



1.8 Populations with specific needs

Folder with resources and templates **1.8 Populations with specific needs**

Children, childcare, and youth engagement with disaster

Consider engaging older youth in recovery work—which can build a sense of belonging and connectedness with community in what can be an isolating time. See Section 1.10 on Volunteer Management for more.

Systems	Stuff
Communication and planning	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Make a plan of where to go/who to call if separated: who will we contact? where will we meet? <input type="checkbox"/> Once old enough, have your child memorize their caregiver's phone number <input type="checkbox"/> Create a backpack/go bag that is easy to travel with for the age/size of the kid <input type="checkbox"/> Have conversations about different kinds of disasters and what to do in case of emergency (e.g., wildfire, flood, communications blackout, etc.) 	<p>Essential Items for Go Bags</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Contact/emergency phone numbers, including emergency contact info for non-primary caregivers (e.g., uncle, grandparent) in case of separation <input type="checkbox"/> Snacks and water <input type="checkbox"/> Infants - formula and diapers <input type="checkbox"/> Comfort item - stuffed animal, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment - game, drawing paper/pens <input type="checkbox"/> Two changes of clothes <input type="checkbox"/> Medications <input type="checkbox"/> List of child allergies, if applicable
Community Care and Well-Being	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Locate or create a directory of local childcare providers <input type="checkbox"/> Make time and space to talk with young people about their experience of disaster. Ask questions like 'how has this disaster affected you?' and 'what is sticking in your mind about this experience,' and generally, what questions they might have about the situation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> If a child has a pediatrician, it is important to connect them to that same doctor for continuity of care. If they do not, you can reach out to a Community Health Worker to connect them with the nearest Community Health Center or Free Clinic



Senior citizens; people with mobility challenges and other disabilities

Systems	Stuff
Communication and Coordination	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Create a directory of seniors in your town, noting addresses, phone numbers, mobility or health needs, and emergency contacts. <input type="checkbox"/> Partner with senior centers, councils on aging, and home health agencies. Find your local council on aging at https://dcf.vermont.gov/doc/contacts/partners/aaa. <input type="checkbox"/> Set up a “buddy system” or neighborhood pod where each elder has a designated check-in partner. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinate with municipal emergency managers for welfare checks and transport plans. <input type="checkbox"/> Have first responders learn basics of American Sign Language <input type="checkbox"/> Include visual aids on important informational resources <input type="checkbox"/> Consult with the Vermont Center for Independent Living when creating emergency plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Printed contact sheets with emergency info <input type="checkbox"/> Large-print flyers and phone tree templates <input type="checkbox"/> Radios, landlines, or simple communication devices that work without internet
Preparedness and Supplies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Help elders assemble emergency kits with labeled containers and easy-open packaging. <input type="checkbox"/> Identify medication refill and delivery systems (pharmacies, mutual aid networks) <input type="checkbox"/> Connect with local electricians or solar installers about powering medical devices (oxygen, CPAPs, mobility aids). 	<p>Essential Items for Go Bags</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 7-day supply of medications and a printed medication list. <input type="checkbox"/> Glasses, hearing aid batteries, mobility aids (cane, walker) <input type="checkbox"/> Spare phone chargers and battery bank. <input type="checkbox"/> Comfort items (blanket, family photos). <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency ID and medical info card.
Shelter and Mobility Support	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Identify accessible warming/cooling shelters with ramps, restrooms, seating, and quiet spaces. <input type="checkbox"/> Develop local transport plans with volunteers or community shuttles for evacuations or appointments. <input type="checkbox"/> Train volunteers in safe transfer assistance and trauma-informed communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Portable ramps or folding mobility aids. <input type="checkbox"/> Cots with raised legs, pillows, and blankets. <input type="checkbox"/> Transport aids (wheelchairs, folding chairs, lifts).
Community Connection and Well-Being	



<input type="checkbox"/> Involve elders in resilience planning and intergenerational knowledge-sharing <input type="checkbox"/> Host community meals, storytelling circles, or skill exchanges where seniors share local history and survival knowledge. <input type="checkbox"/> Provide emotional support after disasters – partner with counselors, churches, or peer networks.	<input type="checkbox"/> Printed resources directories (Meals on Wheels, Council on Aging, libraries) <input type="checkbox"/> Small grants or stipends for elder volunteers. <input type="checkbox"/> Community bulletin boards and radio announcements for offline updates.
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(Im)migrant populations with Limited English Proficiency (LEP)

