



ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

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INTRODUCTION

This annotated bibliography is a list of tools, articles, case studies and books compiled to assist you in your Emergency Preparedness work. Whether you are a practitioner, student, community organizer or non-profit, the hope is that the resources apply to you and will provide you with a starting point for further exploration.

We encourage you to use resources available to you through your community organizations, memberships, professions, subscriptions and schools to dig deeper. Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery can be found in so many subjects, from psychology and environmentalism to public health and security. We hope that this resource inspires and motivates you in your work.

TOOLS

[Building Resilient Communities: An Online Training](#)

This free to use tool is an online interactive and self-guided training tool. It shows communities and organizations how to strengthen their resilience. It was built to be used by a diverse range of organizations with the goal of creating an action plan that fits individual needs. It includes supporting files such as a user's guide, action plans and asset charts.

[Community Preparedness Toolkit](#)

This toolkit was created by the America Department of Homeland Security with the intended use of helping groups to be a positive addition to community-based organizations or to become a well-organized group that fills a gap within the community. It is based on the assumption that responders such as firefighters, and law enforcement offices are either not the first to respond or often lack the capacity to manage the entirety of the disaster. It is organized in steps from locating local partners and creating a team to practical ways to serve your community. While all examples and information are drawn from American community groups, this free toolkit itself is a fantastic guide for anyone looking to promote community organization and partnerships.

[The Communities Advancing Resilience Toolkit \(CART\): An Intervention to Build Community Resilience to Disasters](#)

This toolkit was designed to increase community connectedness and resiliency. The article walks the user through the CART process while defining each domain and stage involved. This toolkit is based on 3 key assumptions and 4 domains including connection and caring, and disaster management. It is meant to be used by organizations as a method of stimulating connectedness, collaboration, and skill development (among others) by using analytical tools. The tools included in the toolkit are assessment surveys, informant interviews, data collection, community conversation, and neighbourhood mapping.

[Community Strengthening Grants Program](#)

The strengthening grants application is an interesting tool for those seeking to create similar grants or programs in their own communities. The grant is meant to be inclusive, provide benefits to a diverse population and most importantly, to create an engaged, healthy, and sustainable community. A printable example of the application form can be found [here](#).

[Get Ready](#)

This is a free online game that walks the player through multiple home hazards and potential actions they can take to mitigate risks. Players learn about the impacts of natural hazards and extreme weather and a range of ways they can prepare for these events. Real world examples of home improvements and lifestyle adaptations are offered as players choose their own way

to balance costs, level of preparedness and quality of life needs as they build resilience. This game was created by ICLEI Canada with support from The Co-operators.

[PARTNER \(Program to Analyze, Record, and Track Networks to Enhance Relationships\)](#)

The PARTNER tool is a social network analysis tool used to improve collaboration between community networks. It is sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and designed to show how community or organization members, resources, and trust are being leveraged to build stronger relationships. It allows for an assessment of how activities have changed over time and will show progress in terms of active participation. It is a tool built for practitioners, students, and organizations to use when looking to evaluate connectedness and engage areas where the network is not strong. Payment is required to access the tool. You are, however, able to pick which parts of the tool suit you best - there is a pay scale based on your current role.

[ResilientVille](#)

Resilientville is an in-person role-playing exercise developed by the City and County of San Francisco and San Francisco State University. The exercise highlights that by working together at the community and neighbourhood level, residents can have a substantial positive impact through preparation, response and recovery stages of a disaster. The exercise helps residents develop decision-making skills and fosters relationships that will strengthen their capacity to respond to a wide variety of emergencies. ResilientVille simulates real-world scenarios and encourages participants to respond based on the people and resources they know exist in their neighbourhoods.

[Sahana Foundation's Open Source Disaster Management Solutions](#)

The foundations EDEN software is an open-source tool used for deploying information management systems for disaster management and humanitarian crisis. It is able to help facilitate coordination between organizations, manage people involved, shorten response times during disasters, plan for different scenarios and much more. The Sahana Foundation also provides research related to the tool that will give practitioners a broader view of how to communicate during and after a disaster. Although a demo, and significant information is provided, a fee and subscription are necessary to use the service.

[UN Disaster Risk Reduction's PreventionWeb](#)

PreventionWeb is created and managed by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. It provides publications surrounding disaster risk and mitigation. It provides topic information by theme or by country as well as a guide for understanding the UN adopted Sendai framework. The website also has links to training and worldwide conferences in the area of disaster management. It is a free source that targets professionals, NGOs, and students interested in disaster management around the world.

BOOKS

[**A Paradise Built in Hell: The Extraordinary Communities that Arise in Disaster by Rebecca Solnit**](#)

In this book, Rebecca Solnit dives into what happens in the aftermath of a disaster and the sense of community that emerges. Using major disasters as her starting place, she explores how disaster acts as a catalyst for altruistic, resourceful, courageous actions by ordinary people and the social possibilities that they create. She reflects on the cost of widespread myths, and the rare instances, of social deterioration during a crisis. This book marvels in, despite all the odds, people find joy and purpose in the face of crisis.

