The Role of Libraries and Librarians in Disaster Risk Reduction and Response

EMForum.org

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Disaster Information Management Research Center (DIMRC) @ NLM

- Collecting, organizing, and disseminating health information for all types of disasters
- Developing online disaster information tools
- Training librarians to serve as "disaster information specialists"
- Planning and training to ensure that during a disaster operations continue at NLM, its eight regional medical libraries, and the 5,800 libraries that are part of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine
DIMRC, continued

- Conducting informatics research to explore and develop new and better ways to communicate, access information, and share information during disasters and emergencies (ref: WISER, REMM, CHEMM)*
- Collaborating with other federal, state and local government agencies

Chemical Hazards Emergency Medical Management (CHEMM) (http://www.chemm.nlm.nih.gov/)
Disaster Information Specialist

Building a community of practice, a culture of preparedness

- Roles for librarians in providing information outreach to their communities for all-hazards
- Assess needs for a national training curriculum and certification program for librarians interested in providing disaster health information
- Encourage development of library partnerships and library preparedness
- Learning from experiences in disasters

National Library of Medicine

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH ◊ U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Disaster Information Specialist Pilot Project
NIH Library

- Informationist to HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response office; numerous requests on a wide variety of topics including ethics, public policy, special populations, etc.
- Enhance collection (book and journal) for HHS/ASPR and NIH Library
- Developing survey of public health officers (Commissioned Corps) to understand information needs
- Member of Bethesda Hospitals’ Medical Library Emergency Preparedness Partnership
Disaster Information Specialist Pilot Project
USU and NNMC Libraries

- Developing a “traveling classroom” for training on disaster resources such as WISER, REMM, etc.

- USU, along with NIH library, interviews and surveying public health officers and military personnel of information needs during deployment

- NNMC enhancing collection

- Member of BMLEPP
Disaster Information Specialist Pilot Project
NYU

- Disaster Resource Development
  - Blog
  - Delicious
  - Online training class
  - Collection development

- Informationist assigned to Agents of Opportunity grant

- Active in Hospital disaster preparedness activities
  - EP committee
  - Credentialing
The Emergency Access Initiative (EAI) is a partnership of the National Library of Medicine, the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, and the Professional/Scholarly Publishing Division of the Association of American Publishers and other publishers. EAI provides temporary free access to full text articles from major biomedical titles to healthcare professionals, librarians, and the public affected by disasters.

Access to biomedical literature through the Emergency Access Initiative is only available to those affected by the disaster and for those providing assistance to the affected population. Other users should contact their local medical library or the National Network of Libraries of Medicine by calling 1-800-338-7657 for biomedical literature.

Active Event: Japan - earthquake and tsunami
Free access period: March 14, 2011 - May 6, 2011

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OTHER RESOURCES

- American Library Association

- Medical Library Association (MLA)

- NN/LM Emergency Preparedness & Response Toolkit

- NLM Disaster Information Outreach Symposium