

Community Resilience Coalition



WASHINGTON COUNTY
COMMUNITY RESILIENCE COALITION

Washington County

- Population: 250,057 – Projected growth by the end of 2045: 428,382
 - 25% Children
 - 27% Children below poverty level
 - 18% Speak language other than English at home
 - Highest population of Marshallese in the United States
 - 8 public schools districts
 - 4 hospitals
 - Common Hazards:
 - Tornadoes – 2 in one night
 - Flooding – Historic in the last 100 years
 - 2 Chemical plant explosions where people were told to shelter in place
 - Ice Storms

Washington County Coalition

- Collaborative Partners
 - Columbia University
 - Save the Children
 - Office of Emergency Management
 - Child Care Aware Northwest Arkansas
- One on One Meetings
 - Building relationships
 - Bringing awareness of the project
 - Networking

Membership is now 160 with 77 organizations represented

Washington County Coalition

- Tabletop exercise was held with earthquake scenario with 65 participants and 35 agencies represented - November 2016
- Functional exercise was held May 2018 to test the findings of the tabletop
- Trainings are on going pertaining to emergency preparedness for child serving facilities and families

Tabletop held at the University of Arkansas



Key lessons we are learning

- Relationship building is one of the most important aspects in engaging others
- You must help them understand and find value in what you are presenting
- Understanding the unique needs of children in response and recovery
- Gain support at the state as well as local level –
 - Received NWA Individual & Community Preparedness Award by ADEM
 - Presented on panel at the state AR Department of Emergency Management
- Community involvement is key

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Weather Fest



Students Addyson Miklos, Brandee Byrd, and Anna Caryl Vanderford assisted in representing the CRC recently during an event for 'young meteorologists' and their families in Washington County.

Naturals Minor League Baseball Game

Naturals Game: This was our third year to set up a table to highlight emergency preparedness



To Go Bag



Elementary School – Prep Rally



Elementary School –Prep Rally



NWA Community Resilience Leadership Summit: Protecting our Children in Disasters



Local and National Perspectives



Sustainability of the project

- Committees:
- Arkansas Children's Reunification Plan in collaboration with National Center for Missing & Exploited Children & Department of Human Services
- Washington County Local Emergency Preparedness Committee
- Northwest Arkansas Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Coalition
- Midwest Peer-To-Peer Emergency Preparedness Network – Save the Children

Sustainability of the project

- National Key Note Speakers for:
 - State Conference for early childhood providers -- 950 attendees
 - Local CCANWA conference for early childhood providers – 400 attendees
- Appeared on panel on the Arkansas Education Television Network
- University of Arkansas partnership: developed PSA's in English and Spanish to be played pertaining to emergency preparedness and family planning
- Partnership with AR Children's Hospital to provide Stop the Bleed training to 30 employees who worked at an afterschool program at the Boys and Girls Club

New Opportunities To Continue The Work

- Child Care Aware of America grant: Plan, Prepare, and Responding: Ready Set Go!
- Center for Disaster Philanthropy grant: Rebuilding Our Community

Contact Information

Debbie Malone

Child Care Aware Northwest Arkansas

479-899-6374

1401 South 8th Street

Rogers, Arkansas 72756

www.nwachildcare.org

dmalone@nwachildcare.org