping together is
progress. Working together is
success. - Henry Ford

Dynamic All Hazards Preparedness and Response (DAPR)

Objectives:

- Background
 - Fire Safety and Functional and Access Needs
 - Fire Safety Statistics
 - Introduction to Fire Safety and All-Hazards
- Current DAPR Portfolio
 - Summary of Recommendations
- Next Steps

DAPR Background 1 - Fire Safety and Functional and Access Needs

People with disabilities may need accommodations or additional services during an evacuation:

- * personal care services
- * sign language interpreters
- * readers or accessible print
- * accessible living arrangements
- * replacement of medical equipment
- * assistance with communication
- * unique diets
- * accessible transportation
- * mobility assistance

Wildfires in Texas

November 2011

Wildfires have burned across Texas in recent weeks, and regions like Bastrop, Texas are still fighting the flames. Estimates suggest over 550 homes have been lost in the region.

In the past week, Texas Forest Service has responded to 181 fires burning over 118,400 acres, with new fires in Bastrop and other counties.

As of Tuesday, the Associated Press reported that over 1,000 homes had been destroyed in Texas wildfires. Texas has experienced the worst drought since the 1950's.

Bastrop Fire

Photo of state park on fire, trees torching 40-75 feet high



BASTROP FIRE

Photo of of large smoke column over state park



Bastrop Fire

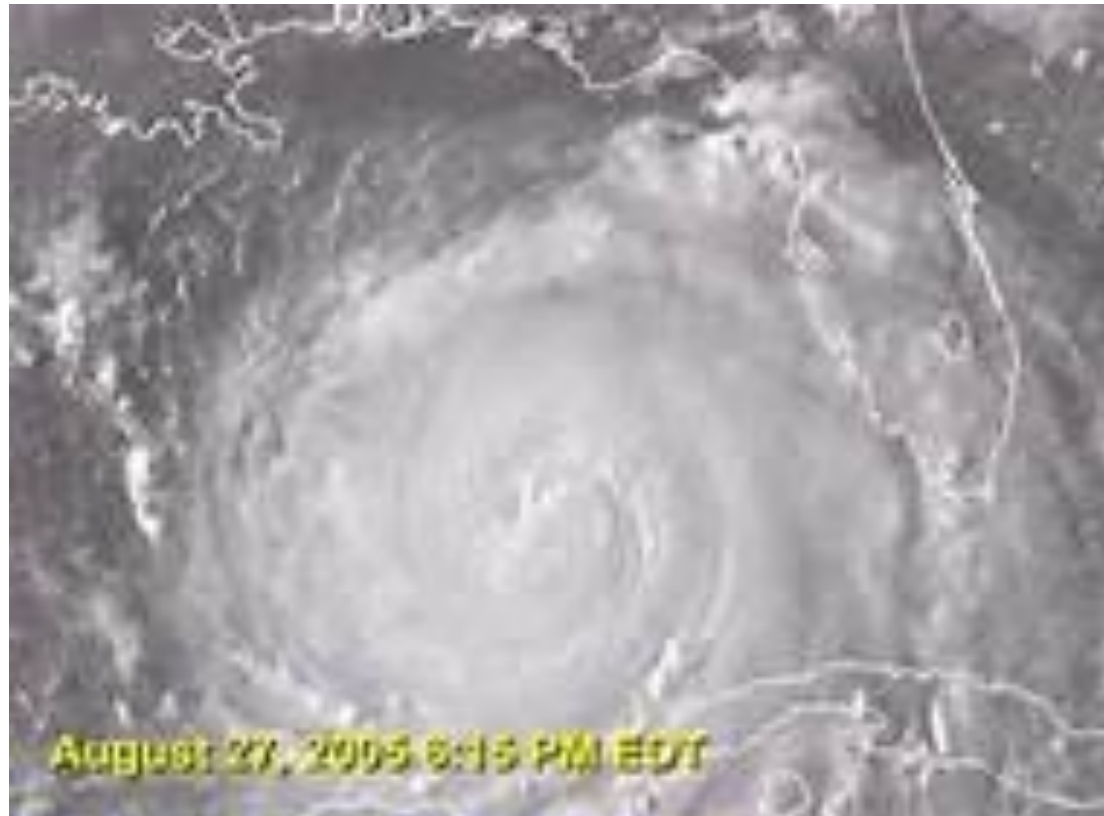
Photo of electrical workers reconnecting the electricity after the Bastrop Fire



Remember This?

