



July 9, 2024 | Issue 83

Resilience Report

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

Upcoming Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act



The [American with Disabilities Act](#) was signed into law on July 26, 1990, and is designed to protect persons with disabilities in many areas of public life. In approaching the upcoming anniversary, the [ADA Anniversary webpage](#) features events, trainings, publications, and more. The ADA plays a pivotal role in emergency management, as all levels of government have a legal and moral responsibility to ensure that their programs are accessible to persons with disabilities, which means equal access to services, communication, transportation, sheltering, medical care, and more.

The [ADA](#) provides information for how governments can ensure accessibility for persons with disabilities in emergency alerts, community evacuation and transportation, and emergency shelter programs. Resources like checklists and guides are featured. Progress has been made as FEMA and leading agencies like Cal OES have emphasized integrating persons with access and functional needs (AFN) (including persons with disabilities) within emergency preparedness, response, and recovery. However, many states have

recognized the need for improvement in terms of implementing, monitoring, and enforcing compliance with the ADA and have adopted additional laws to address gaps. This includes California's Assembly Bills (AB) 2311, 477, 580, and 2645 (view fact sheet [here](#)).

As we approach the anniversary date, here are a few actions that your jurisdiction or organization can take to remain proactive in meeting and/or exceeding ADA requirements and aligning with industry standards:

- **Attend industry events to remain current on forward-leaning best practices:** The [National AFN Symposium](#) is this Thursday/Friday (July 11th/12th). This virtual event will be held from 12:00pm-3:00pm EDT and features a plethora of industry leaders and panelists. Key topics to be discussed include emergency communication and establishing trust and credibility. Hearing from and collaborating with innovators in inclusive emergency management can help inform your organization of how to proactively address the needs of the whole community.
- **Integrate the needs of persons with disabilities within emergency management systems:** Vance Taylor, Chief of the Cal OES Office of Access and Functional Needs, recently spoke with [CNN](#) about ways to strengthen inclusive emergency management. This includes strategies like forming an AFN Advisory Committee to engage throughout plan development processes, training on "inclusive communication, evacuation, transportation, sheltering, and recovery processes," and studying practices and lessons learned from previous disasters for implications for your plans. Best practices stipulate that, for example, considerations for AFN should be integrated within the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Base Plan, not a separate AFN Annex.
- **Develop and continually maintain partnerships and agreements:** Other government agencies as well as community organizations can serve as key partners to your agency, offering an understanding of community needs, access to communication networks, provision of local resources, and more. Formal Advisory Committees, coalitions, information sharing networks, memoranda of understanding (MOU), and service contracts, as well as coordinated planning, training, and exercises, can ensure that partnerships are formalized and socialized and that all organizations have an understanding of their potential roles and responsibilities during disaster response and recovery.

New Blog - Building Resilient Communities: Manhattan Beach's Approach To Hazard Mitigation Planning

CONSTANT team members Mona Bontty and Nicole Christensen interviewed Amanda MacLennan, the City of Manhattan Beach's Emergency Preparedness Administrator, in this month's [blog post](#). CONSTANT recently worked with Manhattan Beach to update its Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP), which has been approved by Cal OES and FEMA. In the interview, Amanda speaks with CONSTANT about how she approached the update given FEMA's recently updated guidelines. It is our hope that the messages in this blog will help other local jurisdictions who are updating their LHMPs.

Upcoming Conferences

CONSTANT continues our attendance at upcoming industry conferences throughout the summer! Learn more below about where CONSTANT team members will be in July.

Please contact us at info@constantassociates.com should you be interested in meeting with one of our team members while attending these events.

National Sports Safety And Security Conference

CONSTANT is excited to attend the [National Sports Safety and Security Conference and Exhibition](#) for the first time. Team members Mona Bontty and Jayson Kratoville are attending on behalf of CONSTANT, while Sloan Grissom is attending on behalf of the Interagency Modeling and Atmospheric Assessment Center (IMAAC). The theme of the conference is *Make It Matter*, focusing on opportunities to "transform ideas into tangible, lasting change." We are eager to share emergency preparedness tips and best practices with facility and stadium managers, athletic administrators, and governmental representatives that build from recent work performed.

