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Resilience Report

Brief insights and the latest innovations in emergency management and health security.

Earthquake swarms and hurricanes and a pandemic-oh my! This week on Resilience Report...our team is offering some of the wisdom and lessons learned they've gleaned from their hard work on several COVID-19 After Action Reports for local jurisdictions.



Alliances For Equity.

The [Resilient Nation Partnership Network 2020 Annual Forum](#) is here! Over 30 speakers spanning four Wednesdays in October with one mission: to advance the dialogue and strengthen partnerships to build a more equitable and resilient future for all communities.

Children and Superspreaders.

One of the [largest studies of transmission of coronavirus](#) has resulted in some useful findings for public health policymakers. Testing and tracing of more than a ½ million contacts of 85,000 cases in India show that children and “superspreaders” may play a bigger role than we initially thought.

25 Named Storms and Counting.

It seems like this is the hurricane season that just won't quit! 2020 has resulted in 25 named storms, making it the second most active season in history. [Hurricane Delta](#) continues to pose a formidable threat to the Gulf Coast as it makes its way towards Louisiana and Texas.



SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT: COVID LESSONS LEARNED

Every week, we'll dedicate space for a hot topic that we think is especially important for emergency managers to read. Our team has been hard at work on After Action Reports for the COVID-19 response at jurisdictions up and down the West Coast. (Although we're actually calling them Mid-Action Reports since the response is ongoing).

This week, we surveyed our AAR team, asking them to provide some wisdom with the most salient lessons learned they've identified so far. Here are some of those juicy tidbits:

- Ask for staffing support from other departments early and often! Other departments may be able to help support reassigning staff and hiring new staff, backfill certain response roles when staff need to take personal leave, or assist with public outreach efforts.
- Set the precedent for employee wellness and mental health. If leadership refuses to take a break, then employees will feel guilty in taking much needed time off -- even if it is offered.
- Consider having individual community members not actively participating in incident management conduct community-based assessments. It can be beneficial to understand the effectiveness of response operations from their perspective. This is frequently done in disasters such as a rapid needs assessment or [CASPER](#).
- Whole Community engagement and partnership is crucial; specifically for underrepresented communities and demographics. Prioritize this engagement in planning and in the early stages of response to ensure that communities are represented in response plans, policies, and procedures.
- Rural, agricultural, and low-income communities continue to feel underrepresented and overwhelmed in many jurisdictions. To better engage these communities and identify their needs, schedule 1:1 calls, reach out to nonprofits/community-based organizations in those communities, and adopt a posture of 'how can we help?' rather than 'this is what you have to do.'
- Consider engaging local artists and youth to submit ideas for healing activities for those individuals that have been lost during the pandemic. Some examples include decorating trees, planting bulbs for flowers in community gardens, pinwheels or flags on public grounds.
- And finally...celebrate victories. A positive step forward is an advancement no matter how small it may seem.

Need help with after action (or mid-action) reports? [Shoot us an email](#). We are at the ready to help you.



FUN THINGS

Fat Bear Week Crowns a Champion!

Fat Bear Week ended on Tuesday! What is that you ask? It's an annual bracket tournament by the National Park Service educating the public about Katmai brown bears and their hibernation process. You can see the winning fat (and healthy) bear [here](#).

Successful Hazard Mitigation in Venice (Italy not Beach).

For the first time in 1,200 years Venice Italy stays relatively dry during acque alte ("high waters"). While it didn't part the Adriatic sea, MOSE (Italian for Moses) did hold the water back in this [historic step in hazard mitigation](#) and prevention.

SAMMIE Awards 2020.

Who wants a sammie? No, not a sandwich, a 2020 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal, aka SAMMIES 2020. This year's civil servant winner was none other than Dr. Anthony Fauci. Check out the [video](#) of amazing work government employees are doing across the US and smile along with the host, comedian Kumail Nanjani.

Ask a Contractor!

We want to make Resilience Report more collaborative with you, our lovely readers. So we're introducing "Ask a Contractor." If you have any questions under the sun about emergency management, health security, good disaster movies, or anything in between, submit them [using this form](#) and we'll happily answer them in the next issue of Resilience Report!

We're Here to Support You

If you need help with vaccine planning, COVID-19 AARs, EOC surge staff, or anything in between, shoot us an email at scott@constantassociates.com. We are here to help.



Got this as a forward? You can subscribe to receive future issues of Resilience Report [here](#).