

# Formal and Informal Roles in Recovery

## Objectives:

- 5.1 Discuss state and local recovery programs
- 5.2 Discuss federal recovery programs
- 5.3 Discuss the legal basis of emergency management
- 5.4 Discuss the role of social networks in recovery

# State Recovery Programs

- State Department of the Environment
  - Public health and sanitation
  - Coastal management
  - Water quality
  - Erosion and sedimentation
  - Geology
- State Department of Insurance
  - Insurance rates and adoption of mitigation

# State Recovery Programs

- State Economic Development
  - Guidance on sustainable economic recovery
  - Administration of Community Development Block Grant funding
- State Department of Planning
  - Background data
  - Planning objectives

# State Recovery Programs

- State Budget Office
  - Oversight of state budget
  - Budgetary analyses
  - Provision of information to Governor and State Legislature
    - Describing economic impacts
- Governor's Office
  - State enabling legislation
  - Expenditure of state funds

# State Recovery Programs

- Post-disaster recovery task force
- Assistance in non-federally declared events
- Provision of assistance beyond Stafford Act programs
- Existing state agency programs
  - State disaster fund
  - Legislative appropriation
  - Disaster trust fund

# Local Recovery Programs

- Local-level recovery programs
  - Local governments unlikely to allocate disaster-specific revenues
- Local roles and tasks
  - City Manager
  - Finance
  - Public Works
  - Planning
  - Police
  - Fire
  - Building Inspector
  - Local Floodplain Administrator
  - Locally elected officials

# Unintended Effects of State and Local Government-Driven Recovery

- State programs
  - Mirroring federal programs
  - State agency awareness of State Emergency Management objectives
- Local programs
  - Salience
  - Political will
  - Capacity-building
  - Past disaster experience
  - Recovery planning

# Federal Recovery Programs

- Exclusive reliance on federal assistance
  - Most disasters do not meet federal declaration thresholds
  - Limit sustainable recovery and multi-objective planning
  - Stifle self-reliance
  - Increased hazard vulnerability

# Federal Recovery Programs

- Linking federal assistance to broader pre and post-disaster goals and objectives can facilitate sustainable recovery
  - Disaster recovery plan
  - Adaptive planning

# Federal Recovery Programs

- Uncoordinated
- Timing of disbursement
- A set of processes in search of a policy (Mileti 1999, p.235)
  - Lack of guiding principles
  - Uncomplimentary
  - Limits creative solutions
  - Achieving multiple aims possible

# Federal Recovery Programs

- Public Assistance
- Individual Assistance
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

# Public Assistance

- Repair of damaged infrastructure
- Debris removal
- Emergency protective measures
- Important aspects of Public Assistance programs
- Categories A-G
- Redesigning the Public Assistance process
- Public Assistance and hazard mitigation

# Individual Assistance

- Temporary Housing Assistance
- Individual and Family Grants
- Small Business Administration Disaster Loan
- Disaster Unemployment Assistance
- Legal Services
- Special tax considerations
- Crisis counseling

# Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

- Eligible activities
  - Acquisition or elevation of flood-prone homes
  - Retrofitting of structures
  - Public education and outreach
  - Development of hazard mitigation plans
- Programmatic elements
  - Post-disaster assistance
  - 75/25 cost share

# Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

- Eligible applicants
  - State and local governments
  - Private non-profits
  - Indian tribes

# Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

- Administration process
  - HMGP Administrative Plan
  - Management Cost Report
  - Prioritized project types
  - Public meetings
  - State review of project eligibility
  - Submittal to FEMA for final approval

# Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

- HMGP and recovery
  - Slow process
  - Post-disaster assistance
  - Competing recovery programs
  - Participation

# Supplemental Consideration

- Balancing the maintenance of established neighborhoods versus reducing community vulnerability
- Should public funds be used to repeatedly repair at-risk property?
- What impact should the repair of historic properties or minority neighborhoods have on decisions associated with relocation or retrofitting?

# Supplemental Consideration

- Compare and contrast the use of HMGP funds following the 1993 Midwest floods and Hurricane Floyd (North Carolina 1999)
  - Number of homes acquired
  - Funding sources used
  - Demographic analysis
  - Description of project sites
  - Post-acquisition land use
  - Timeframe for completion

# Congressional Assistance

- Seeking congressionally-appropriated assistance
  - Beyond the Stafford Act
  - Pork barrel politics (Platt 1999)
  - Damage assessments
  - Policy disputes
  - Decision-making environment
  - Limitations of Stafford Act programs
  - State approach

# Supplemental Consideration

- Critical evaluation of federal programs
  - Individual Assistance
  - Public Assistance
  - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- Questions
  - Stated objectives and sustainable recovery
  - Specific changes recommended
  - Integration of programs to achieve a sustainable recovery

# Supplemental Consideration

- Option #1
  - Linking funding streams to achieve a sustainable recovery
    - Reduced hazard vulnerability
    - More sustainable economy
    - Improved environment
    - Improved housing
  
- Option #2
  - Discuss apparent contradiction in federal programs

# Legal Basis of Emergency Management

- Key federal laws
  - Early disaster relief efforts and assistance
  - The Civil Defense Act of 1950
  - Disaster Relief Act of 1950
  - Disaster Relief Act of 1974
  - Stafford Act

# Legal Basis of Emergency Management

- Federal and state law
  - Increased levels of disaster assistance
  - State emergency management law
  - History of federal legislation
    - Portsmouth fire
    - New Deal
      - Reconstruction Finance Corporation
      - Bureau of Public Roads
      - Flood Control Act of 1936

# History of Federal Legislation

- Federal Disaster Act of 1950
- Disasters and legislation
- Disaster Relief Act of 1970
  - Disaster Relief Act of 1974
- Stafford Act (1988)
  - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000

# Social Networks in Recovery

- Definition
- Examples
  - Religious organizations
  - Social or professional organizations
  - Kinship ties
  - Charity groups

# Social Networks and Emergent Groups

- Recovery as a social construct
- Social context of recovery
  - Understanding / describing social standing
  - Sociological factors
  - Clarifying issues of equity and access to power
  - Social networks cross class, race and institutional levels
  - Bringing groups together
  - Empowering under-represented groups
  - Role of church and non-profit groups

# Social Networks

- Recovery process is complex
  - Social networks provide venues to express conflicting views
- Enhancing the recovery process
  - Identifying social networks before a disaster and involve them in pre-disaster recovery planning
    - Participatory planning
    - Localism
    - Standardization
    - Diversity
    - Fragmentation

# Social Networks

- Enhancing the recovery process
  - During a disaster involve social networks as described in the recovery plan
    - Implementation of planning roles
    - Negative repercussions of non-involvement
  - Invite members of social networks to emergency management training courses
  - Share information with social networks