

**Working Conference on Emergency Management and  
Individuals with Disabilities and the Elderly  
June 28-30, 2006**

**Session Summary Form**

**Send Completed *Session Summary Forms* to Glenda Harden at  
glenda.harden@acf.hhs.gov by COB July 7, 2006.**

**Session:**     State Working Group     Regional Working Group

**Date of Session:**     Wednesday, June 28     Thursday, June 29     Friday, June 30

**State:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Region** \_\_\_\_\_ Region VI \_\_\_\_\_

**Facilitator Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ Hal Neuman \_\_\_\_\_

**Submitted by (your name):** \_\_\_\_\_ Sara Vecchiotti \_\_\_\_\_

**Agency/Institution:** Child Care Bureau/Administration for Children and  
Families \_\_\_\_\_

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- 1. List and describe in narrative at least the three most important issues that were addressed during the session.**

**1. To much top-down emergency response planning (ERP), planning needs to include more bottom-up input into the planning (regional, local and community) and more coordination is needed among all levels (federal, state, local, and community)**

**2. Communication plans for evacuation need to be multi-faceted (GIS, internet, telephone, satellites), and utilize trusted organizations, leaders, individuals, family members to deliver the emergency response messages**

**3. All stakeholders (different stakeholders and not just the usual players) must be involved in the beginning of plan development-need to be inclusive as possible**

**4. Transportation issues are vital (need vehicles and drivers, trains and ADA compliance)**

- 2. List and describe in narrative at least the three biggest challenges or barriers discussed. [In select cases may mean that you repeat something you reported under #1]**
  - 1. Difficulty reaching isolated, inaccessible areas in evacuation plans**
  - 2. Quality of local ERPs vary greatly by county-based on resources/ capacity at local level.**
  - 3. Many shelters are not ADA compliant and emergency responders do not have the skills and knowledge to be culturally aware in their work.**
  - 4. Difficulty identifying and engaging essential stakeholders to participate in ERP**
  
- 3. List and describe in narrative at least three “next step” action items identified during the session.**
  - 1. Engage local level community to help plan for PWD in evacuation and dispatch local level planning specialists to help communities prepare**
  - 2. Create tool kits- to help everyday people and emergency responders know what to do in an emergency situation and how to serve PWD in an emergency/ Use mobile units to travel to affected areas to provide emergency medical care.**
  - 3. Improve triage plans to better identify needs and prioritize resources**
  - 4. Utilize the Aging Network transportation resources to help in emergency response, especially for PWD—also need drivers not just vehicles**
  
- 4. Report on other important issues that were discussed during Working Group.**
  - More coordination is needed between the lead agency-- Dept of Health and the community to fulfill ESF#6**
  - Sheltering evacuees also involves following-up on evacuees after they have left the shelter to ensure that they have supports to return to their homes or permanently relocate**

- **TX mentioned identifying and tracking evacuees—piloting a wrist band which contains basic information (name and address) which responders place on evacuees. The data collected is how many are affected, who is affected—which helps shelters better serve evacuees (concern about privacy of information, what other uses the information can be used for)**
- **Immigrants (illegal)—concern will not engage in evacuation or seek shelter for fear of discovery and will information collected be used against non-citizens.**