Disaster Education & Drills

Set people up for SUCCESS!

Teach staff first!

- Home preparation/plan
  - Offer Staff…
    - Information
    - Encouragement
    - Incentives (?)
  ...to be prepared at home!

Teach staff first! (Cont’d.)

- Hazard mitigation
- Program’s emergency/disaster plan
  - Personal role & responsibilities (before, during, & after)
- Utility control
- Earthquake-safe actions
- Drills
- Calm adults (usually) = calm kids
How to be Safe in an Earthquake

Drop ➞
Cover ➞
Hold ➞

Where to be in an Earthquake

- BENEATH
- BESIDE
- BETWEEN
Kids Need to Know…

- Age-appropriate information about disasters
- How to take an earthquake-safe action

Why teach disaster preparation to children?

Because…
- they need to know what to do
- rumors, whispers, and what is left unsaid can be scary to children
- each person is an important member of the safety team

Better Prepared = Less Scared!

Parents/Guardians Need to Know…

- Home preparedness is important
- You will continue to care for their children during a disaster
- Their role on the day of a disaster
  - Communication
  - Getting to the facility
  - Child/family reunion
  - Kids take their emotional cues from adults
What the WAC says about drills

In addition to the requirements for fire drills and training set forth by the state fire marshal in chapter 212-12 WAC, you must:

(a) Document staff education and training of the disaster plan;
(b) Conduct and document quarterly disaster drills for children and staff (you do not have to conduct a drill quarterly for each potential disaster - just one drill per quarter);
(c) Keep written documentation of the drills on-site; and
(d) Debrief and evaluate the plan in writing after each disaster incident or drill.

3 Primary Drills

- FIRE
- EARTHQUAKE
- LOCK DOWN

Effective Drills

- Are thought out and planned
- Have a purpose, have objectives
- Rely on prior education; that is, people participating in the drill know what to do!
Disaster Drills

“An opportunity to test your plan, not your people”

Education is the Key to Effective Drills...

Set people up to succeed, with good planning and training, you will have allies....

Set them up to fail, with poor planning and training, and they may never play with you again...

Planning an Effective Earthquake Drill

- Teach everyone how to take quake-safe action
- Teach everyone what is expected of them during the drill (step-by-step may be helpful)
- Answer any questions about drill
- Conduct the drill: “Drop, it’s an earthquake”
- Talk about how drill went & any changes that need to be made to plan
Thoughts about Lockdown Drills

- Lenore Rubin, PhD suggests talking to kids about "practicing being together" (instead of using words like "scary" or "dangerous")
- Educate parents about the drill
  - inability to pick up/drop off during drill
  - what words will be used to discuss lockdown with children
- Doors should be able to be locked from inside
- Window coverings are helpful barriers, if available

Child Care Disaster Drill Record

Date of Drill ____________________________ Name of Child Care ____________________________

Brief Description of Drill

Rooms Participating in Drill

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Children</th>
<th>Status in the Room</th>
<th>Any Items Removed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Name of Person Organizing Drill ____________________________

Getting the message across

- Repeat information
- Reinforce information
- Provide plenty of opportunities for physical practice
Benefits of Successful Drills

Drills can be fun!!

Drills inspire teamwork!!

Drills help people feel that they can do it!

Drills are the key to an effective plan