

CSSRC Resource Review

Review Date: 11/27/13

Name/Title: Post-Disaster Reunification of Children: A Nationwide Approach

Author: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Health & Human Services, American Red Cross, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

Media Type: (Book, CD, Flyer, Poster, Website, etc) report

Publisher/Supplier: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Health & Human Services, American Red Cross, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

Publication Date: November 2013

Re-order Source: <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/85559>

Language: English

Usefulness Rating:

1. Excellent XX
2. Good
3. Fair
4. Poor
5. Rated by: (CSSRC staff member) Alice
6. Comments:
 - a. Because children comprise 25% of the nation's population, spend much of their time away from their parents, and studies show that as many as 63% of parents will ignore response protocols and attempt to go to their child's school during an emergency, reunification plans are important. A robust and clearly communicated plan will help alleviate parent concerns and keep everyone safer during an emergency.
 - b. Reunification plans need to include consideration for children with disabilities and children without verbal skills.
 - c. Plans can help reduce the potential for children to be mistreated, abused, kidnapped, or exploited during and after emergency situations.
 - d. Schools and child care centers are encouraged to maintain relationships with community organizations that can be potentially helpful during emergencies. Sharing emergency plans and conducting drills with local first responders is encouraged to facilitate effective response.
 - e. All levels of private sector, federal, tribal, state, and local emergency response, education, and human services organizations are addressed and provided with direction on how to support emergency reunification planning, including by reaching out to local schools and child care centers.



- f. Federal laws governing information sharing for children are addressed, along with disaster response laws and laws governing people with disabilities.
- g. Specific steps to be taken are listed in the event of three disaster situations:
 - i. Minor separated from parent or guardian
 - ii. Parent or guardian reports missing minor
 - iii. Minor reported to be missing is found to be deceased
- h. A checklist provides guidance for incorporating reunification into existing emergency preparedness and operations plans.
- i. Many government and non-profit reunification resources and tools are listed.

Category: (Prevention, Preparedness, Response, Recovery, Promotional Item) Response

Topic: (Bullying, Substance Abuse, Threat Assessment, etc) Reunification

Audience: (Administrators, Counselors/Psychologists/Social Workers, Emergency Responders, Health Professionals/Nurses, Law Enforcement/SROs/Security, Parents, Teachers, Other School Personnel) all

Intended Age Group: (pre-K, elementary, middle, high, higher education) pre-K – high school

Cost: 0

Additional Comments:

