

DISASTER NEWS YOU CAN USE

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July 2026

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This Month in Disaster History

1995 Chicago Heat Wave

In mid-July 1995, Chicago endured one of the deadliest heat waves in modern U.S. history. From approximately July 12 to July 16, an intense dome of high pressure trapped hot, humid air over the Midwest. Temperatures at Midway Airport peaked at 106°F on July 13, with heat index values climbing as high as 120–125°F due to record or near-record dew points exceeding 80°F. Nighttime lows remained in the upper 70s to low 80s, offering little relief. The urban heat island effect intensified conditions in the city core, where buildings, pavement, and limited vegetation absorbed and radiated heat, elevating nighttime temperatures by more than 2°C compared with surrounding areas. Shallow boundary-layer mixing further concentrated heat and humidity near the surface. These meteorological factors combined with social vulnerabilities to produce a catastrophe that claimed roughly 739 excess deaths in a single week, more than double the toll of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 and far exceeding the U.S. fatalities from many well-known hurricanes of the era.

Continued on Page 2

Community Mental Health in Prolonged Disasters

Latest Research, Applications, and Industry Best Practices

Prolonged and successive disasters—whether cascading climate events, extended recovery from wildfires or hurricanes, or multi-year crises—impose cumulative psychological burdens that extend far beyond the acute phase. Recent research shows that survivors frequently experience persistent anxiety, depressive symptoms, posttraumatic stress, and emotional exhaustion years after the initial event. A 2025 meta-analysis found that odds of current PTSD remained significantly elevated an average of 12 years post-hazard among exposed populations, while depression risk stayed elevated for roughly four years. Studies of the 2023 Maui wildfires similarly documented that nearly half of adults continued reporting depressive symptoms three years later, with increases in severe depression and PTSD symptoms in some groups. These findings underscore that “survival mode” becomes a chronic state in high-vulnerability communities facing repeated shocks, limiting capacity for self-care and formal help-seeking.

Psychological and community resilience emerge as critical protective factors. Community resilience...

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Disaster History

Continued...

1995 Chicago Heat Wave

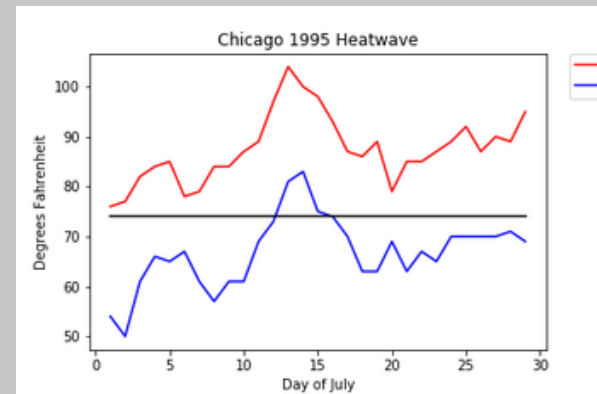
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The human impacts fell disproportionately on the city's most isolated and marginalized residents. The majority of victims were elderly (about 73 percent over age 65), poor, and living alone; many lacked air conditioning or could not afford to run it, and fear of crime kept windows and doors sealed. Black residents experienced higher mortality rates than White residents after age adjustment, while Latino communities showed markedly lower rates. Sociologist Eric Klinenberg's *Heat Wave: A Social Autopsy of Disaster in Chicago* (2002) demonstrated that these deaths were not simply the product of extreme weather. Comparing adjacent West Side neighborhoods—North Lawndale (predominantly African American) and Little Village (predominantly Latino)—he showed that similar levels of poverty and elderly isolation produced dramatically different outcomes. North Lawndale's abandoned commercial corridors, high crime, and eroded social infrastructure left residents isolated, while Little Village's denser commercial activity, street life, and neighborly networks provided informal protection. Klinenberg argued that the disaster exposed "the social production of isolation" and the everyday ecology of inequality.

City government, emergency management, and public health systems were slow to recognize and respond to the crisis. Key officials, including the mayor and several department heads, were on vacation. No comprehensive heat emergency plan existed, and a formal heat emergency declaration came only near the end of the peak period. Ambulance services and hospital emergency rooms were overwhelmed; at times more than 20 hospitals went on bypass. The Cook County Medical Examiner's Office was inundated, requiring refrigerated trucks to store bodies when daily intakes far exceeded normal capacity. Early public statements minimized the event or attributed deaths to individual neglect. In the aftermath, Mayor Richard M. Daley's administration established a multi-stage heat warning system (watch, warning, and emergency based on heat-index thresholds), expanded cooling centers, improved coordination with the National Weather Service, and strengthened outreach to seniors. These reforms contributed to the later development and maturation of the Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC) and the city's 311 system for well-being checks.

Unlike sudden-onset disasters such as tornadoes, earthquakes, or flash floods that damage property and draw immediate media and political attention, heat waves are "silent" killers that leave infrastructure largely intact while selectively harming the vulnerable. The 1995 event ranks among the deadliest weather-related disasters in U.S. history by mortality, yet it has received far less sustained public memory than events with dramatic visual destruction. Klinenberg's social autopsy approach aligns with disaster sociology's emphasis on vulnerability as socially produced rather than purely natural (Wisner et al., 2004). It also prefigured later analyses of how inequality shapes outcomes in events such as Hurricane Katrina. Today, climate change is increasing the frequency and intensity of extreme heat, compounding the urban heat island effect and placing growing pressure on aging populations and under-resourced neighborhoods.

Continued on page 4



Plotted observed temperatures from O'Hare International Airport. Red Lines are daily max temperatures, Blue Lines are daily minimum temperatures, and the Black Line is the July 1960-2016 mean temperature.