[**After the Disaster: Rebuilding Communities, A Fetzer Institute & Wilson Center Seminar**](#)

The seminar held in Washington, DC examined topics such as the relationship between a community's resilience and its ability to cope with disaster, identifying the strengths of a community, and the use of technology in fostering engagement and resilience in communities. The book uses excerpts from seminar papers and discussion to share some of the experiences and insights from the meeting. It is organized by excerpts from 3 papers written by attendees and by topics covered and ideas shared at the seminar. As much of the material is sourced from conversations between activists, practitioners, and academics, the book is a useful tool for gaining insight into practical challenges and common themes throughout this field of study.

[**Breach of Faith: Hurricane Katrina and the Near Death of a Great American City by Jed Horne**](#)

Breach of Faith is a comprehensive look into the way Hurricane Katrina became much more than a natural disaster. It provides details into the political climate during that time as well as stories from individuals about personal and community reactions. Through the book, the author provides a compelling view of how biases and lack of communication in levels government prevented effective first response and rebuilding efforts. It explores how community groups and community-minded individuals contributed to solving the issues at hand.

[**Deepening Community: Building Communities that Sustain Us by Paul Born**](#)

Paul Born, co-CEO of Tamarack Institute, wrote this book to encourage people to do the work of deepening community. He discusses how so often we use community as a momentary experience without finding the fulfillment that comes with longevity. He explores the differences between shallow community, fear-based community and deep community. Paul Born also provides a discussion on specific steps individuals can take to strengthen their community. It is well researched and contains personal stories from Paul. It is written for a wide range of readers from parents to policy-makers.

[Heat Wave: A Social Autopsy of Disaster in Chicago by Eric Klinenberg](#)

Klinenberg's book discusses the heat wave in Chicago in July 1995 which was one of the deadliest in American history. He examines social, political and institutional factors that contributed to making this disaster exponentially worse. The book also includes information on the impact climate change has had on making extreme weather events a challenge for cities and nations. He argues that the catastrophe and high mortality rate in Chicago at the time cannot be blamed on any specific individual or organization but rather on widening cracks in the social foundation.

[In a World of Unpredictable Change, What Canada Needs Most is Resilience by Tim Brodhead](#)

This book is a review of the importance of resilience for Canadians and covers the different areas to be strengthened for the promotion of resilience in Canadian communities. Tim Brodhead looks at inclusion, sustainability, active citizenship, and innovation, using stories of success from across Canada and short articles describing the need for focus in these areas. It is a helpful tool for anyone interested in subjects related to community resilience or looking for success stories and organizations that promote this form of change.

CASE STUDIES

[Strengthening the Role of Faith-Based Organizations to Support Emergency Preparedness](#), by Heather Keam & Sheila Murray (CREW)

This case study illuminates the role that Faith-Based Organizations can play in emergency preparedness, response and recovery. This case study examines how faith groups can add great value to local emergency response structures and systems. Many of them already serve their most vulnerable neighbours through regular drop-in or meal programs. Others provide overnight shelter through initiatives such as Out of the Cold. Faith groups as shown through this case study can offer local community connections, volunteer mobilization, and locally relevant resources that can enhance response and recovery effectiveness.

[Building Resilience after Disasters through the Youth Leadership Program: The Importance of Community and Academic Partnerships on Youth Outcomes.](#)

Through an analytical view, Osofsky et al studied the Youth Leaders Program (YLP) that was created post-Katrina in New Orleans. The study focuses on students in grades 10 and 11 who voluntarily took part in the YLP designed to promote self-efficacy and resilience. In partnership with the Department of Psychology at Louisiana State University, surveys were sent to over 200 students to measure hurricane experiences, trauma symptoms, and self-efficacy. The survey results suggest that empowerment services aimed at community action, self-efficacy and rebuilding should accompany traditional disaster responses.

[Community Resilience and Oil Spills in Coastal Louisiana](#)

This case study strives to answer questions around the ability and success of organic social resiliency without external support when a community is in crisis. It looks at the role collective memory plays in the resilience of marginalized communities of the Louisiana wetlands. It is based on the formal responses to the Gulf oil spills from 1970 – 2010, and show the growth and efficacy of inherent resilience in the face of evolving formal responses. The findings discuss local level resilience as contributing to response and recovery. Government/corporate level officials tend to anticipate and prepare for crises without the direct engagement of the communities affected. Inclusive planning and practices that involve both the communities and Federal planning will contribute to sustained communities.

[Emergency Preparedness in Canada by Andrea Taylor-Butts](#)

Statistics Canada has published this in-depth study of emergency preparedness in communities and local governments throughout Canada. It examines the ways Canadians prepare for and respond to emergencies and contributes to an overall understanding of community resilience in Canada. It explores strategies of preparedness for fire and non-fire based events as well as the effect of certain socio-economic and demographic factors. Andrea Taylor-Butts uses the

information from Statistics Canada to show who Canadians are most likely to turn to in an emergency and who is at risk of having the lowest levels of support. It is a useful tool for anyone looking to have a statistic-based understanding of emergency preparedness in Canadian communities and how that preparedness is a reflection of social support networks.

