



Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Disaster Toolkit



HUD has published a *Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Disaster Toolkit*. The purpose of this toolkit is to guide and assist fair housing professionals, FHAP and FHIP agencies, and other public servants in their efforts to:

- Engage in and implement emergency preparedness activities internally
- Include fair housing processes and protocols as a part of emergency preparedness plans nationwide
- Develop partnerships and collaborations with agencies tasked with being first- and second-line Responders
- Clarify the fair housing role in emergency response situations

The toolkit provides extensive information on emergency planning and management, and basic fair housing background and enforcement information to enable communities to remove readiness barriers by providing all communities with strategies, processes, and tools that will help facilitate coordinated fair housing emergency management planning and response activities. The toolkit provides five essential components of an effective fair housing emergency management planning process.

Complete Toolkit is online at: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=Disaster_Toolkit.pdf

Components of the Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Disaster Toolkit:

- 1. Emergency Management 101:** A fundamental overview of the various phases of emergency management, this section also seeks to define the role of fair housing in the emergency management process.
- 2. Continuity of Operations Plan:** This is a step-by-step template that must be customized to ensure the stability of critical functions during a wide range of potential emergencies and events for each agency. In the absence of a continuity of operations plan (COOP), an agency cannot fulfill its mission when a crisis of any size disrupts normal business operations.
- 3. Enforcement Responsibilities:** This section provides the protocols and procedures established by FHEO to ensure that, in the aftermath of a disaster, federal, state, and local governments are working in concert to ensure that any alleged housing discrimination does not pose an immediate threat to the life, health, and safety of the victim.
- 4. Education and Outreach:** This section is designed to assist fair housing professionals in effectively utilizing education and outreach public service announcements and materials to assist persons seeking housing opportunities and to reinforce that fair housing is not an option, but the law.
- 5. Fair Housing 101:** This section provides an abbreviated summary of prohibited housing practices and should be used to assist displaced persons in understanding their rights when seeking housing.