National Sports Safety and Security

Conference and Exhibition

*Mona Bontty, Emergency
Management Portfolio Manager,
and Jayson Kratoville, Director of
Operations, are attending on behalf
of CONSTANT.*

*Sloan Grissom, Emerging Threats
Portfolio Manager, is representing
the IMAAC.*

**July 9-11
Phoenix, AZ**



National Homeland Security Conference

CONSTANT is back at the [National Homeland Security Conference \(NHSC\)](#) this year! We can't wait to connect with our homeland security and emergency management colleagues in Miami on all things counterterrorism, cybersecurity, community preparedness and resilience, health security, planning, training and exercise, and more.

National Homeland Security

Conference

Jeff Philippart,
Business Development Director,
is attending NHSC on behalf of
CONSTANT.

Sloan Grissom, *Emerging Threats
Portfolio Manager,* is representing
the IMAAC.

July 22-25
Miami Beach, FL



NACCHO360

CONSTANT's health experts will be at the [NACCHO360 Conference](#), the U.S.'s largest gathering of local health department leaders and public health professionals. The conference theme, "Heard it Through the Grapevine: Public Health Partnerships, Collaboration, and Innovation" focuses on multi-sector approaches to address health challenges. We are excited to collaborate with our colleagues on how to strengthen partnerships to advance and improve public health.

NACCHO360

Heard It Through the Grapevine: Public Health Partnerships, Collaboration, and Innovation

Ali Leis, Health Security Portfolio Manager, and Jessica Driskill, Senior Associate, are attending the NACCHO360 Conference.

**July 23-26
Detroit, MI**



Upcoming Grant Deadlines

A number of grants that are of potential interest to our readers have upcoming deadlines for application submission, including those listed below. Connect with your state agencies on accessing funding offered through state-level grants.

- [FY24 Office of Justice Programs Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative Training and Technical Assistance Program](#) - **Grants.gov deadline:** July 30, 2024, open to public and private institutions of higher education; non-profits; for-profit organizations, and small businesses.
- [FY24 FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance Swift Current](#) - **Grants.gov deadline:** January 15, 2026, open to state and tribal governments.
- [FY24 FEMA Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program](#) - **Grants.gov deadline:** July 25, 2024, open to state, county, and city governments.
- [FY24 FEMA Cooperating Technical Partners Program \(Risk MAP\)](#) - **Grants.gov deadline: July 19, 2024**, open to county and city governments, tribes, higher education institutions, and non-profits.

In the News



Climate Change and Extreme Temperatures

[BRIC's project selections](#), totaling \$1B in climate resilience funding, were announced earlier this month and followed up by awardees for non-financial [Direct Technical Assistance](#). In more recent news, June marked the [13th straight monthly heat record](#). In the U.S., FEMA and HHS continue to provide resources and tips to alleviate the [impacts of extreme heat](#). Hurricane Beryl is impacting the Texas coast (at time of writing) and record breaking ocean temperatures are intensifying the storm.

[Read More](#)



The Latest Public Health News

ASPR released a [Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Strategy](#) that contains four objectives with distinct activities and priorities. HHS is building on its strategy by providing \$176M to Moderna to develop a [pandemic influenza mRNA-based vaccine](#). The CDC updated its [COVID-19/Flu vaccine recommendations](#), the fourth [human case of H5 Bird Flu](#) tied to the dairy cow outbreak has been announced, and the U.S. Surgeon General declared gun violence a public health crisis.

[Read More](#)



Safety for the 2024 Paris Olympics

As the Olympics will begin on July 26th, safety and security of athletes and spectators is top of mind. The International Centre for Counter-Terrorism has published a [piece](#) about terrorism threats to the Olympics, and how past events can be studied to understand the present. Paris's Police Chief has addressed security concerns, noting that 30,000+ police

officers will be deployed each day, along with 18,000 members of the army, with additional protective measures in place during the opening ceremony.

[Read More](#)

The Fun Stuff



The 2024 Summer Olympics

CONSTANT is excited for the upcoming Olympics in Paris, France, scheduled for July 26th to August 11th. As we countdown to the Opening Ceremony, visit this [website](#) for scheduling, streaming, and more.

National Ice Cream Month

July is [National Ice Cream Month](#)! This includes celebration of National Ice Cream Day on Sunday, July 21st. The [Krazy Coupon Lady](#) provides a list of deals to be on the lookout for.



We're Here to Support You

If you need help with disaster preparedness, infectious disease planning, or anything in between, send us an email at staff@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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