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The Value of Preparedness
A Commitment to a Culture of Preparedness



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Psychological & Mental Health Resilience

Continued...

Community Mental Health in Prolonged Disasters

Continued

defined as the collective capacity to adapt, respond, and recover, is strongly associated with lower rates of cognitive disability, mental distress, and depression at the population level. Individual resilience often mediates these effects: people with stronger personal coping resources experience less psychological distress even when broader community resilience declines over time. Social capital and group connectedness further buffer impacts. Longitudinal work after Australian bushfires and other disasters demonstrates that pre-existing social group memberships, continuity of ties, and formation of new supportive identities predict lower distress and higher resilience 12–18 months later. Collective psychosocial resilience, grounded in shared social identity, enables survivors to coordinate mutual support and draw on collective resources more effectively than isolated individual coping.

Importantly, resilience is not merely the absence of symptoms. Post-traumatic growth can coexist with ongoing PTSD, as documented in long-term Hurricane Katrina cohorts where many survivors reported moderate-to-high growth alongside residual trauma symptoms. Social support, self-efficacy, and opportunities to restore meaningful social identities appear central to these positive trajectories. Conversely, prolonged threats, displacement, economic strain, and inadequate access to mental health care erode both individual and community adaptive capacity, particularly in rural or resource-scarce areas.

For local emergency management and public health professionals, the evidence points to several evidence-informed best practices. First, shift mental health strategies beyond the acute response window to include sustained, community-embedded supports and continuity of care throughout recovery. Integrate mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) into all phases of disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response, and recovery rather than treating it as a standalone or short-term function. Psychological First Aid (PFA), culturally adapted trauma-focused interventions, psychoeducation, and tiered systems of care (from basic community support to specialized clinical services) have demonstrated effectiveness in reducing PTSD, depression, and anxiety symptoms.

Second, deliberately strengthen social infrastructure and collective resilience. Invest in places and programs that foster social connections (community hubs, peer support networks, group activities) both before and after disasters. Train emergency managers and public health staff to recognize and facilitate shared social identity among survivors rather than assuming public panic or passivity. Support local responders and humanitarian workers through ongoing supervision and organizational interventions, as their own mental health directly influences community outcomes. Ensure services are accessible, affordable, culturally attuned, and informed by community voices, with particular attention to children, families, and historically underserved populations.

Finally, embed learning and continuous improvement. Use after-action processes and lessons-learned systems to capture how emergent community behaviors and informal supports can be translated into standardized practices within hazard mitigation plans, exercises, and long-term recovery frameworks. By centering mental health as a core element of community resilience—rather than an afterthought—local agencies can reduce long-term population health burdens, improve equity, and build adaptive capacity for the increasingly complex disaster landscape.

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The Month in Disaster History

Continued

'1995 Chicago Fire

Continued

Contemporary emergency management practice in Chicago and comparable cities reflects hard-won lessons. Current protocols include heat-index-triggered alerts, networks of cooling centers (community service centers, senior centers, libraries, and park facilities), robocalls and wellness checks for seniors and at-risk residents, partnerships with community organizations, and tools such as heat vulnerability indices that integrate social and environmental data. Cities are also investing in longer-term mitigation: expanded tree canopy, green roofs, cool pavements, and efforts to increase residential cooling access. For the emergency management community, the 1995 heat wave underscores the necessity of treating extreme heat as a core all-hazards priority; of mapping and actively reaching socially isolated populations before and during events; of integrating meteorological forecasts with public-health and social-service systems; and of addressing the underlying social infrastructure—neighborhood connectivity, trust, and institutional presence—that determines whether residents survive. Heat remains the leading weather-related killer in the United States in most years; the Chicago experience shows that preparedness, equity-focused outreach, and investment in both physical and social resilience can substantially reduce its toll.

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Statewide Comprehensive EM Program Management Solution



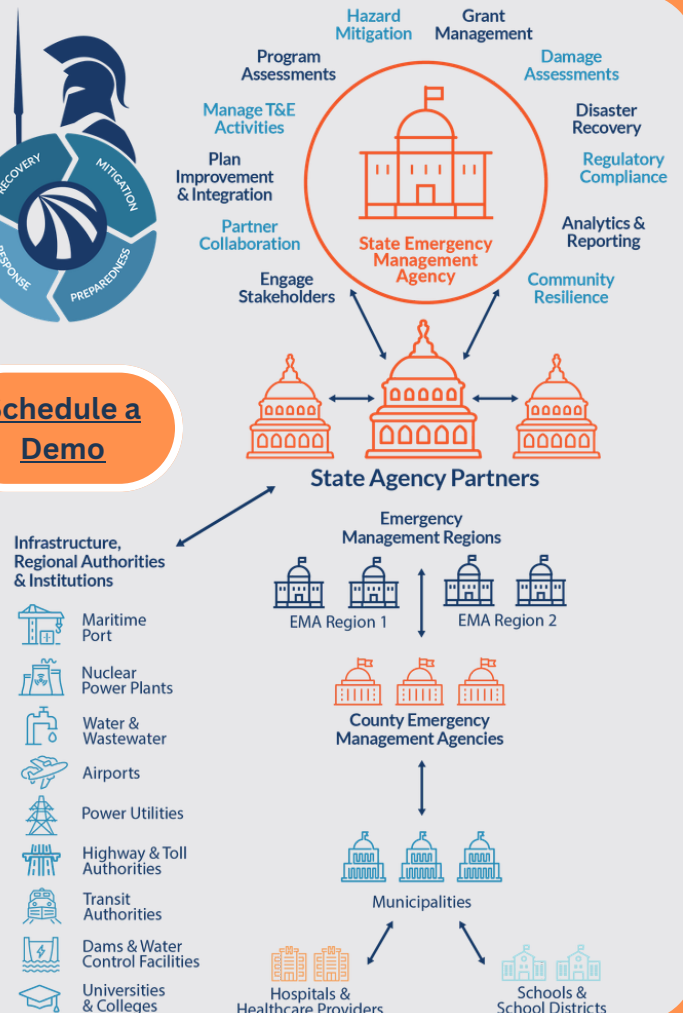
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Announcing: Odysseus EM365 Ai