Folder with resources and templates: Limited English Proficiency Documents

Systems	Stuff
Plan Ahead	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gather information on the language access needs in your area. Other than English, are there mostly Spanish speakers in your area? Individuals who speak Nepali? <input type="checkbox"/> Partner with organizations and groups that work with (im)migrant individuals who speak other languages. Connecting with schools is a great place to start. <input type="checkbox"/> Connect with community members who are bilingual <input type="checkbox"/> Make a list of organizations and people who can support and connect with LEP individuals <input type="checkbox"/> Learn and use modes of communication that (im)migrant communities frequently use <input type="checkbox"/> Compile a list of resources in other languages around disasters for LEP individuals	<input type="checkbox"/> Will your hub have money that could pay for an interpreter? If so, you can contact someone from AALV for in-person interpreter services (for events planned ahead) or set up an account with LanguageLine , a company that offers professional interpretation services on the go. <input type="checkbox"/> Create a list of people in your community who can be called upon for interpretation in a pinch <input type="checkbox"/> Download WhatsApp . Most countries outside the US use this app. Be aware that many people use WhatsApp because it does not require buying a phone plan and depends on WiFi. <input type="checkbox"/> Look into purchasing mobile hotspots for folks who may need them
Create Connections	
<input type="checkbox"/> Create trust with (im)migrant LEP communities ahead of time to ensure they feel comfortable and safe accessing/reaching out to your hub in the event of a disaster <input type="checkbox"/> Set up a “buddy system” or neighborhood pod where each LEP group/family unit/individual has a designated check-in partner. <input type="checkbox"/> For hard to reach individuals, pass off translated materials to a trusted community member, visit trusted community spaces to	<input type="checkbox"/> Host community meals or gatherings in partnership with trusted community members for LEP individuals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure there are interpretation services available for the event <input type="checkbox"/> Post signage in appropriate languages <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare childcare <input type="checkbox"/> Host events in later hours of the day or on the weekends <input type="checkbox"/> Arrange transportation



<p>share information, or explore the option of home visits to share information with trusted community members</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Translate and share the emergency list of to-go items with individuals</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Create a written list of contacts people can reach out to</p>
<p>During Disaster</p>	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> If you are convening people during an emergency, post signage in applicable languages</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Develop local transport plans with volunteers</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Train volunteers on the procedure for interacting with LEP individuals, from start to finish</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Access to services</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Posters, markers</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Have laminated cards prepared for quick translation needs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Will you be using a LanguageLine? Have assistance from a bilingual community member? Google Translate is a great app to download if neither is available. You can plan ahead by downloading a language too.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Try not to have children interpret!</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Transport aids (infant car seats, toddler car seats, booster seats)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> If you are holding food at your hub, try to have some culturally relevant non-perishables stock piled</p>
<p>After Disaster</p>	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure individuals have access to appropriate needs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Do individuals have healthcare needs?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Provide emotional support after disasters – partner with counselors, churches, or peer networks.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Parent Child Centers and food shelves can support with access to food and other concrete supports</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Connect individuals with a Community Health Worker if there are additional physical and mental health needs to connect individuals with the nearest Community Health Center or Free Clinic</p>



Farm animals and livestock

- ☐ Save the whole family
 - ☐ This should go without saying, but animals under care deserve every consideration possible to be saved during the event of a disaster.
- ☐ Act before - not during!
 - ☐ Livestock can be challenging to corral and move in the best of conditions, never mind during extremely stressful periods of imminent or occurring disaster. If severe weather is anticipated, it will never be the incorrect idea to move livestock preemptively. Whether they are moved to higher ground, indoors, or entirely off-site, do not wait until you & your animals are already under duress to get them moving.
- ☐ Leave no creature fenced
 - ☐ Sometimes adequate removal of livestock and farm animals from the path of a climate disaster is **just not possible**, especially when human safety is at stake. When movement to safety is not a possibility, opening all gates and allowing your livestock freedom to roam can go a long way in ensuring their survival. There are many success stories of farmers opening up pastures before floods, and returning to find their livestock waiting for them! It is incumbent on you to give them every chance for survival, even if they do not make their way back to your pastures.

Systems	Stuff
Before Disaster	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Create a Plan [Another Plan Template] (With daily feed & water requirements for most livestock) <input type="checkbox"/> Site Safe Housing for Livestock, ideally high & dry! <input type="checkbox"/> Consider Connecting with your local FSA & NRCS Offices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - While not essential, your local FSA (Farm Service Agency) and NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Services) agents are valuable resources in times of emergency. Whether applying for disaster insurance, relief programs, or conservation planning to promote on-farm resilience, these offices offer a variety of potential resources for your farm. <input type="checkbox"/> Gather Supplies 	<p>Stockpiling a few days worth of the following supplies (in a dry & secure area) will aid in buffering against the supply chain failures in times of disaster</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Feed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Dry & non (or less) perishable ideal for storage <input type="checkbox"/> Hay, bags of grain, pellets, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Medications <input type="checkbox"/> Bedding <input type="checkbox"/> Minerals <input type="checkbox"/> Water <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel
During Disaster	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Act Early & Conservatively <input type="checkbox"/> Prioritize Safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Checking on/moving livestock in the height of disaster can be extremely dangerous. Take every precaution to limit human exposure to peak disaster conditions. <input type="checkbox"/> Turn off any electric fence chargers <input type="checkbox"/> Leave no animal fenced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Handling Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Halters, leads, corrals, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Shelter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> If permanent shelter is in path of disaster, establishing and preparing a temporary shelter (shed, copse of trees, retrofitting)



	<p>a basement/garage/greenhouse, etc.) may be necessary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Trailer<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Livestock may need to be hauled off-site in the event of a disaster. While owning an adequate trailer (or vehicle) may not be accessible/reasonable for all folks, establishing relationships with neighbors who do can be a valuable resource!
After Disaster	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Assess & Clean the Site<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Debris in pastures/yards can potentially cause harm to returning livestock. Be sure to closely inspect pastures for trash, scrap metal, etc., before reintroducing your animals.<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure Fencing Integrity<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Before reintroducing livestock walk all fencelines to catch potential sites of damage, sag, electricity grounding, etc.<input type="checkbox"/> Contact your local FSA & NRCS agents<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> If applicable, local agents will come to your property to assist in planning for post-disaster recovery, IDing assistance programs, filing insurance claims, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Debris removal equipment<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Chainsaws, work gloves, trash bags, eye protection,