

In Response

san francisco

card

A Publication of San Francisco Collaborating Agencies Responding to Disaster
made possible by support from the Pacific Gas and Electric Company and the United Way

In Response is SFCARD's monthly newsletter for current information
on disaster preparedness in the San Francisco community.

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Issue 19, June 2003

The Disaster Files

Show Your Support for NERT!

One of the most fabulous programs in San Francisco is the Fire Department's Neighborhood Emergency Response Training (NERT). SFCARD is a huge supporter of NERT because if individuals can take care of themselves in a disaster, our first responders can get on with the bigger problems.

SFCARD wants NERT to remain a part of our lives despite the budget crisis. For all of you who have been through NERT training and think it's a wonderful thing and for all of you who have yet to take it – *please register your support and send an email to:*

Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr. - damayor@sfgov.org
Board of Supervisors - board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org

FEMA News

FEMA formally issued a revised policy that broadens the eligibility of certain private nonprofit (PNP) groups to receive federal disaster assistance to help repair their damaged facilities so that they may resume the services that will help the community as a whole recover.

Funding is made available through FEMA's Public Assistance Program, which provides payment of 75 percent of the approved cost for repairing or replacing damaged public and PNP facilities during Presidentially declared major disasters.

For further information visit the FEMA website
www.fema.gov

Your Emergency Plan

So by now you've bought your disaster supplies, finished your plan and set up an ongoing training program for staff, volunteers and clients. You are as ready as you'll ever be for a disaster, right? Or wrong?

If this sounds like a monumental task so daunting that you can't even begin to think about it, help is here. Working with the Red Cross, Salvation Army, Office of Emergency Services, Office on Aging, the Volunteer Center and many other organizations, **SFCARD** has created a step by step disaster plan template for you to use.

Visit our website at
www.sfcard.org/emergency_plan.htm to download a copy of the plan for your agency. The plan covers the four stages of the disaster life cycle: planning, mitigation, response and recovery and takes you step by step through each phase. There are also special sections such as: Planning for and Managing Volunteers and Disaster Mental Health as well as an Annual Review worksheet that you can use to update your progress on a regular basis.

You can tailor the plan to meet your needs and make it as detailed as you like. And if you ever need any help, just contact SFCARD and we would be delighted to help you.

Email: info@sfcard.org
Vmail: (415) 558-2737

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Tips for the heat

It's HOT in San Francisco and if you are not used to it or don't know what to do, it can be too hot!

If you would like to learn more about keeping cool and keeping safe, check the SFCARD website on www.sfcard.org/HotWeatherTipsForSeniors.pdf

These are tips for seniors but useful for anyone sensitive to the heat.

SF Tool Lending Library

Are you ready to bolt your filing cabinets and other heavy objects to the wall, but don't want to purchase tools? The San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners and SF Public Library operate a tool lending center open to SF residents. Rental fees are free unless you forget to return them!

Visit www.slug-sf.org/programs/tools.html for more information.

Funding Opportunities

Levi-Strauss Foundation has grant opportunities especially for preventing HIV/AIDS; increasing economic development opportunities; and ensuring access to education. For further information visit:

www.levistrauss.com/responsibility/foundation/index.htm.

The San Francisco Foundation is another leading agent of Bay Area philanthropy. The Foundation focuses on a wide variety of areas including: community health, neighborhood and community development, education, social justice, environment, arts and culture, education, philanthropy and non-profits and local initiatives. They even have free trainings to help you apply. For further information visit their website on: www.sff.org.

Emergency preparedness information in Spanish

Ya llego información sobre asistencia por desastre en español!

FEMA has developed an entire website on disaster preparedness in Spanish visit www.fema.gov/spanish to see what's available:

1. General and historical information about FEMA and the Federal Response Plan.
2. Information about assistance for disaster victims.
3. News in Spanish about disasters.
4. For Kids. Web-based and downloadable files of FEMA's two children's books, including Spanish audio versions.
5. Links to other sites in Spanish.

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SFCARD NEWS!!!

Last month, **SFCARD** teamed up with **Meals On Wheels** and the **San Francisco Office of Emergency Services** to deliver over 1,000 "When Disaster Strikes" brochures to homebound seniors and people with disabilities. Our goal over the course of the next few months is to reach all homebound people and provide them with the information they need to prepare for disaster so everybody knows what to do and what to expect.

The **Disaster Food Conference** planning is coming along well and confirmed for October 30, 2003 from 8:30am to 1:00pm. The San Francisco Foundation has agreed to be a part of it and our funding from Citizen Corps should be arriving soon.

Thank you to **Jim Aldrich of the San Francisco Mayor's Office of Emergency Services** for the June training on "Planning for Disaster Recovery". This is a difficult topic to address and requires a great deal of careful consideration. Jim did a magnificent job of highlighting issues for consideration and eliciting ideas from the group.

Our next **information exchange** training will be on **July 10th**. This will be an overview of planning for disaster which is useful if you are just beginning to think about putting a plan together or if you already have a plan and want to know what to do next. Bring your plan and your questions and we will go through the process, share ideas and come up with your next steps.

Date: July 10th, 2003
Time: 9am – 11am
Place: Rose Resnick Lighthouse for the Blind
214 Van Ness Avenue, at Hayes
Nearest MUNI/BART: Civic Center
RSVP: info@sfcard.org or leave a voice mail on (415) 558.2737

As always, if you have anything to add or would like us to address in our next newsletter let us know at info@sfcard.org