Establishing Ai Community Disaster Intelligence



Odysseus EM365 Ai Enhancements

The Odysseus EM365 platform, developed by Integrated Solutions Consulting (ISC), integrates a governed AI assistant designed to enhance emergency management practices while ensuring outputs are drawn exclusively from vetted, jurisdiction-specific sources such as regulatory databases, peer-reviewed research, and operational guidance. The AI operates within a controlled knowledge environment, avoiding unverified open internet data to maintain accuracy, compliance, and professional defensibility. By handling up to 90% of analytical and procedural tasks, it serves as a force multiplier for practitioners, supporting everything from plan customization to risk analysis, while human experts provide the critical 10% of judgment and oversight. Built on over two decades of ISC's expertise

across 7,000+ jurisdictions, EM365 transforms routine workflows into efficient, resilient processes that preserve institutional knowledge and mitigate liability risks in high-stakes scenarios.

The Odysseus EM365 AI builds upon the Community Vulnerability, Risk, and Resiliency (CVR2) model, a patent-pending, evidence-based framework that has served as the industry's leading risk assessment methodologies for the past 15 years. The CVR2's 4,500 evidence-based indicators and measurements of community vulnerability, risk, and resilience serve as a foundational framework for generating reliable community disaster intelligence.

Additionally, the EM365 AI framework is aligned with major federal and state regulatory requirements, evidence-based best practices, and industry standards in emergency management—including EMAP (ANSI/EMAP 5-2022), NFPA (e.g., 1600 and 1660), NWS StormReady, and ISO standards (e.g., 22320:2018)—to ensure all programmatic plans, strategies, assessments, and outputs are compliant and defensible. This generates tailored, auditable outputs that streamline accreditation processes, reduce liability risks, and support proactive alignment with evolving regulations, enhancing programmatic integrity and operational effectiveness across jurisdictions.

The EM365 Ai governed environment systematically configures the evidence-based knowledge and compliance standards into a system-of-systems architecture, providing a single platform that not only provides best-in-class technology but also a force multiplier that drives efficiencies and alleviates administrative burden. By integrating this robust analytical foundation into the EM365 platform's governed AI environment, the system ensures that AI-generated outputs are not only data-driven and jurisdictionally tailored but also scientifically defensible, enabling emergency managers to make informed decisions that enhance preparedness, response effectiveness, and long-term community resilience while minimizing reliance on unverified external sources.



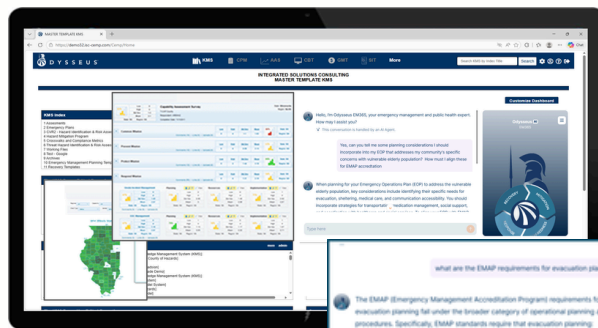
D Y S S E U S

EM365-Ai

The EM365 AI assistant empowers local emergency managers by ensuring outputs are drawn exclusively from a library of 50,000 vetted, jurisdiction-specific sources, regulatory databases, peer-reviewed research, documented best practices and operational guidance.

#1 EM Ai Solution

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Industry Best Practices

Don't Let Disaster Strike Twice: Navigating the Complex World of Post-Disaster Funding



In the wake of a disaster, the road to recovery can be long and arduous. Applicants are often left to navigate a complex maze of requirements, deadlines, and paperwork, all while trying to rebuild their lives and communities. The consequences of not following proper protocol can be severe, leading to denied or de-obligated funds, leaving applicants without the resources they need to recover.



Written by [Name]

On-Call Expert Support



Disaster Policy & Research

May 2026

News & Policy

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Preparedness Best Practice: *Special Event Crisis Preparedness*



Across the nation, communities and venue owners are responsible for managing thousands of special events for sporting events, festivals, concerts, conventions, tourist attractions, and other public and

private mass gatherings. These events not only draw hundreds of thousands of people into a community or specific venue, magnifying the potential of a crisis or the consequences of a natural emergency or disease outbreak, but some events may be a potential target for terrorism or civil unrest.

Whether these events are designated as a National Special Security Event, past special event crises have demonstrated that communities and venue owners must be well prepared. Pre-incident emergency planning and crisis management strategies will help manage the crisis response operations and identify strategies to successfully manage communication, reputational risk, and recovery.

Special Event Crisis and Emergency Incidents are on the Rise

Large public and private special events are on the rise but so too are the number of large-scale emergencies that result in mass casualties and civil disturbance. Large special events serve as economic drivers for many communities; however, special event organizers must also consider that in today's world there are an increasing number of security concerns they must be prepared to handle. Here are a few trends that every community, venue owner, and special event organizer must consider.

