

# Partners in Preparedness

Aurora Emergency Management Agency  
Community Services Department



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# The Problem

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- **Disasters strain local resources — especially for the most vulnerable.**
- Immediate and long-term needs often exceed government capacity
- Nonprofits and faith-based organizations are vital, but coordination is inconsistent
- Past incidents have revealed:
  - Unmet needs in housing, food, and health services
  - Delays in connecting survivors to help
  - Duplication of efforts and wasted resources



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# The Solution

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- **COAD = Community Organizations Active in Disaster**
- A COAD brings local non-governmental partners together before disaster strikes
- It provides a trusted, organized way to:
  - Share information
  - Coordinate services
  - Fill gaps in response and recovery
  - Leverage community strengths



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# The Purpose

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This partnership will establish a clear, trusted framework that aligns community efforts with the City's emergency operations to ensure rapid, coordinated, and equitable disaster response.

- Clarifies roles and expectations for all partners
- Builds trust and accountability across sectors
- Aligns partner efforts with the City's emergency operations
- Enables rapid mobilization and equitable service delivery during disasters



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# Why?

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- **Disasters don't just damage buildings — they disrupt lives, systems, and communities.**
  - In the aftermath, the needs are urgent, widespread, and often go beyond what government alone can meet.

*A coordinated, whole-community approach is essential for effective response and equitable recovery.*



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# Who?

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## Engage a diverse cross-section of community partners

- Non-profits, faith-based groups, schools, businesses, and healthcare providers
- Community leaders, volunteer groups, and culturally specific organizations
- Government liaisons from emergency management, public health, and human services



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# Case Study: Joplin, MO 05/22/2011

- Day 7 - May 29
  - 1,531 Cases
  - 5,000 served by 30 agencies
- Day 17 - June 8
  - 7,500 residential, 17,000 people affected, 4,000 homes destroyed, 9,200 displaced
  - 68 organization body
- Day 768 – June 30, 2013
  - 2,559 people served and \$9 million dollars in private and public funding was put back into the community where it was needed most



# One Year Apart



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# Council Request

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- Approve the agreement template for use going forward
  - Voluntary, non-binding framework for cooperation
  - Establishes shared goals for disaster readiness and response
  - Creates a seat at the table for community-based organizations
  - Enhances the City's ability to respond to complex needs and recover quickly

 No legal obligations, mandates, or financial commitments required of partners 



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# Questions?



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