Satellite photo of large Hurricane Katrina

8-27-2005



Ike and Houston

Photo of highway evacuation traffic
during an evacuation



Katrina Evacuees in Texas

September 2006

- Houston remains home to over 120,000 people displaced by last year's monster hurricanes, Rita and (mainly) Katrina.
- At the height of the tumult, 250,000-300,000 refugees were in the city. Many have found work and settled in.
- Others have not. Some 30,000 families still survive on housing subsidies from FEMA.
- Around 30% of the newcomers are elderly or disabled.

Katrina Evacuees in Texas

Photo of Astrodome floor level filled with cots and evacuees



Hurricane Ike

Photo of flooded Galveston coast and a home on fire surrounded by water



Hurricane Ike

Photo of home destroyed during Hurricane Ike



Where will displaced individuals go?

HUD Worst Case Housing Needs of People with Disabilities, 2009

- Nationally, only 61 affordable units exist for every 100 extremely low-income renters. Notably, 61 percent is substantially below the 76 percent of extremely low-income renters for which affordable units existed in 2007.
- Among the least costly units—those with rents affordable for incomes at 0 to 30 percent of AMI—only 4.3 percent are vacant. For extremely low-income renters, affordable and available units decreased 2007-09 by 600,000 but renters increased by 715,000.
- The Comprehensive Housing Market Study, commissioned by the City of Austin in 2009, found that there is a tremendous need for rental housing affordable to those earning 0-30% of the area's median family income... This translates to a gap of almost 40,000 rental units for this population.

DAPR Background 1 - Census

- American Community Survey (Census) -
http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_11_3YR_S1810&prodType=table
- Analysis of Disability in Texas -
http://governor.state.tx.us/files/twic/Disabilities_Profile.pdf

DAPR Background 1 - USFA Stats

US Fire Administration (USFA) Statistics

- US Civilian Fire Injuries in the Home
 - <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/statistics/v14i1.pdf>
- US Civilian Fire Deaths in the Home
 - <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/statistics/v14i2.pdf>
- US Fires involving Individuals with Disabilities in the Home
 - <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/statistics/v12i6.pdf>

Fire Safety - an Introduction

Emergency Management:

- Preparedness, Response, Mitigation, Recovery

Preparedness

- Training, apparatus, equipment
- Mutual aid agreements
- Public education
 - Empowerment
 - Preparing for a fire safe home
 - Situational awareness

Risk Assessment

- Risk assessment
 - Fire load (changes daily)
 - Fire behavior (changes throughout the day)
 - Access and egress
 - Water supply
 - Staging areas
 - Community

Community Needs

- First Responder - Community partnership needs for all hazards
 - Partnership on Functional and Access Needs (including emergency communication, evacuation, sheltering/ sheltering in place)
 - Personal Preparedness for All Hazards (starting with Fire Safety)
 - Increase Stakeholder Awareness and Experience in Preparedness (Plan- Train – Exercise), Response, and Recovery

Moving forward

Planning starts with:

- Initiate training for the FDs
 - Varies by department
- Identify jurisdictional needs
 - Based on local community
- Incorporate those needs into the pre-plan
- Train with the community
 - Table top scenarios
 - Hands on evolution

Current DAPR Portfolio

Summary of Recommendations

- Task 1- Stage I Including in Caldwell County CWPP with fire safety classes /visits upon request and referral to HUD program (see below). Stage II roll-out approach to rural-suburban FDs in CAPCOG.
- Task 2 - Stage I - AFD/ATC-EMS classes/ exercise participation/ personal preparedness and referral to HUD mitigation program (see below). Stage II - Roll-out Train-the-Trainer to FDs in CAPCOG

Current DAPR Portfolio

Summary of Recommendations

- Task 3 – Disability stakeholder development in emergency preparedness (Plan- Train – Exercise), response, and recovery
- Task 4 - Mitigation support from HUD administered by CAPCOG

DAPR - Next Steps

- Build awareness in the disability community about the importance and details of personal preparedness, starting with FNSS fire safety training and all hazards partnering with first responders
- Get involved in disability stakeholder development in emergency management
- CAPCOG Meeting Tuesday, July 23, 2013 – DAPR Discussion

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