Emergency Preparedness Best Practices for Special Events

Emergency preparedness for special events goes well beyond stationing security guards at various locations to manage the risk exposure and potential consequence of a crisis. Crisis and emergency preparedness is a complex process that must be integrated into the operational elements of the event security so that readiness is maintained. Here are a few best practices and tips:

- Have extensive knowledge of the venue, inside and out
- Assess potential threats
- Determine attendee risks
- Develop venue-specific security plans
- Develop scalable emergency response strategies
- Develop crisis management and business resumption strategies
- Coordinate with community partners and first responders
- Train, exercise, and drill the plan with staff and community stakeholders
- Control the crowd
- Debrief and make improvements
- Stay connected
- Do not underestimate the importance of crisis and emergency preparedness.

Large Scale Emergencies on the Rise:

- According to the FBI, over the past twenty years there have been over 300 active shooter incidents resulting in almost 3,000 casualties and 1,000 fatalities.
- In 2020, the United States had a record number of public demonstrations that grew into civil disturbances resulting in over \$2 billion in damages according to the Verisk Property Claims Services.
- According to the Center for Strategic & International Studies, over the past twenty-five years there have been over 900 terrorist attacks and foiled plots in the United States. These terrorist plots were made by religious, left-wing, right-wing, and ethnonationalist groups.
- Research indicates that disease outbreaks have been increasing significantly since 1980 and this risk will continue beyond the COVID-19 pandemic and into the decades to come.
- According to the International Disaster Database, natural disasters and large-scale emergencies are on the rise, globally and the United States. Although deaths from natural disasters are down, the cost and economic loss from natural disasters has risen exponentially.

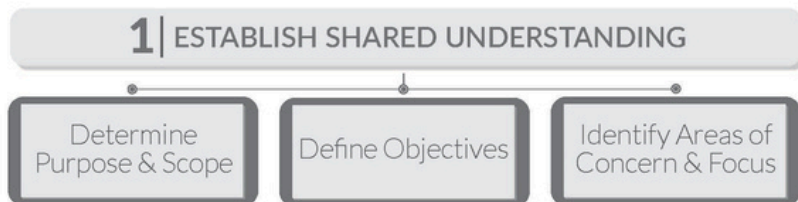
Response Best Practices



Elevate Preparedness with Systematic AAR/IP Methods

Some of the most significant changes to how we prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate for disasters have occurred as a result of thoughtful and critical post-incident reviews. The After-Action Review (AAR) and Improvement Plan (IP) is a vital instrument to document the successes, gaps, and areas of improvement needed to strengthen comprehensive strategies for future incidents and disasters.

The value of the AAR/IP is directly proportionate to the thoroughness, analysis, and synthesis of the information obtained throughout the AAR/IP process. Using tested and validated systematic methods and techniques we can control for the quality of the data gathering and analysis and thus ensure more substantial and reliable findings. At ISC we developed a method to developing AARs and IPs that is consistent with industry standards while incorporating scientific methods to ensure rigor, accuracy, and validity throughout the AAR/IP process. By applying a scientific method to the AAR/IP process, ISC can create results that are as much as 97.5% accurate and reliable. The following highlights our five step process:



An AAR/IP can vary in a myriad of ways. Establishing a shared understanding on the purpose and scope, defining the objectives, and identifying areas of concern and focus will ensure the success of the outcomes.



Incidents are complex with numerous layers of cause-and-effects and involving multiple stakeholders. Thoroughly compiling and objectively analyzing the data will ensure the appropriate rigor in the AAR/IP process.

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How Research Can Improve EM

Despite the progress we have made in professionalizing emergency management over the years, the development and application of research continues to remain a low priority for our emergency management system. There are multiple reasons why ranging from a belief that research is simply an “academic exercise” to a lack of understanding and appreciation of the value research offers the profession. The reality is research is fundamental for today’s emergency management system and a core function of the modern emergency manager.

Although many do not realize it, the emergency management community utilize research every day, albeit it may not meet the rigor to produce accurate and valid results. For example, conducting community resiliency surveys is an example of basic research that allows us to create a baseline understanding of our community and how things work. Applied research is the application of theory (which is derived from basic research) to practical situations. Developing a hazard risk assessment is an example of applied research.

With the escalating increase in the number of disasters and the need for organizations to be accountable to the public for their actions, emergency management agencies are increasingly obliged to consider seriously the role of research in establishing best practice, creating more effective policies, increasing capabilities, and improving all phases of disaster management.

Research is a critical component of modernizing the emergency management profession. First, it provides a professional knowledge base that is continuously tested, validated and improved upon. Research challenges taken-for-granted knowledge and understandings, thereby undermining the very sense of certainty that is an important feature of emergency...

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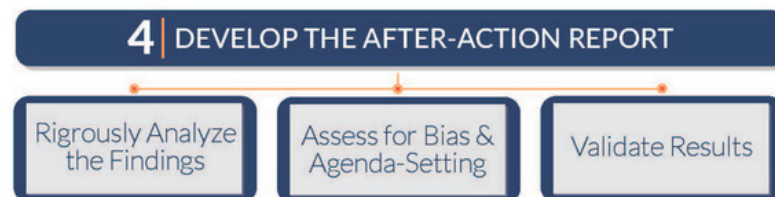


Response Best Practices: Continued...

Elevate Preparedness with Systematic AAR/IP Methods (Continued)



The AAR/IP development process must ascertain the varying perspectives of stakeholders through an array of modes (interviews, surveys, focus groups, etc.). By using tested and proven methodological techniques, the review team can comprehensively examine the issues while controlling for quality and accuracy.



Analyzing the data and information occurs throughout the AAR/IP development process. However, after engaging the stakeholders, the review team should immerse themselves in the data that has been obtained to ensure nothing has left to be undiscovered. The review team must assess for areas of bias or agenda-setting to ensure accuracy of the After-Action Report.



