Needs for Economic Inclusion in Community Disaster Structures
Service Area & Partner Organizations

Rural LISC supports the work of more than 140 rural nonprofit community-based organizations serving residents in more than 2,400 counties across 49 states and Puerto Rico. In the areas, we help residents identify priorities and opportunities – and deliver the most appropriate support to meet local needs.
LISC

Our Model

LISC is an investor, capacity builder, convener and innovator. We are an intermediary.

Pool Public and Private Dollars
- Private philanthropy
- Government grants
- We also generate income from consulting and lending services.

Work With Local Partners
- Grants, loans, equity
- Technical assistance
- Networking
- Lead advocacy efforts on local, regional and national policy

Support People and Places
By investing in housing, businesses, jobs, public spaces, health centers, grocery stores and more, we catalyze opportunities in communities nationwide.
Federalism and Disasters

- Not top down; bottom-up
- FEMA’s is support to state
  - Their role is expanding

- Level of declaration determines the programs, processes, and resources that are provided
- Each jurisdiction can have different approaches and programs
Disasters Begin and End Locally

- Most disasters are not Federally declared, yet FEMA is the household name.
- Local Community members are the first responders and remain long after everyone leaves.
- Local Emergency Management functions and agencies hold central responsibility.
Emergency Management

• The “FEMA” of every level
Disaster Life Cycle & Mission Areas

**Preparedness Goal**
- Establishes

**Core Capabilities**
- For Executing

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<th>Protection</th>
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<th>Response</th>
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<td>The capabilities necessary to avoid, prevent, or stop a threatened or actual act of terrorism.</td>
<td>The capabilities necessary to secure the homeland against acts of terrorism and manmade or natural disasters.</td>
<td>The capabilities necessary to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters.</td>
<td>The capabilities necessary to save lives, protect property and the environment, and meet basic human needs after an incident has occurred.</td>
<td>The capabilities necessary to assist communities affected by an incident to recover effectively.</td>
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**Mission Areas**
Preparedness

• Should be facilitated and supported by local Emergency Management

• Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC)
  • Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)
    • Annexes
  • Recovery Plans
  • Mitigation Plans
    • Threat & Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA)

• Voluntary Organizations Active Disasters (VOADs)
  • COADs
Functions Per Framework (Federal Ex.)

Support Functions: Structure for coordinating interagency efforts towards an incident. Two types: Emergency and Recovery

**Response**
- ESF #1: Transportation
- ESF #2: Communications
- ESF #3: Public Works and Engineering
- ESF #4: Firefighting
- ESF #5: Information and Planning
- ESF #6: Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Temporary Housing, and Human Services
- ESF #7: Logistics
- ESF #8: Public Health and Medical Services
- ESF #9: Search and Rescue
- ESF #10: Oil and Hazardous Materials Response
- ESF #11: Agriculture and Natural Resources Annex
- ESF #12: Energy
- ESF #13: Public Safety and Security
- ESF #14: Cross-Sector Business and Infrastructure
- ESF #15: External Affairs

**Recovery**
- Economic Recovery
- Community Planning and Capacity Building
- Health & Social Services
- Infrastructure Systems
- Natural & Cultural Resources
- Housing
Response

Activation of an EOC that hosts as a central coordination and planning hub for all functions.

Note: This is where data and information is collected and shared.

Louisiana has Economics as both emergency and recovery functions.
Recovery

There is no formal, standard central structure to coordinate recovery (locally), except an LTRG.

FEMA does this for federally declared, on a high/federal level.

