**Preparedness Training Programs for Working with Deaf and Hard of Hearing Communities and Older Adults: Lessons Learned from Key Informants and Literature Assessments.**

Patricia W. Kamau, Susan L. Ivey, Stephanie E. Griese, Shoukat H. Qari

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**SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL**

**(Tables 1, 2, and References)**

**Supplementary Table 1. Summary of main themes and subthemes used to develop interview questionnaires for public health practitioners working with individuals who are Deaf/HH and older adults.**

| **Main Theme** | **Definition** | **Sub-Theme** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Mechanics of Disaster Planning** | -Whether or not an SME organization has a disaster plan.  -Is training offered on how to use the plan?  -Communication procedures/protocols in this plan; usability of this plan to serve vulnerable populations.  -How familiar is the SME with the plan?  -Was input from other agencies serving older adults (OAs) and Deaf/HH sought and incorporated into the plan? | Nature of SME organization’s disaster plan |
|  | -Is coordination among different groups serving OAs and Deaf/HH important and why?  -What are some ways that this coordination could be improved? | Coordination among OA- and Deaf/HH-serving organizations during emergencies |
|  | -Does the organization offer other disaster preparedness activities? | Typical disaster preparedness activities in SME organizations |
|  |  |  |
| **Improvement of Disaster Response** | -Whether or not organizations serving OAs and Deaf/HH should be aware of their locations. | Knowing locations of OAs and Deaf/HH during a disaster |
|  | -Is it your experience that organizations serving OAs and Deaf/HH usually have disaster plans? | OA- and Deaf/HH-serving organizations’ disaster plans |
|  | -What are some preparedness activities for public health practitioners serving OAs and Deaf/HH? | Recommended preparedness activities for public health practitioners |
|  | -Should OAs be involved in planning and why or why not? | Involving OAs and Deaf/HH in planning |
|  |  |  |
| **Communication needs** | -Communication procedures/protocols in place for disaster planning for OAs and Deaf/HH? | Current disaster communication procedures/protocols for OAs and Deaf/HH |
|  | -What types of communication procedures/protocols could be in place that are not right now? | Recommended communication procedures/protocols for OAs and Deaf/HH |
|  | -How to relay messages to OAs that would be clear and understandable? | Clear communication for OAs |
|  | -Familiar with the communication needs of the Deaf/HH? | Communication familiarity with Deaf/HH |
|  | -Does SME organization use communication tools to disseminate information to the Deaf/HH?  -If yes, what kinds of tools? | Communication tools to Deaf/HH |
|  | -What type of barriers exist when trying to deliver communications to OAs and Deaf/HH during a disaster? | Barriers to disaster communication with OAs and Deaf/HH |
|  | -What types of improvements have been made over the years in meeting communication needs of OAs and Deaf/HH? | Meeting OA and Deaf/HH communication needs over the years |
|  |  |  |
| **Improvement of preparedness training programs** | -Does SME’s organization offer training on how to meet the communication needs of OAs and Deaf/HH? | OA and Deaf/HH Communication training offered by SME organization |
|  | -Is the SME aware of training resources for public health professionals who serve OAs and Deaf/HH?  -if yes, can they give details? | Training resources for OA- and Deaf/HH-serving public health professionals |
|  | -Does the SME feel that the currently available training is adequate?  -If yes or no, can they give details? | Recommendations for currently available training |
|  | -Has the SME ever been involved in a disaster response where there were concerns about OAs and Deaf/HH?  -if yes, details? | Lessons learned from disaster response efforts |
|  | -What kinds of issues were identified during this response? | Challenges encountered during disaster response efforts |
|  | -Gaps in preparedness communication training? | Preparedness communication training gaps |