[RAND Experts Discuss Nepal and Preparing for Natural Disasters](#)

The presentation is regarding Nepal after the earthquake of 2015. The 3 experts discuss the lead-up and aftermath of the disaster from their academic and professional viewpoints, including the health and aid crises that has been exacerbated due to the earthquake. They talk about the drive communities have to rebuild as well as the challenges that an overwhelming amount of volunteers and influx of aid without coordination brings. The discussion also considers the ways in which non-governmental groups from all sectors of society mobilize in order to navigate government and effectively distribute aid. It is one of several audio- and multimedia presentations provided by the RAND corporations.

[The Los Angeles County Community Disaster Resilience Project – A Community- Level, Public Health Initiative to Build Community Disaster Resilience](#)

The article is an academic study on building community resilience using 16 communities in Los Angeles County who are a part of the Los Angeles County Community Disaster Resilience Project. It provides a detailed description of the strategies used for measuring results as the communities were split into two groups. The first group was given training from a public health nurse who used a community resilience toolkit (described in the article). The second group was trained using more traditional methods of disaster management. The paper provides significant tools for researchers and practitioners to use when conducting community resilience programs. Results and insights from the Los Angeles County Resilience Project can be found in the below articles:

1. [The Road to Resilience: Insights on Training Community Coalitions in the Los Angeles County Community Disaster Resilience Project](#)
2. [Evaluating Community Partnerships Addressing Community Resilience in Los Angeles, California](#)
3. [How Do Communities Use a Participatory Public Health Approach to Build Resilience?](#)

Anita (lead researching in the Los Angeles County Resilience Project) is also a principal author of the [Resilience Builder: Tools for Strengthening Disaster Resilience in your Community](#) booklet. This tool was created from the results of the Resilience Project and is intended to be used by communities and organizations to understand the strengths and weaknesses of the community as well as steps to build resilience. It is a comprehensive kit of quizzes, activities, and next steps.

ARTICLES

[Local Heroes? Learning from Recent Community Strengthening Initiatives in Victoria by John Wiseman](#)

John Wiseman details the history of the Community Strengthening project in Victoria, Australia. From the Bracks Government's early steps of resetting the policy goalposts - in terms of safe and healthy communities - through to the pilot and implementation stages, the article provides many advantages of the program as well as struggles that it faced. Wiseman walks through the initial goals and tangible outcomes of the program. The program itself is a fantastic example of policy-driven community change.

[What Role Do Citizens Have in Disaster Management? By Tumwebaze, Peterson](#)

This article provides real-world examples of how citizens are engaged by their government to mitigate risks caused by disasters. The author provides details on how the steps taken by citizens before a disaster can not only protect against greater losses but also help to create resilience. As Rwanda becomes more vulnerable to disasters, the government has begun educating the public using media and training on how to mitigate the impacts of disasters. Education programs that have been established with government partnership are leading the way to make the public aware of the role they need to play. This article is meant for those who seek an understanding of community practices in disaster-prone areas as well as those with an interest in what preventative measures government can provide in partnership with communities.

[Who Should Do What: The Role of Citizens, Government, and Nongovernmental Organizations in a Disaster](#)

These are notes from a community conversation held in Ashland County, Ohio regarding the roles each sector (government, non-government organization, and citizens) need to play before and during an emergency. Through this conversation, the community outlined specific tasks and challenges for each sector. It emphasizes that there is much that citizens can do for themselves and neither the government nor NGOs should be expected to take on those tasks. The notes stress that each sector has its own role to play but that it is the combined effort that is required during an emergency. This is a useful tool for those working within communities to create a preparedness strategy. It is also an example of what can come when citizens and government working together.

[Ron Dwyer-Voss, Abundant Community](#)

Abundant Community has provided a brief biography of Ron Dwyer-Voss who has been working as a community organizer (among other things) since 1982. He has a wide range of experience and training. Dwyer-Voss's work focuses on helping organizations with strategies for

community revitalization and organizing. Abundant Community also provides links to several of the articles he has published:

1. [It's the Community, Stupid!](#)
2. [How Neighborhoods and Local Government Can Work Together to Make Both Stronger](#)
3. [When Disaster Hits, Your First Responder Probably Will Not Be a First Responder](#)

**[Building Community Disaster Resilience: Perspectives From a Large Urban County
Department of Public Health](#)**

The authors provide an overview of how public health and community engagement relate, in the face of surviving and rebounding from disaster. It produces a definition of resilience and discusses three steps to work towards an operationalized community. Using the Los Angeles County Community Disaster Resilience project as an example, they show how the Los Angeles County Public Health has shifted focus from individual preparedness to a multi-stakeholder project that encourages social connectivity as a central feature of building community resilience. By combining public health and the community, it is possible to decrease vulnerability and strengthen emergency response in the absence of a formal government. This is a useful article for leaders and professionals interested in the relationship between public health and disaster management as well as those with an interest in large-scale community engagement.