

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 6 MASS CARE

PRIMARY AGENCIES:

Clallam-Jefferson Chapter of the American Red Cross
Clallam County Disaster Assistance Council

SUPPORT AGENCY:

Emergency Management

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Purpose: To develop a capability for public shelter support during times of emergency or disaster.
- B. Scope: To ensure a coordinated effort between government and community service organizations to provide basic human needs support to affected people after a disaster.
- C. Limitations: Presently, the City of Sequim, with mutual aid from adjacent jurisdictions, can provide emergency short-term protection to meet the needs of residents and an additional percentage of evacuees by maximizing use of public buildings, churches and schools as temporary housing, feeding or medical facilities. Existing public fallout shelters are inventoried but not equipped, supplied, or maintained due to the lack of state or federal funding for the continuation of such programs.

II. POLICIES

- A. All appropriate governmental and volunteer agency resources will be used as available.
- B. All services will be provided without regard to economic status or racial, religious, political, ethnic, or other affiliation.
- C. This Emergency Management Plan will not supersede the American Red Cross (ARC) response and relief activities. ARC operations will conform to the ARC Board of Governors' Disaster Services Policy Statement and will be performed in accordance with the ARC Disaster Services regulations and procedures.
- D. Tracking of displaced citizens will be accomplished by the ARC Disaster Welfare Inquiry (DWI) procedures.

III. SITUATION

- A. Emergency/Disaster Hazards and Conditions: Several different hazards exist that could cause

the need for mass care of the population, either due to evacuation or displacement caused by damaged structures. Those conditions are, but not limited to Wildfire, Earthquake, Floods and Hazardous Materials emergencies.

B. Planning Assumptions

1. The shelter program shall be developed on the assumption that people may have to remain in public shelters for a period of time.
2. For planning purposes, it is assumed less than twenty percent of the population will require public shelter services in any given situation. Research indicates most people evacuated from their homes for extended periods of time will find their own shelter in non-impacted area either with friends or relatives.
3. There are enough resources available locally to care for local population for at least two weeks.
4. The Red Cross has existing agreements in place for shelters and an activation and staffing plan for shelter operations.

IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

1. The American Red Cross has established a mass care/shelter plan. They are responsible for inventorying potential shelter locations and have:
 - a. Identified usable shelters, to include, but not limited to schools, churches, and campgrounds.
 - b. Written agreements to use shelters, as appropriate.
 - c. Trained volunteers for mass care and shelter operations.
 - d. Established a communication system for communications between shelters, Red Cross HQ, and the EOC.
 - e. Established, with other social service organizations, a crisis counseling system.
2. In an actual emergency, information concerning the shelter program including public shelter locations, will be disseminated in cooperation with the designated Public Information Officer in coordination with the American Red Cross
3. The Red Cross representative to the EOC will function as the mass care representative.

B. Organization

1. The American Red Cross has developed a mass care/shelter plan for the Sequim and Clallam County area. Red Cross also has trained volunteers and paid staff to carry out the plan.
2. Emergency Management has and continues to work with the Red Cross to assist in the

coordination and liaison with local government and the public in instituting mass care and shelter activities for the public.

- C. Procedures: Sheltering and mass care will follow the SOP's developed and implemented by the Mass Care plan of the American Red Cross.
- D. Mitigation Activities: For the purpose of this ESF, mitigation and preparedness are considered the same.
- E. Preparedness Activities
 - 1. The American Red Cross will:
 - a. Identify usable facilities for shelter and mass care.
 - b. Maintain a current listing of all available shelters.
 - c. Recruit and train volunteers for mass care operations.
 - d. Coordinate with Emergency Management in planning issues and other mass care concerns.
 - e. Develop a liaison with other community service organizations for providing mass care to the public.
 - f. Provide Disaster Welfare Inquiry services.
 - 2. Emergency Management will:
 - a. Coordinate with the Red Cross in Shelter and mass care issues. Ensure capability between the city emergency Plan and the Red Cross mass care plan.
 - b. Obtaining shelter operations training from the Red Cross.
- F. Recovery Activities
 - 1. Primary Agencies:
 - a. Provide for crisis counseling, as appropriate.
 - b. Provide necessary support services, as per their national policies.
 - 2. Emergency Management:
 - a. Perform disaster impact assessments.
 - b. Coordinate with Clallam County, FEMA and State Emergency Management for any programs that are made available, as appropriate.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The American Red Cross: As the lead agency responsible for implementing the shelter

program, will designate a shelter coordinator responsible for:

1. Identification of suitable community facilities and development of emergency Suggested Operating Procedures.
2. Maintenance of listing of shelters, capabilities and resources available.
3. Developing shelter management and staffing assignments and supporting training.
4. Documenting costs for reimbursement and auditing purposes.
5. Evaluation and review of procedures to ensure operational readiness.
6. Coordinating support services in an actual emergency.
7. Tracking of displaced individuals.
8. Handles all aspects of the community sheltering plan and other shelter activities in accordance with their mission.

B. Emergency Management is responsible for:

1. Ensuring current inventories of available public shelter facilities and capabilities.
2. Coordinating the Implementation of the overall shelter program as needed.
3. Establishing communications between the shelter and the EOC with assistance from amateur radio operators, when appropriate.

C. Clallam County Disaster Assistance Council (CCDAC): An American Red Cross representative will be the CCDAC Liaison in the Emergency Operations Center to work with the Clallam County Disaster Assistance Council in tracking and reporting the needs and services offered to the community.

VI. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

Red Cross responsibility.