



**American
Red Cross**

Preparedness, Response and Recovery

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Disaster Mental Health

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American Red Cross Mission

To prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors.

At a Glance

- American Red Cross responds to more than 60,000 disasters every year
- 99% of our disaster relief workers are volunteers
- The vast majority of disasters we respond to are home fires

Disaster Mental Health

- Established as a Red Cross program in 1992
- We respond to immediate emotional distress in clients and workforce
- Augment, rather than replace, the community's mental health resources
- Assumption that most reactions to disaster are common and expected, and that most people are resilient

Preparedness

- Home Fire Campaign
- Youth Preparedness Program
- Community Preparedness Education Program
- Disaster Specific Preparedness Resources
- Disaster Apps

Current Operations/Responses

- Northern MN flood
- Montana flood
- Oak Fire CA
- Allegheney PA building collapse
- KY flooding – mass casualty event

Youth Resources in Response and Recovery

Several FREE resources have been created to support the development of resilience and coping skills for youth before, during and after an emergency!

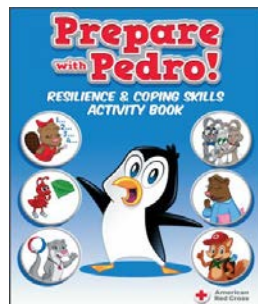
All resources freely available in English and Spanish

Resources for caregivers to support their children after a disaster or emergency

Activity book and animated videos focused on building coping skills and resilience building

Activities for children during their stay in a Red Cross shelter

www.cruzrojaamericana.org/resilienciajuveni



Identify emotions and learn other coping skills with Pedro the Penguin!

Recovery

Grants are awarded to nonprofit organizations with the goals of expanding Red Cross capacity & capability to meet the needs of clients and communities affected by disaster:

- When resources allow
- Provided to organizations having expertise in meeting specific identified needs

Current Long Term Recovery Mental Health Grants

- 12/21 KY/MN tornadoes
 - Building capacity of KY Mental Health Providers/Organizations
 - Trauma informed care in MN summer camp setting for children experiencing a disaster event
- 2020 Wildfires
 - Building capacity for providing mental health services in rural CO
- Derecho
 - Developing and implementing a mental health urgent care in rural Iowa
- Hurricane Ida
 - Building capacity for ACT & FFT teams in Terrebonne & surrounding Parishes
- Uvalde Mass Shooting
 - Providing mental health services to impacted children and families

Future considerations

- Inform future preparedness and recovery programs through existing resilience research
- Continue to work with academic and other external partners to utilize disaster science to inform our organizational mission and programmatic activities

Questions??

Thank you for your time

