

Roles & Resilience: Moving from stories to action in public health emergencies

MALLORY H. CYR

AMCHP CYSHCN SENIOR PROGRAM MANAGER

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Learning Objectives:

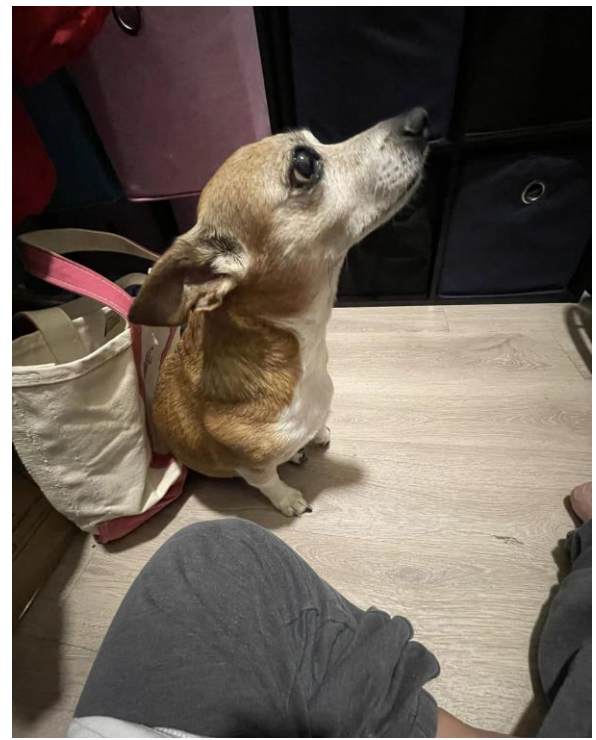
- Center the experience and recommendations of community members through person-centered stories
- Identify strategies to highlight lived experience of people living with disabilities and the need for universal planning in emergency preparedness
- Underscore the need for collaboration with various partners, including members of the MCH population, in public health emergencies to promote equity in planning and response and recovery



YOU GOTTA
BE KIND TO
YOURSELF

Content Awareness

- These topics are real and may evoke emotion.
- We typically discredit the emotional impact of discussing public health emergencies, and what it means to experience these events repeatedly.
- Feelings are OK in these discussions.
- Take care of yourself in ways that you need to.



Things are happening faster than we can talk about it:



Things are
happening in
real time...



Not Another Toolkit!

Reflecting on lived experience, what did we need in that moment?

Natural supports, not traditional paths or resources.

How can we learn from communities, and people with lived experience to identify solutions, vs. relying on “resources?”

BUILDING RESILIENCE FROM LIVED EXPERIENCE

*AMCHP's Collection of Public Health
Emergency Preparedness and Response Stories*

Ice Storm of '98



BUILDING RESILIENCE FROM LIVED EXPERIENCE

NAME

Molly Hofmann, Stephanie Leach, Courtney Kerfoot, Susan Agrawal, & Pam Winsel

SUMMARY

In this [MCH Bridges podcast episode](#), leaders from the University of Illinois Chicago's Division of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC), The Arc of Illinois, and Illinois Healthcare and Family Services (Medicaid agency) describe and reflect in detail on their experience approving and ultimately implementing an amendment for the Medically Fragile Technology Dependent Waiver that enabled backup generators to be purchased with service funds. This policy change was prompted by families' advocacy in the aftermath of a thunderstorm that caused major power loss across the state. At the time of the podcast recording, their combined efforts have resulted in 24 approved providers installing 191 generators in the homes of children with special health care needs – ensuring that those with the most complex considerations are less vulnerable to the impact of future severe weather events.

KEY WORDS

State policy | Medicaid waivers | Family leadership |
Community voice | Interagency collaboration

SYSTEMIC FACTORS ADDRESSED

Health insurance access
Housing instability

AMCHP

ASSOCIATION OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS



LOCATION

Illinois

EMERGENCY TYPE(S)



Natural disaster or
severe weather

Planning for the unplannable

Designated Waiting Area



WAIT HERE FOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

This is a Designated Waiting Area (DWA) for individuals with disabilities or those who need help evacuating the building.