Identifying and incorporating improvements is a vital component of the AAR process and helps to ensure a more resilient and prepared future. Too often this is where the AAR/IP process falls short. The IP should include actionable steps and time frames to implement improvements. It is important that leadership is well informed of these improvements and supports their implementation. Once there is agreement, there must be a strategy to execute and monitor the progress.

How Research Can Improve EM (Continued)

management practice. It helps solve the “wet-noodle approach” to the policy making and practice in emergency management by providing evidence-based answers, solutions, innovations, and decisions that are routinely challenged and validated. Most importantly, it elevates the competency and esteem of the profession by legitimizing what we do and how we do it.

Research is not a practice that is only done by ivory tower academics. One does not have to possess a doctorate degree to conduct great research. Conversely, poor research can be done by accomplished researchers. Quality research is systematic, controlled, objective, generalizable, and constantly examined, tested, and improved.

Perhaps with a new perception and recognition of the value of research, the emergency management community can not only further enhance the capabilities of our emergency management system but also the esteem of the profession.

Case Study: Community Resiliency Study

ISC was commissioned by San Diego and Miami-Dade counties to conduct a research-based study of the disaster resiliency of residents. The study was representative of the whole community and achieved a 95% confidence level with less than a 3% margin of error. The survey instrument was translated into multiple languages and distributed in multiple formats to ensure a representative sample of the community participated. The survey instrument was designed to using proven scientific indicators that measure individual and community disaster resiliency. The results of this community study would provide both counties with reliable and accurate quantifiable data to help direct the future of their emergency management programs. .

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Recovery Best Practices

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Community Disaster Recovery Success Series

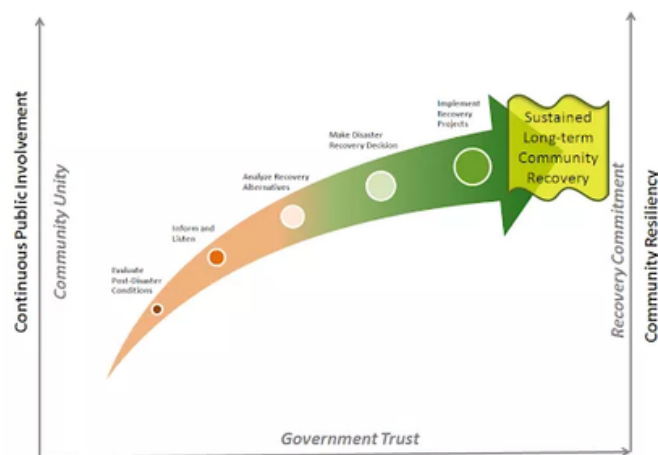
Part 1 of 11: Establish Recovery Governance that Expands the Window of Opportunities

(continued)

Our everyday decisions are governed by processes and routines that assist us in identifying the problem, determining strategies to resolve the problem, evaluating these alternatives, choosing the best alternative, and then implementing the resolution. These procedures and routines are carried out by organizations that offer consistency, commitment, and confidence in the decision-making process. After disaster, these processes and routines may be disrupted or may not be set up to adequately handle the litany of complex post-disaster recovery issues. A defined and shared pre-disaster process for managing disaster recovery activities and coordinating with local, regional, state and federal partners is paramount to community recovery success.

Unlike the tactical incident strategies that are paramount to managing information and resources during the response phase, community disaster recovery is an organic and inductive process that fosters community unity and an open autonomy that promotes effective decision-making that benefits the majority. The disaster process goes through a period called 'Communitas' where disaster-stricken communities take on a shared identity of "disaster victim" and establish a sense of equality between community groups that otherwise take opposing views. During this period, conditions are optimal for community unity, empowerment, and agreement. Research has shown that social trust in government becomes a symbolic token to a community, can extend the period of 'Communitas', and facilitate an effective community recovery decision-making process.

A united community will strengthen the potential for agreement on difficult disaster recovery issues and facilitate a sustained commitment between otherwise divergent parties. Building a mutual understanding between conflicted parties will reduce controversial engagements and increase efforts to resolve issues collaboratively with a shared understanding and respect. A community that maintains a sense of unity will enable community recovery decision-makers to be increasingly sensitized to the public concerns. A united community will begin to see the long-term recovery organization as a trusted and focal agent, elevating its status and maintaining its credibility and legitimacy within the community.



The net result will be an organization that can assist communities with the immediate evaluation of post-disaster conditions and needs; outreach efforts that will inform, listen to, and resolve potential conflict with the community; thorough and unbiased analysis of the benefits and challenges recovery alternatives; processes that will facilitate accurate disaster recovery decisions; and track the implementation of recovery projects and offer corrective actions if necessary.

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Recovery Best Practices

Continued...



Community Disaster Recovery Success Series

Part 1: Establish Recovery Governance that Expands the Window of Opportunities (continued)

Committed and structured governance would result in a rational system for efficient and effective long-term community recovery. A defined and open decision-making process will provide organizational legitimacy and improve the quality of decisions being made. Decisions will be made in a timely manner and based on a well-informed organization and public. Independent decisions may appear quick and easy, but often they meet public resistance causing increased cost and project implementation delays, if not project termination. A committed and structured long-term community recovery structure will prevent uninformed and unilateral decisions and provide an open forum to discuss potential regulatory and budgetary challenges to implementing a project. The organization, as well as the public, take ownership in the decision and ultimately increase the ease of implementing the project.

Read more on the Community Disaster Recovery Success Series.

