

POINTS OF CONSENSUS

NVOAD COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

From the NVOAD Community Preparedness Committee Internal Guidance: The purpose of the Community Preparedness Committee is to apply and promote the 4C's to nationwide community preparedness, including promoting 'preparedness' as a national civic virtue and duty, identifying and sharing best practices, and collaborating with all sectors to identify and promote innovative ways to enhance community preparedness. Such initiatives will increase community engagement and awareness, as well as the awareness of National VOAD and its members' role in the disaster cycle. We acknowledge that the most effective preparedness happens at the community level. Therefore, the committee develops preparedness tools utilizing a whole-community approach to emergency preparedness.

Target Audience: The primary audience for the work of the committee is National VOAD members and partners, so that they can better serve their constituents. The goal is to develop resilience for when the next disaster strikes.

To that end, NVOAD has established, and is continually refining, these Points of Consensus for community preparedness. These Points of Consensus are minimal standards and articulate a point of agreement for all member organizations involved with community preparedness.

1. Community preparedness includes and considers the needs of historically marginalized people to promote community-wide resilience.
2. Community preparedness includes and considers people with disabilities or access and functional needs, people with chronic medical conditions, people with language access concerns, along with others not historically considered in community preparedness efforts.
3. Community preparedness requires a planning process that includes training, drills, exercises, and critiques at all levels - individual, team, department, and community.
4. Community preparedness benefits from strong support from NVOAD members and partners, State and Territory VOADs, COADs and community-based organizations and networks that provide expertise and act as the trusted community agents needed to achieve local preparedness goals.
5. Community preparedness addresses all the hazards prioritizing those hazards posing the greatest risk to a given community.
6. Community preparedness promotes organizational participation representing the whole community and promotes coordination with clearly defined expectations and agreements.
7. Community preparedness planning is based on trusted and accurate sources of information, identifying appropriate emergency response actions, and focusing training on those actions.
8. Community preparedness includes planning and training for long-term recovery.
9. Community preparedness requires ongoing community assessment with resulting impacts to existing plans as necessary.
10. Community preparedness includes planning for surge capacity identifying untapped resources in the community, enhancing training, creating plans and procedures, and building upon proven approaches.
11. Community preparedness considers all sectors and support functions to improve resilience.
12. Community preparedness involves residents and stakeholders, especially from areas of high risk.