What To Do For Assistance:

- Report Your DWA Location to UCPD (see DWA Location below) by calling 911 (510-642-3333 via cell).
- Notify others who are evacuating to inform the Building Coordinator of Your DWA Location.

Your DWA Location: Building _____; _____ Floor; _____ Stairwell



Even in everyday life

- Housing- first floor units, or safe evacuation routes
- Employment- what is the emergency plan? Is this a priority in the company/organization?
 - Buddy system
 - Staying with your mobility device
 - Disabled educator (and children!) in a school environment

Stories from Colorado

9news.com
BREAKING NEWS

WINTER WILDFIRES



Marshall Fire burned nearly 600 homes in Louisville and Superior

Most destructive fire in state history

Burned at least 1,600 acres

Caused by downed power lines

HOMES BURNING IN BOULDER COUNTY

9NEWS

7:01
37°

BREAKING NEWS: 303-413-7730 IS UP AND ANSWERING CALLS.

9news.com
BREAKING NEWS LIVE

NOEL BRENNAN - @NOELTBRENNAN
MULTIPLE FIRES BURNING ACROSS BOULDER CO.

9NEWS

1:38
46°

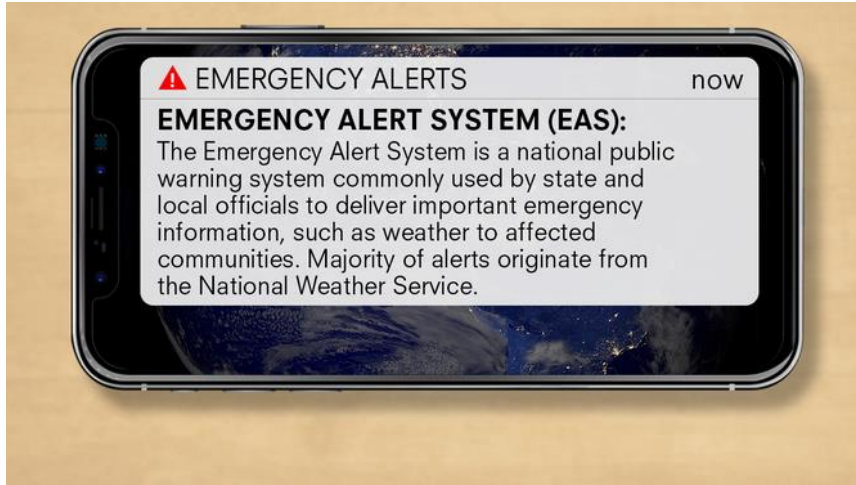


HOMES BURNING IN BOULDER COUNTY

9NEWS

BREAKING NEWS: CENTER FOR PEOPLE IMPACTED BY THE FIRE.

Communication Matters



- How are PHEs Messaged?
- How do people get information (in the era of NOT having live TV)
- What is the role of communities?
- How can we do better
- Activating public health professionals.
 - Things provided at shelters- being able to reprint important documents



Public Health Emergency Scenarios



Think about a time you (or your community) was involved in a Public Health Emergency

- 1 How do you see yourself in this scenario? What are the different roles you might play?


- 2 How does it feel to be in this role(s) during this time?

- 3 What do you need to feel supported in this role (i.e. to support others? To play a bigger role?)

Next Steps: What Can You Do?

- Listen to the stories
- Take the activity back to your team, and dedicate time to working through a scenario
- Have the hard conversations
- Involve communities: What do they need? What role do they think you play?
- Think through solutions- Big P & Little P Policy solutions

To learn more:

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- [AMCHP's Collection of Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Stories](#)
 - [MCH Bridges Podcast- Generating Policy Solutions to Protect Children with Complex Health Care Needs During Emergencies](#)
 - [Prepared4ALL: Whole Community Inclusive Emergency Planning \(AUCD\)](#)
 - [Capacity-Building Toolkit for Including Aging and Disability Networks in Emergency Planning \(NACCHO\)](#)
 - [Developing Emergency Preparedness Plans with a Health Equity Focus- Additional Resources](#)
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Thank you!



Mcyr@amchp.org