[Part 1: Establish a Recovery Governance](#)

[Part 3: Disaster Recovery Committee Coordination](#)

[Part 4: Thoroughly Assess Impacts & Needs](#)

[Part 5: Importance of Community Outreach](#)

[Part 6: Be Prepared for Disaster Recovery](#)

[Part 7: Take Advantage of Grant Opportunities](#)

[Part 8: Disaster Recovery Funding Strategy](#)

[Part 9: Autonomous & Inclusive Decision-Making](#)

[Part 10: Track and Report Recovery Success](#)

[Part 11: Measure Betterment & Resiliency](#)



D Y S S E U S

EM365

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Maximize Vital Community Disaster Recovery Funds



Odysseus Features for Disaster Grant Management Solutions



Mitigation Best Practices



Creating and Maintaining a Sustainable Hazard Mitigation Program

There is a growing challenge for communities of all sizes to regularly update, maintain, and implement their hazard mitigation plans. However, according to FEMA, over half of the nation's municipal and county mitigation plans have fallen out of compliance and many communities struggle to implement key mitigation initiatives. As a result, communities have wasted the initial investment to develop mitigation plans and find themselves spending the same effort, if not more, in developing a new, compliant plan and be eligible for pre- and post-disaster funding.

ISC's core preparedness philosophy takes a holistic approach to crisis management, prevention, and recovery. We craft an interconnected strategy of planning, training, and crisis response to ensure a community's needs are met in totality.

Our comprehensive and programmatic solutions are executed by knowledgeable staff who have developed plans for some of our Nation's largest communities. We are a team of experts who have implemented billions of dollars in pre- and post-disaster mitigation projects. Our innovations focus on meaningful mitigation processes and outcomes while easing the burden in developing, maintaining, and implementing your community's mitigation investments.



Click below to watch a video on ISC's hazard mitigation program management strategies.



[Learn More About Our Work](#)

▶ MITIGATION CORE CAPABILITIES:

- Program Management and Support
- Risk and Disaster Resilience Assessment
- Community Resilience
- Long-Term Vulnerability Reduction
- Threats and Hazards Identification
- Comprehensive Emergency Preparedness and Planning Development
- Hazard Mitigation and Disaster Recovery
- Technical Support
- Committee and Workgroup Governance Development
- Community Outreach
- Grant Management and Procurement Support
- Community Technical Surveys & Analysis
- Mapping and Geospatial Analysis

Disaster News

Current FEMA Disaster Declarations: June 2026

June 2026 continued a moderate-to-active pace of Presidential major disaster, emergency, and fire management assistance declarations. Activity centered on a cluster of major disaster approvals (primarily Public Assistance and, in some cases, Individual Assistance) for spring severe weather events from April–May, the first tropical system of the season, and a notable increase in wildfire-related Fire Management Assistance Grants (FMAGs) as the Western fire season intensified. No large wave of new emergency declarations (EM series) occurred during the month itself, though recovery support and amendments for prior incidents continued.



FEMA

Major disaster declarations (DR series) approved or announced included several tied to earlier severe weather and the onset of tropical activity:

- Mississippi (FEMA-4922-DR): Major disaster declaration on June 30, 2026, for severe storms, straight-line winds, tornadoes, and flooding (incident period May 6–7, 2026). Individual Assistance was approved for Franklin, Lamar, Lawrence, Lincoln, and Wilkinson counties; Public Assistance for select counties.
- Wisconsin (FEMA-4923-DR): Major disaster declaration on June 30, 2026, for severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding (incident period April 13–23, 2026). Individual Assistance designated for multiple counties (including Bayfield, Brown, Buffalo, Jackson, Jefferson, Juneau, Kenosha, Manitowoc, Marathon, Milwaukee, Outagamie, Racine, Rock, Sauk, Vernon, Washington, Waukesha, Waupaca, and Winnebago) plus the Oneida Nation; Public Assistance for a subset of counties and the tribal nation.
- Michigan (FEMA-4925-DR): Major disaster declaration on June 30, 2026, for severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding (incident period April 10–21, 2026), with Individual Assistance for numerous counties.
- Kansas (FEMA-4926-DR): Major disaster declaration on June 30, 2026, for severe storms, straight-line winds, tornadoes, and flooding (incident period April 26–27, 2026). Public Assistance for Cherokee, Morris, Osage, Saline, and Wabaunsee Counties.
- Louisiana (FEMA-4927-DR): Major disaster declaration on June 30, 2026, for Tropical Storm Arthur (incident period June 17–18, 2026), providing Public Assistance support in designated parishes.

Fire management assistance declarations (FM series) showed a clear uptick linked to early-season Western wildfires:

- Multiple Colorado fires received FMAG approvals in late June, including the Gold Mountain Fire (Ouray County area; authorized June 30), Aspen Acres Fire (Custer/Pueblo Counties; authorized around June 29–30), and related incidents such as the Willow Fire. These grants supported 75% federal cost-share for eligible firefighting and emergency protective measures as fires threatened communities and infrastructure.

Other activity included ongoing amendments, funding approvals for prior disasters (e.g., more than \$1.1 billion in Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation projects announced mid-month), and preparatory support ahead of peak hurricane and wildfire seasons.

**Emergency
Management and
Disaster Recovery:
Building a More
Resilient Future**

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Industry Innovations



DYSSSEUS™ EM365 Ai

672%

INCREASE IN
PROGRAM EFFICIENCY

300X

STAKEHOLDER
COLLABORATION

99%

REGULATORY &
PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

54X

RETURN ON
INVESTMENT

97%

PERFORMANCE
RATING

The Industry's First Comprehensive Emergency and Disaster Program Management Software

Odysseus™ offers a suite of tools and systems designed, dedicated to the efficient management of comprehensive disaster and emergency management programs. The union of technological and programmatic features offers organizations an efficient and effective method to systematically design, develop, maintain, and continually improve all elements of a comprehensive emergency management program.



