

**The National Academies Disasters Roundtable**  
in conjunction with  
**The National Commission on Children and Disasters**  
present  
**Disasters Roundtable Workshop #25**  
**Children and Youth in Disasters: Closing Gaps Among**  
**Research, Practice, and Policy**

June 25, 2009  
Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation  
The Barbara Jordan Conference Center  
1330 G St NW  
Washington, DC

**Objectives of this workshop:**

- Illuminate pressing issues related to disaster preparedness and response for children and youth and opportunities to reduce vulnerability and increase resiliency of children and youth in disasters
- Identify and enhance opportunities to strengthen connections among the work of researchers, practitioners and policy makers related to children and youth in disasters
- Direct discussions towards concrete ideas and actionable suggestions from the research, policy, and practitioner perspectives to apply to policy work related to children and youth in disasters

8:00 A.M. Walk-in Registration

9:00 A.M. Welcome Remarks  
**Jack Harrauld**, Chair, Disasters Roundtable

9:05 A.M. **Opening Panel: Background and introduction to issues of children in disasters**

Policy Perspective

**Mark Shriver**, Chairperson, National Commission on Children and Disasters

- What special considerations do children and youth need in disaster situations?
- What challenges and policy gaps exist as barriers to meeting the needs of children in disasters?

9:20 A.M. Youth Perspective

**Konstantine Buhler**, Founder, Always Ready Kids

- How can kids prepare themselves and their families for disasters?

9:35–11:35 A.M. **Panel I: What actions are needed to improve provision of mental health services for children and youth during and after disasters?**

Panel I Objectives:

- Articulate the problem statement related to mental health services for children in disasters
- Discuss concrete actions towards problem-solving

9:35 A.M. Moderator Comments, **Monica Schoch-Spana**, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

9:45 A.M. Practitioner perspective, **Gerard Jacobs**, University of South Dakota

10:00 A.M. Research perspective, **Robert Pynoos**, University of California, Los Angeles

10:15 A.M. Policy Perspective, **Brian Flynn**, Independent Consultant

10:30 A.M. Discussion: Discussion Leader, **Robin Gurwitch**, National Center for School Crisis and Bereavement

**11:35–12:45 P.M. Lunch**

12:45–2:45 P.M. **Panel II: How can schools help children, youth, and families prepare for and recover from disasters?**

Panel II Objectives:

- Describe the role that schools can and should play in supporting children in the setting of a disaster and during the recovery period
- Describe what steps schools can and should take to better prepare for disasters
- Discuss policy needs and directions to facilitate better preparation for schools nationwide to respond to disasters and support recovery efforts for children, families and school staff

12:45 P.M. Moderator Comments, **Juan Ortiz**, Emergency Management Coordinator, City of Fort Worth, TX

12:55 P.M. Practitioner Perspective: **Kathleen Henning**, President, Region 3, International Association of Emergency Managers

1:10 P.M. Policy Perspective: **Dennis Epley**, Board of Education Member, Waverly-Shell Rock Community School District, Iowa

1:25 P.M. Research Perspective: **Marlene Wong**, University of Southern California

1:40 P.M. Discussion: Discussion Leader, Commissioner **David Schonfeld**

**2:45–3:00 P.M. Break**

3:00–5:00 P.M. **Panel III: What actions are needed to increase the resilience of children in disasters?**

Panel III Objectives:

- Identify the critical stakeholders for increasing child and youth resilience in disasters
- Outline concrete steps that integrate research, practice, and policy approaches to promote resiliency in children and families in disaster preparedness planning

3:00 P.M. Moderator Comments, **Darlene Sparks Washington**, Independent Consultant

3:10 P.M. Policy Perspective, **Sally Phillips**, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

3:25 P.M. Research Perspective, **Lori Peek**, Colorado State University

3:40 P.M. Practitioner Perspective, **MaryEllen Salamone**, Families of September 11

3:55 P.M. Discussion: Discussion leader, **David Abramson**, National Center for Disaster Preparedness

5:00 P.M. Summary statements from Panels I, II, and III  
**Jack Harrahd**, Chair, Disasters Roundtable

5:20 P.M. Closing remarks and adjournment  
**Jack Harrahd**, Chair, Disasters Roundtable

**5:30 P.M. Adjourn**