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Resilience Report

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

This week is the start of fall and the conclusion of National Preparedness Month. Take a look at this issue to see how individuals can contribute to community resilience.



COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

The Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine might be available for [kids ages 5-12](#) by the end of October or early November, but [final approval](#) is a long process. As of September 22nd, seniors and vulnerable populations are eligible for [boosters](#). Meanwhile, a [new study](#) investigates long COVID and a look into [mRNA vaccine history](#) outlines the vaccine development process.

Senate Hears Terrorism Update

FBI Director Michael Wray testified before the Senate on Tuesday that domestic terrorism has ['more than doubled'](#) since spring 2020. The threat from homegrown violent extremists (HVEs) poses one of the greatest threats as HVEs transition from radicalization to action quickly. Meanwhile, terrorists are adapting tactics in response to counterterrorism measures.

Cybersecurity Trends

The DOJ selected [12 Tribes](#) to participate in the expansion of the Tribal Access for National Crime Information (TAP), a program that links tribal governments with national crime databases. As ransomware attacks become more prevalent, [three agencies](#) released a joint cybersecurity advisory, while the [National Association of State Chief Information Officers](#) (NASCIO) and [DHS](#) released recommendations and best practices.



SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT: COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS

Every week, we'll dedicate space for a hot topic that we think is especially important for emergency managers to read. In our last issue, we highlighted the start of National Preparedness Month and focused on individual emergency planning. This issue, we examine preparedness through a community lens.

- The Oregon Health Authority provided some helpful suggestions for individual preparedness but went a step further in recognizing the importance of community-wide [emotional health resources](#) during emergencies.
- The National Center for Disaster Preparedness (NCDP) of Columbia University's Climate School is developing two new training [courses](#). Funded by FEMA, the courses include guidance on mass care (community sheltering and relocation) and pandemic preparedness. And did you know that the NCDP also offers free online [courses](#)?
- [Emergency managers](#) are recognizing that disaster response and public health go hand in hand. Despite this, the standard all-hazards approach has not yet fully incorporated community health issues, but there has been [progress](#) in this area.
- With the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 terror attacks earlier this month, one state hospital association is calling [attention](#) to the importance of collaboration among first responders and hospitals in emergency preparedness (as a bonus, be sure to check out the quote from Vince Lombardi at the end).

National Preparedness Month and Planning for Your Community

We outlined individual preparedness tips in the 28th issue of our Resilience Report, released on September 10th. But how can an individual promote whole-community planning? Here are some additional elements to consider as we wrap up National Preparedness Month.

Suggestion #1: Consider Accessibility. Review the [CDC Access and Functional Needs Toolkit](#), which provides guidance to emergency managers on integrated community outreach. And for individuals with access and functional needs, read the [HHS CMIST Framework](#), which describes the additional needs that should be considered in emergencies.

Suggestion #2: Be Aware of Your Surroundings. While fire response requires a comprehensive and coordinated response at the federal, state, and local levels, there are still [things](#) you could do to prevent fires in your community.

Suggestion #3: Share Your Best Practices. Submit an [abstract](#) to the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Preparedness Summit that highlights effective programs in public health and healthcare preparedness at the community level.

CONSTANT staff are experienced in developing emergency preparedness and continuity of operations plans. [Email](#) us to learn more!



Celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month!

National Hispanic Heritage Month is observed from September 15 to October 15. This 30-day period includes the independence anniversaries for Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico, and Chile, and also includes Día de la Raza. Visit the official National Hispanic Heritage Month [site](#) for upcoming events or celebrate on your [own](#).

Elevate Your Self-Care Routine.

We've talked a lot about National Preparedness Month in our Resilience Reports, but September also marks National Self-Care Awareness Month. Here are some [tips](#) to help you practice self-care and strengthen your physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

Halloween Already?

October isn't here just yet but that doesn't mean that we can't start celebrating. Skip the lines and get a head start on some haunted activities such as the [Los Angeles Haunted Hayride](#) which starts today. Not in LA? Check out this [map](#) for haunted attractions near you.



We're Here to Support You

If you need help with ARPA projects, COVID-19 AARs, or anything in between, shoot us an email at donna@constantassociates.com. We are here to help.

CONSTANT is certified as an 8(a) and Economically Disadvantaged Woman Owned Business (EDWOSB) and as a Great Place To Work. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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