Click Here to
Learn More About Our
Innovative Technology

EM Innovations in Work

Odysseus™ EM-365

Statewide Comprehensive EM Program Management

State Emergency Management Agencies

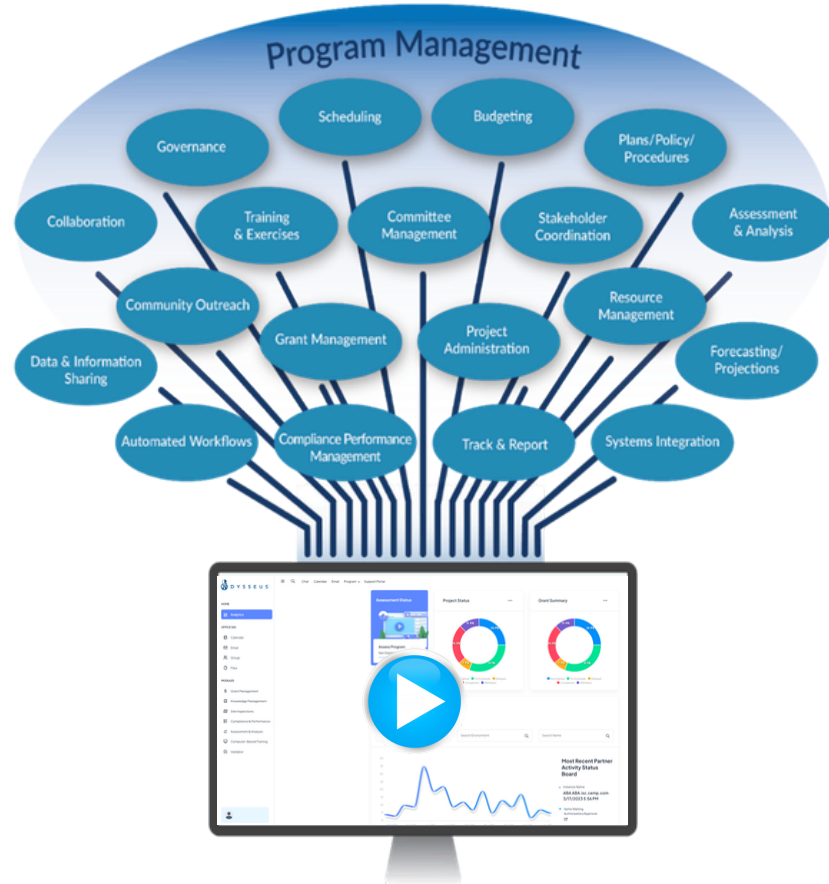
Although they provide much needed resources and capabilities during the time of a crisis or disaster, a State emergency management agency's (EMA) operational focus extends far beyond the response phase of an incident. The reality is that the success of a State EMA's response operation is intimately related to its ability to systematically track, guide, direct, monitor, manage, and administer all aspects of a comprehensive emergency management program across all state agency, county and municipal government partners, regional authorities, and other stakeholders.



Although the value is unmeasurable, many states think that coordinating a statewide comprehensive emergency management program would be a formidable task that would require significant resources. That's not true anymore.

Odysseus™ offers state emergency management agencies a software solution for managing a unified statewide comprehensive emergency management program. Odysseus™ "system-of-systems" architecture gives state EMA's a force multiplier to manage EMA program requirements statewide.

Designed by our team of leading emergency managers and software technicians, Odysseus™ offers a unique State EMA program management platform. It is a program management tool and allows for the full integration of other incident management software programs.



EM Innovations in Work

Odysseus™ EM-365

Statewide Comprehensive EM Program Management

Comprehensive EM Features

Preparedness Programs

- Planning Management
- Training Management
- Exercise Management
- Continuity of Operations
- Community Outreach
- Program Evaluation
- Program Compliance
- Project Reporting & Tracking
- Grant Management

Response Programs

- Incident Action Planning
- Situational Awareness Sharing
- Ops & Incident Reporting
- After-Action Review Analysis
- Preliminary Damage Assessments
- Cost & Expense Tracking
- Information Sharing

