The Outpost

Disaster and Hazard Readiness Foundations



Responding to COVID-19

A few years ago, my neighbors built this library and installed it at a quiet four-way intersection in our neighborhood. It's always been a little more than a library—books, art supplies, neighborhood notices, people asking for help, people volunteering to help. As we sheltered in place throughout spring and summer, it also became a sign of hope, solidarity, and togetherness. Handpainted signs appeared at the base of the library, sidewalk chalk was in regular rotation, and neighborhood scavenger hunts were planned for the kids. Of course no one congregated there, yet every time you walked by, you saw and felt the resilience of the community in the face of hardship.

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I've been hearing and reading stories about how particular professions and organizations—communities—have responded to the pandemic. Some were prepared with guidance or policies in place to handle the disruption of COVID-19—not only how the work needed to change with social distancing and sheltering in place measures, but how to DO the work that needed to change. There were also many professional communities and organizations who resorted to on-the-spot problem solving and response.

How did your professional community or organization respond to COVID-19? What plans, if any, were in place to manage altered service provision? Please share your stories over in the <u>Outpost Online</u>.

We'd love to hear from you!

--Brigitte

Resources

We have many free resources available related to working in and responding to hardships. A few that may be of interest:



Taking Care of Yourself in the Time of COVID-19

https://militaryfamilieslearningnetwork.org/2020/04/04/taking-care-of-yourself-in-the-time-of-covid-19/

How Well Are You Coping?

https://militaryfamilieslearningnetwork.org/2020/06/04/how-well-are-you-coping/

Resources for Addressing Food Access in Military Families (upcoming webinar)

https://militaryfamilieslearningnetwork.org/event/69322/

Managing Finances During COVID-19

https://militaryfamilieslearningnetwork.org/podcast/moneytalk-managing-the-financial-impact-of-covid



Common Language

Hazard

The potential occurrence of a natural or technological event or trend that may cause loss of life, injury, negative health impacts, as well as damage and loss to property, infrastructure, livelihoods, service provision, ecosystems, and environmental resources. (adapted from Field & Barros, 2014, p. 1766)

Disaster

A unique event that exceeds the ability of the affected area to respond to it in such a way as to save lives, preserve property, or maintain social, ecological, economic, and political stability of the area. (adapted from Pearce, 2000)



Sanity Second

Notice what went right today rather than what went wrong.
Focus on optimism, even when it's difficult.

FAQ

How do I participate in Outpost discussions?

To get started, go to https://mfln.thinkific.com and click on the blue button to go to the Outpost Online. You'll be prompted to create an account or login, then you'll be taken to the content!

View the PDF linked from https://mfln.thinkific.com

for detailed instructions.

Have other questions? Email us at $\underline{\text{MilFamLN@gmail.com}}.$