**Supplementary Table 2. Preparedness programs that train public health practitioners in helping individuals who are Deaf and hard of hearing and older adults during emergency situations (Programs 1-7: Deaf/HH, Programs 8-11: Older adults)**

| **Program and location (Ref.)** | **Training**  **Availability** | **Training Organization** | **Target Trainees** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Programs for working with Deaf/HH persons** | | | |
| **1.** Emergency Education Program  Bellingham, Seattle and Tacoma, WA ([1](#_ENREF_1)) | Ongoing, various workshops | Hearing, Speech and Deafness Center in collaboration with local and state 9-1-1 emergency management agencies | * 9-1-1 telecommunicators * Deaf, deaf-blind, and Hard of hearing persons * Emergency management agencies   (and responders)   * Community members * Service providers |
| **2.** South Sound 911 Training Program  Washington State ([2](#_ENREF_2)) | Two years | Pierce County, City of Tacoma, City of Lakewood, West Pierce Fire and Rescue, City of Fife, City of Puyallup | 9-1-1 telecommunicators |
| **3.** Emergency Responder, Law Enforcement, Shelter Worker Trainings, across the country ([3](#_ENREF_3)) | Ongoing, various workshops | CS-Deaf and Hard of Hearing Resource Specialists | * Local social service providers * Disaster response volunteers * Emergency responders and Deaf   and hard of hearing communities   * Law enforcement |
| **4.** AWR-186: Emergency Responders and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community: Taking the first steps towards disaster preparedness, across the country ([4](#_ENREF_4)) | Ongoing, various workshops | Community Emergency Preparedness Information Network supported by the US Department of Homeland Security, Office for Grants and Training | * Deaf and hard of hearing persons * Emergency responders * Key members of community planning teams * Appropriate local and federal officials |
| **5.** Various courses under Services for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing, North Carolina ([5](#_ENREF_5)) | Ongoing | North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) | * Various emergency management   and response agencies:   * + DHHS   + North Carolina Office of State Fire   Marshal   * + North Carolina Emergency   Management   * + Deaf/HH community |
| **6.** Partnership between Maryland School for the Deaf (MSD) and Frederick County: Police Department (FPD), Department of Emergency Preparedness and Fire and Rescue, Frederick, MD ([5](#_ENREF_5)) | One-time (2009) | MSD health and safety council | Career and volunteer first responders |
| **7.** Partnership between Dewitt Police Department and WHOLE ME (local NGO – Work, Health, Organizational skills, Life experiences, Entertainment choices, Math and English)([6](#_ENREF_6)), Dewitt, NY ([6](#_ENREF_6), [7](#_ENREF_7)) | November 2006 | Dewitt, New York Police Department and WHOLE ME | * Police Officers * Firefighters * EMT personnel |
| **Programs for working with older Adults** | | | |
| **8.** Geriatric Emergency Preparedness and Response Continuing Education Program ([8](#_ENREF_8)) | Summer 2009 | Texas Consortium Geriatric Education Center / National Association of Geriatric Centers | * Health professionals * First responders * First receivers across the country |
| **9.** PREPARE: Bioterrorism Training for the Long-Term Care Workforce ([9](#_ENREF_9)) | Once annually for three years | Mather LifeWays | Long-term care (LTC) healthcare  providers in all 50 states |
| **10.** San Diego’s Area Coordinator System ([10](#_ENREF_10)) | Uncertain | San Diego County Management Agencies | Nursing Homes |
| **11.** Equity in preparedness: A Collaborative symposium for Populations with Special Healthcare needs in Boston ([11](#_ENREF_11)) | One-time (2006) | Harvard School of Public Health Center for Public Health Preparedness (HSPH-CPHP), Boston Public Health Commission, Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health | * Employees of local   Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)   * Local leaders in emergency   management response |
| **Additional Training Resources referenced by SMEs** | | | |
| 12. Online training ([12](#_ENREF_12), [13](#_ENREF_13)) | Ongoing | Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) | All personnel directly involved in management and response |
| 13. Practice centers and toolkits ([14](#_ENREF_14)) | Ongoing | National Association of County and City Officials | Public health professionals and other external stakeholders |
| 14. Tailored training ([15](#_ENREF_15)) | Ongoing | Private disability policy consultants | Public health professionals and other external stakeholders |
| 15. American Sign Language videos ([16](#_ENREF_16)) | Ongoing | Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing | Law enforcement and other first responders |

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