



Photo courtesy of Mark Wolfe/FEMA

## **SYMPOSIUM CP901 Before Disaster Strikes: Prepare or Beware** **The Critical Role of Community Development Organizations in Disaster Preparedness and Response**

**YOU'RE INVITED TO ATTEND  
A COMPLIMENTARY  
PRE-SYMPOSIUM WORKSHOP  
ON TUESDAY, APRIL 4,  
FROM 4:30 P.M. TO 6 P.M.:**

### **Disaster Preparedness for Nonprofit Organizations**

This workshop explains how nonprofit neighborhood organizations can work with local jurisdictions to improve preparedness and immediately respond to disasters in the community.

*Presented by: National Community  
Emergency Response Team*

*U.S. Department of Homeland Security*

Sponsored by



**D**isasters take many forms – Mother Nature's hurricanes, tornados, earthquakes and tsunamis, but also man-made disasters such as fires, hazardous spills and terrorism.

With the shock of disastrous earthquakes, tornados and floods dominating the news and seeping into the psyche of our nation, and the apparent failure of our strategies and tactics to meet these crises, Americans are now wondering what citizens, organizations, and local governments can do to prepare for the unforeseeable, endure it, and, then, proactively reconstruct their communities.

- > This timely symposium will first hear from CDCs and local governments from the Gulf Coast. They will discuss what occurred in their communities and what they would do differently had they known then what they know now. They will share how they are currently helping their communities recover. The information shared will provide insight for organizations interested in becoming active in their communities, preparedness planning in order to lessen losses and human suffering.
- > Secondly, we will hear from organizations and communities that have developed and implemented effective strategies for preparing residents, community-based organizations, and local governments for the unexpected. Learn how to become informed about local emergency plans, how to identify hazards that affect localities, and about strategies and tools designed to harness the power of every individual to make communities safer, stronger and better prepared to respond to the threats of disasters.



Photo courtesy of Andrea Booher/FEMA

> Third, the symposium will address proactive recovery from disaster. The restoration process places great demands on government, community-based organizations, the private sector, and every household involved. Effective recovery from disaster

requires coordination between all segments of the community as well as with state and federal resources. Attendees will hear from communities that have successfully recovered from disasters and learn about best practices. How do

organizations and communities prepare for disasters, how do they continue operations when disasters occur and proactively recover? This symposium will help to answer these questions and more.

## WE ARE PLEASED TO OFFER A SPECIAL POST-SYMPOSIUM COURSE ON THURSDAY-FRIDAY:

### CP214 COURTING DISASTER: CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES THAT WITHSTAND NATURAL HAZARDS

This course offers an in-depth overview of basic disaster-resistant construction techniques to harden residential structures for earthquake, hail, flood, hurricane, lightning, tornado and wildfire threats. This course is derived from the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes - FLASH® award-winning Blueprint for Safety™ curriculum, but is adapted specifically for affordable housing providers.

The program provides accurate, current and reliable information about how to make homes and buildings more disaster-resistant. Attendees will receive a copy of the *Contractors' Field Manual*, a CD of animated techniques and access to ongoing, free technical support from the FLASH organization.

This course will be presented in a multimedia, interactive approach. Case studies will focus on recent disasters and review forensic engineering conclusions of what worked and what did not.

VISIT [WWW.NW.ORG](http://WWW.NW.ORG) FOR MORE UPDATES, INFORMATION AND HOW TO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT.