Disaster Recovery Center


This article details ways librarians stepped up to provide disaster response services in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita by handing out water, clothing, and books, offering space for relief workers, and staffing phone banks and shelters. The article also discusses damage to libraries and restoration of libraries and library collections.


This document is an example of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The form is a mutual aid agreement and description of a voluntary program for emergency preparedness and support between cooperating libraries.


This web site is for citizens who want to prepare for disasters in their community. The web site contains information on how to develop CERT programs in local communities, a CERT state directory with contact information for CERT programs around the nation, a search engine for locating programs in local areas, and a variety of other resources pertaining to citizen disaster preparedness.


This portion of the FEMA web site defines what a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) is, lists some services a DRC might provide, and includes a DRC locator service.

The disaster recovery center (DRC) locator provides users with up to date information on DRCs around the nation, searchable by street address. Additionally, the DRC locator page provides users with instructions on how to use the DRC locator tool.


This article lauds the efforts of public libraries in the wake of Hurricane Katrina concerning their service to FEMA. The article discusses ways libraries relaxed rules, brought services to people in shelters, hosted reception centers in the library, tracked colleagues and other on library blogs and web sites, etc.


As a partner to Citizen Corps, Fire Corps programs share the common goal of helping communities prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies of all kinds. The website includes resources, contact information, news, and ways to support Fire Corps.


This document defines what a disaster recovery center is and details the job duties of a disaster recovery center coordinator. The document also includes a checklist for pre- and post-event operations.


This document defines disaster recovery center (DRC) and details the job duties of a DRC coordinator. It includes a five part timeline: pre- and post- event preparation, DRC operations and closing, and the after-action report.
Johnson County, Kansas. (2005). *Local emergency operations plan* [Electronic resource].

This document was created for Johnson County, Kansas; it is a good example of emergency planning at a county level. The plan addresses four phases, as outlined by the plan, of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. The roles of a library during an emergency are outlined on page 24 of *Local emergency operations plan: Organization and Assignment of Responsibility section.*


This article discusses the how social networking tools have been utilized to provide services to disaster victims. The article focuses on the use of these tools during the 2004 Asian Tsunami and Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts.


This article discusses how the Massachusetts model of libraries as disaster recovery centers (DRCs) is being adopted by other states. Additionally, the article discusses how the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has created a GIS database of Massachusetts libraries so officials can locate them efficiently to rapidly deploy disaster recovery services.


This article discusses ways Florida libraries responded to the 2004 storms. It talks about damage to libraries and related closures, services libraries provided (including conversion to emergency operations centers and locally assigned services), and external support for libraries from publishers, vendors, and the library community.

The “Critical Connectors” article discusses the role public libraries in as “first responders” in emergency situations, especially during times of hurricane disasters. According to the article, public librarians assist hurricane victims with filing FEMA forms and helping victims locate communicate with family and friends online. Additionally, the article discusses how public librarians have worked with Emergency Management Teams to provide assistance with answering emergency hotline phones and provide wireless mobile wireless connectivity. Finally, the article talks about the overall played by public libraries in delivering online government assistance to citizens in need of guidance when filling for a variety of government forms.


This article is a news brief that reports on Florida libraries and the 2004 hurricane season. In the article, State Librarian Judi Ring comments on the roles (e.g. serving as day care centers, providing Internet access, and serving as shelters. Insurance is also mentioned.

Will, Barbara H. (2001). The public library as community crisis center: The public library has the resources and expertise to address the need for prompt, reliable, and relevant information in any crisis situation. However, librarians cannot wait to be asked to become involved. *Library Journal*, 126(20), 75-77. Retrieved May 14, 2009, from http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA185136.html

This article discusses ways libraries in which libraries can help their communities cope with disasters. Service that libraries can offer during times of crisis include the provision of different types of information, getting involved with local government emergency planning, and preparing for recovery portion of emergency planning.