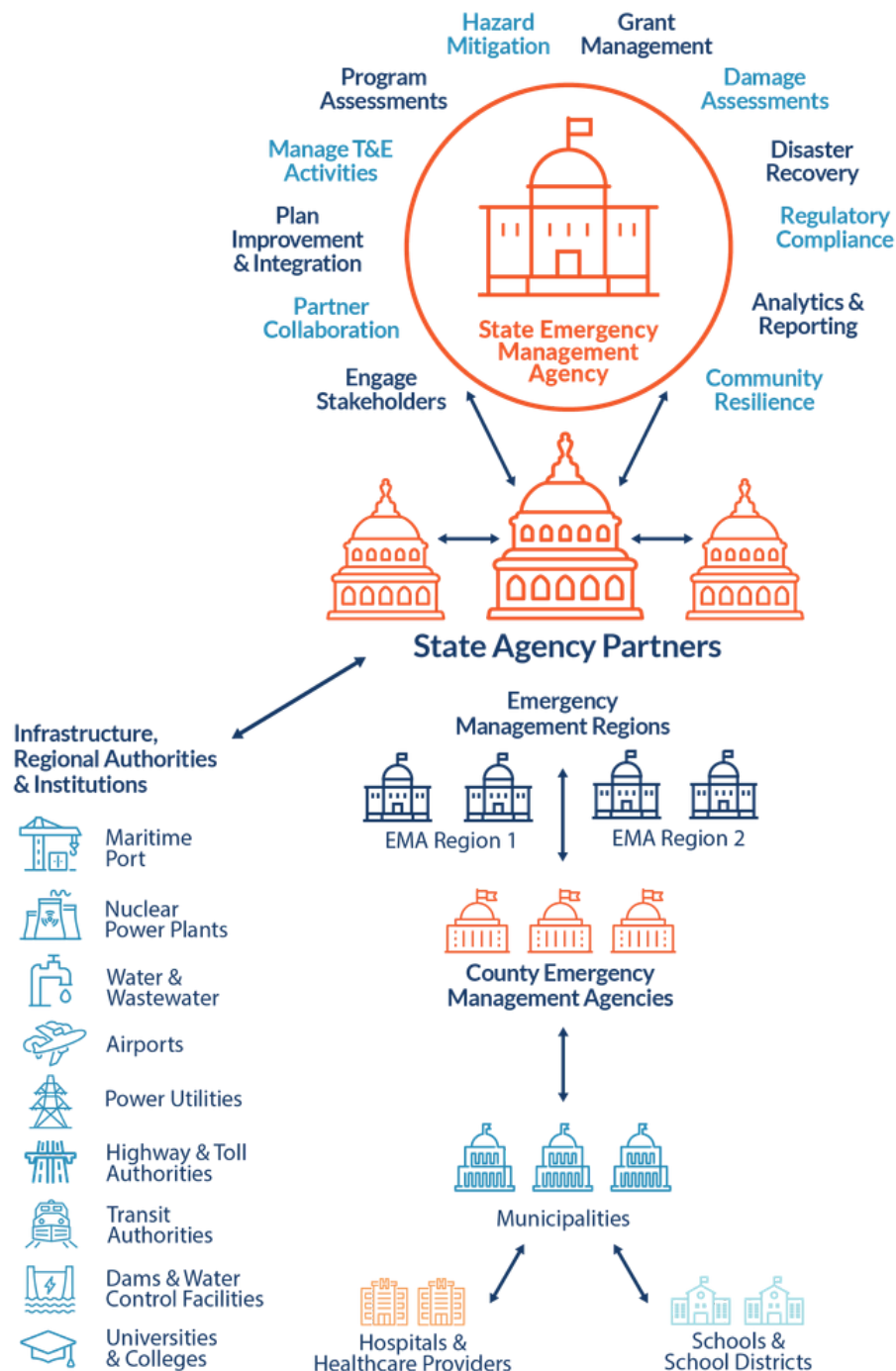
Recovery Programs

- Damage Assessments
- Debris Monitoring
- FEMA Public Assistance
- FEMA Individual Assistance
- HUD CDBG-DR
- Recovery Project Tracking
- Closeout & Audits

Mitigation Programs

- Mitigation Planning
- Risk Assessments
- Federal Cost Share Tracking
- Grant & Project Management

System-of-Systems Comprehensive EM Network



[Click Here to Learn More](#)

ODYSSEUS™ IN WORK

Hazard Mitigation Program Management *Elevate Your Community Disaster Resiliency*

Odysseus Features for Hazard Mitigation Program Solutions



Features

- Track Plan Development & Update
- Create Efficiencies with Plan Maintenance
- Track In-Kind Match Effort Contributions
- Mitigation Committee Management Tools
- Assess Hazard Mitigation Opportunities
- Real Time Tracking of Mitigation Grant Funds
- Interactive Mapping & Hazard Modeling
- Streamline Multi-Jurisdictional Planning
- Mitigation Crosswalk Compliance Metrics
- Track Mitigation Plan Participation
- Manage & Track Progress of Community Mitigation Projects
- Train Staff on FEMA Mitigation Requirements and Drive Accountability
- Maximize Federal Funding Possibilities
- Identify Mitigation Funding Gaps
- Adaptable and Customizable to Meet Your Needs
- Increase Hazard Mitigation Program Efficiency

Case Studies



Cook County Hazard Mitigation Program	
# of Participating Jurisdictions	134
# of Hazard Mitigation Grant Projects Managed by Odysseus GMT	2,015
Total FEMA Mitigation Grants	\$416 M
Total Value of Projects	\$2.8 B

Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

- 136 Participating Jurisdictions
- 230% Increase in HMP Participation
- 2,015 Mitigation Projects Identified
- \$400+ Million in FEMA HMGP Grants
- \$2.8+ Billion in Pre-Disaster Mitigation Actions
- 100% FEMA Compliant
- Completed in Less Than 5 Months

[Click Here to Learn More About](#)

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Building a More Resilient Future



INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS
CONSULTING

**Click Below to Learn How We
Build a More Resilient Future**



ABOUT US

Integrated Solutions Consulting is a professional services firm focused on developing and implementing comprehensive crisis and consequence management solutions. We are a team of innovative problem-solvers that combine experience and evidence-based knowledge to deliver practical, best practice results across multiple industries to make communities safer and more resilient

Top Supplier
Performance Rating
dun & bradstreet
97.1%
Successful
Performance

We help our clients by providing comprehensive emergency management consulting services that use data-driven research, sophisticated crisis modeling and seasoned consultants to help our clients manage unexpected emergency and disaster situations.



Expertise: Preparedness

The Value of Preparedness

Recent events remind us that every community must make a continued investment in preparing for the next emergency or disaster. Empirical evidence has shown a direct correlation between the level of preparedness and the level of resiliency in a community. Specifically, the more prepared communities are, the greater their ability to effectively respond to and recover from disaster and minimize the impact of a disaster.



INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS
CONSULTING

However, the most resilient communities go beyond simply developing a response plan that “checks the box” and supported by periodic training and scenario-based exercises. The stark reality is that our communities are becoming increasingly complex with intricate relationships and interdependencies between our social, built, and natural environments. These community conditions often intersect with our hazard risks, impacting a community for years to come.

THE VALUE OF PREPAREDNESS

