



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Helping Child Care Prepare for Disasters and Recover in their Aftermath

The Impact of Disasters on Child Care

Disasters often wreak havoc on child care programs. Following disasters like hurricanes, earthquakes, and wildfires, child care providers may be forced to close, rebuild, or in some cases shut their doors forever, impacting all sectors of the community. And for young children—who do best when their lives have predictable caregivers, schedules, and surroundings—the resulting emotional stress can cause developmental challenges with lifelong implications.

Emergency preparedness, response, and recovery is vital for the well-being of children, families, and communities. That's why Child Care Aware® of America is committed to ensuring the child care sector has the support it needs during times of crisis. Our emergency preparedness team is tackling the challenges of disasters head-on so that child care providers can get back on their feet and return to the important work of caring for our nation's youngest learners.

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

Child Care Aware® of America uses our relationships, data, and technology to help communities understand the landscape of child care following an emergency.



DETERMINING NEED

We help CCR&R organizations and their partners determine needs by conducting damage assessment surveys and direct outreach.



MAPPING THE IMPACT

By harnessing our unique GIS mapping capabilities, we can show the location and status of child care providers to aid first responders, emergency management officials, and CCR&Rs.



LOCATING TEMPORARY CARE

We help CCR&R organizations identify which child care programs have extra capacity so that more displaced children can receive care during critical times of rebuilding and recovery.

Doing Our Part

Recognizing the critical role child care providers play in the resiliency of our children, families, and communities, Child Care Aware® of America is here to help before, during, and after disasters strike.

Below is just a sample of our emergency preparedness team's efforts to serve impacted areas.

Preparedness

- + Empower and train CCR&Rs and other organizations so they can help providers develop and implement emergency preparedness plans

Response

- + Maintain our website with critical, relevant information providers need during a crisis: <http://childcareprepare.org>
- + Assess providers' operating status, scope of damage, and specific needs through direct outreach and surveys
- + Provide detailed maps of child care programs impacted by disasters that first responders and emergency managers can use to aid their efforts

Recovery

- + Coordinate with partners to send essential resources to providers and families (e.g., diapers, replacement of classroom furnishings, etc.)
- + Develop informational webinars, articles, and other resources to assist child care providers and families
- + Coordinate with child care resource and referral agencies (CCR&Rs) to help families find temporary care
- + Promote and administer the Child Care Disaster Relief Fund, giving funds directly to child care programs impacted by disasters



Many thanks for the time and attention you've invested in Miami-Dade and Monroe over these last several weeks and especially THIS week. You've connected us with people and entities that we'd never have had access to and you've selflessly championed our cause. We are humbled and most privileged to be your partner.

Pamela Hollingsworth,
Early Learning Coalition of Miami Dade



Child Care in the Aftermath of Storms

HURRICANE MARIA

PUERTO RICO • 2017



1,842

Child care programs in hurricane-impacted area



1,683

Child care programs in Miami Dade and Monroe



71

Child care programs closed*



24,697

Potential children served by those programs

HURRICANE HARVEY

TEXAS • 2017



241

Child care programs damaged



10

Child care programs completely destroyed



13,400

Children's slots impacted by hurricane

HURRICANE MATTHEW

NORTH CAROLINA • 2016



1/4

Child care programs in hurricane-impacted area initially closed



10,200

Children served by these programs temporarily without child care

SUPERSTORM SANDY

CONNECTICUT • NEW JERSEY • NEW YORK • 2012



697

Child care programs in hurricane-impacted area permanently closed

*Of the 426 programs who responded to initial damage assessment