So, where is the information gathered and shared?
Gaps and Needs: Community Economic Recovery

- **Data and information** is rarely collected and analyzed
  - Not shared or centrally available when collected
- Understanding and articulating small business needs is difficult for those trying to fundraise, apply for grants, or raise awareness
- Lacking incorporation into government funding calculations (eg. CDBG-DR, FEMA PA)
- Most jurisdictions don’t have a Recovery plan (only Response plans). So, economic recovery isn’t well addressed.
Disaster Case Management and Casework

- Case managers work directly with individuals and families to understand their recovery needs (about 2 years)
- FEMA-funded, state administered
- Help develop a family recovery plan
- Identify and know resources and services to refer clients
- Understand the needs and status to recovery
- Key information source of community recovery progress
- In non-declared: light casework done, not long term case management
Unmet Needs Committees

- Aka. Long Term Recovery Groups (LTRGs)
- Grass-roots, locally developed and designed
- Clearing house between community needs and available resources.
- Mandated after a federal declaration, voluntarily in non-declared
- Comprised of:
  - Community-based organizations
  - Businesses
  - Disaster Case Management providers
  - Local government agencies
  - Community members
Gaps and Needs: Unmet Needs Committee

- Rarely representation on the economic recovery and small business aspects
- Tend to be heavy in deployed, temporal volunteer-based organizations; not local community (as intended)
  - Focus only on home owners
  - Tend to be myopic and not long-term focused
  - Not full understanding of local challenges or culture
- Tend to favor rehab and case management
- Tend to be unorganized and inefficient due to lacking capacity, technical knowledge, tools, and their emergent nature
Where You Can Help

• Participate in Unmet Needs Committees (LTRGs)
• Offer expertise in the area to help advise investments
• Create a relationship and referral system with Disaster Case Managers
• Participate and advocate in local Planning Committees or Town Halls to advocate for Economic Recovery annexes and incorporation into plans
Where You Can Help

• Upon impact of a disaster, **collect information** from your clients on their business needs and impacts
  • Share it widely!

• Get involved in a Business Emergency Operations Center (BEOC), Business Recovery Centers (BRCs) or help lead the efforts to establish one
  • Make sure the BEOC isn’t insular and connects to other coalitions, EOCs, etc.

• Overall: **Get involved.**
  • If they don’t know what to do with you, show them
What We Are Doing: B⁴: Building Business Back Better

Provides capacity building support to local partners to be able to help small businesses prepare for and recover from disasters.

Current pilot in Louisiana for Ida Recovery.

- Business Continuity Management and Crisis Innovation training
- Funds for Small Business Recovery Loans and Grants
- Organizational capacity building: funds and networks
What We Are Doing: Financial Coaching Referrals

Pilot in Oregon Wildfire recovery:

- Connecting FOCs with Disaster Case Management Providers
- Build individual resilience.
- Connect survivors to financial coaching through their recovery.

**Employment Services**
- Career coaching
- Job readiness & job placement
- Job retention & job advancement
- Education & training

**Financial Coaching**
- Establish budget & balance sheet
- Visioning & goal-setting
- Credit report & FICO score review
- Access to financial products

**Income Supports**
- Connection to public and private benefits (SNAP, childcare subsidies, housing and energy assistance, EITC)

FOCs equip clients with the tools, motivation, and know-how to make sound financial decisions that:
- Increase Earnings
- Build Credit
- Reduce Expenses
- Boost Assets
Visions: Rural Recovers Together

Provides capacity building support to local coalitions around the disaster. Primarily targets LTRGs, but could apply to any community-inclusive effort.

Technical Assistance in:
- Financial Management
- Organizational Design
- Information Management
- Grants
- Housing
- Economic Development
- Maneuvering disaster systems
- And More!

Organizational capacity building: funds and networks
Key Points From Us

- Solutions aren’t in federal systems – they are in local
- Solutions start with organizations like you
- Information and data is one of the most critical needs
- Avoid becoming insular in economic-focused networks; connect into inter-disciplinary coalitions to ensure comprehensive recovery and community development
  - VOAD/COAD
  - LEPC
  - LTRG
  - BEOC
Questions?

To learn more about joining or starting a VOAD: nvoad.org

To learn more about Rural LISC: lisc.org/rural

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