

The Outpost

Disaster and Hazard Readiness Foundations

From Foundations to Action

Have you started thinking about your community capitals a bit? I encourage you to take some time, when you can, to reflect on these, as well as on the capacities, strengths, and dependencies that have been revealed as your community has responded to COVID-19—or any other crisis. The 2020 series has been all about the foundations we need to understand disaster and hazard management as providers. As we move into the 2021 series, we'll start putting those foundations into action.

Today I want to spend a little time introducing a special addition to the 2021 MFRA series *Disaster and Hazard Readiness in Action*. We have a really exciting schedule of sessions that will dive deeper into disaster and hazard response and action, particularly in the face of the pandemic. You may notice that many of these sessions are somewhat geared toward a certain family service discipline; however, I encourage you to attend as many sessions as you can as the conversations are actually going to be quite universal.

One way we hope to engage EVERYONE, regardless of the sessions you choose, is with the Asset-based Community Recovery Workshops. I am so delighted that my

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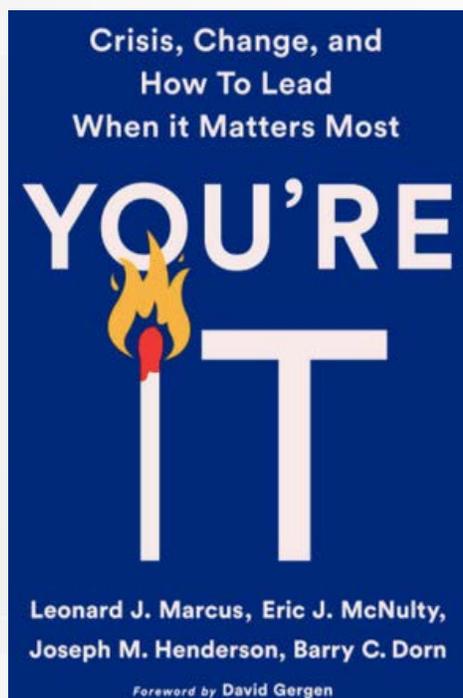
MFLN colleagues Jessica Beckendorf and Bob Berstch have developed these hands-on learning experiences for the 2021 series. Jessica and Bob will be building on the asset-based community recovery model—the focus of many of these Outposts—through guided conversations with participants. These workshops are not going to resemble our usual webinars. There are no content-area experts, no PowerPoint slides, no learning objectives. But there will be YOUR expertise as professionals living and working through a pandemic; YOUR stories to share; and YOUR priorities to talk about. The goal of the workshops is to create space and time to share what we've learned and then to build resources together that will inform how we can better support military family readiness and resilience in the face of disasters and hazards. Key workshop features include breakout



conversations, the ability for all participants to have audio and video enabled, and there will also be a sketch artist drawing in real time to harvest the key points of our conversations.

The workshops will culminate in the 2021 series capstone session “Connecting with Communities in Asset-based Community Recovery” on March 31. The capstone will highlight the main takeaways, resources, and tools developed in the workshops. There are three workshops offered throughout the series, with attendance capped at each session to accommodate conversation. Registration for the workshops is separate from session registration, and you can find all the details here:

<https://militaryfamilieslearningnetwork.org/event/92168/>



I am also excited to announce a raffle for an excellent book on leadership during crisis. *You're It: Crisis, Change, and How to Lead When It Matters Most* is an extremely insightful book on the qualities of effective leaders. The authors take an expansive look at leadership, recognizing that we are ALL leaders in many situations, and often in times of crisis and change. Whether you're leading a project, a family, or an organization, this book has some amazing insights on how to be a leader during crucial moments.

We are raffling off four copies of this book to 2020 series participants who complete our Academy series evaluation survey. The link to this survey will be emailed out to all registrants after our final series

session this Wednesday. I know many of you have responded to our session evaluations, and we are extremely grateful for your thoughtful feedback! We will be using all of this information moving forward into the 2021 series. If you have the time, please respond to this final survey to help us improve the series as a whole. To enter into the raffle, simply complete the survey before November 30. Winners will be drawn randomly on November 30, and we'll notify you by email shortly thereafter. Complete instructions for the evaluation and raffle entry will be included in Wednesday's email. Thank you in advance for your feedback!

As we enter the holiday season with the pandemic raging, flu season getting underway, and let's just say . . . a LOT of transition to come, spend some time with your community capitals.

Think about all the strengths you have identified since last March in yourself, your community, your family. Note the dependencies that have emerged from a place of curiosity and kindness. We'll get to talk through these, as you wish, in 2021.

I hope to see you Wednesday in the final session "Planning for the Worst, Hoping for the Best." Guest speaker Nancy Beers from the Center for Disaster Philanthropy will join Dr. Lindsey to share her experience working as a disaster case manager in the aftermath of the 2007 Southern Minnesota floods.

Thank you for participating in this year's series!

All the best,
Brigitte Scott
Director of Program Development and Evaluation
Military Families Learning Network

Sanity Second

*Practice mindfulness at meals.
Take a moment to think about the
textures and flavors to enhance the
enjoyment of your meals.*



FAQ

Have you registered? The 2021 Military Family Readiness Academy Disaster and Hazard Readiness in Action is right around the corner. Choose your sessions and register here:

<https://militaryfamilieslearningnetwork.org/mfra2021/#register>

Have other questions? Email us at MilFamLN@gmail.com.