



## Prevention Practitioner's Role in Disaster Response

The purpose of this checklist is to prepare the preventionist for their role before and after disasters. They have unique skills that can assist and align with disaster response efforts.

- Strategic Prevention Framework and Strategic Planning (SPF).** The SPF is a problem-solving framework that preventionists know. Using the steps of the SPF, a preventionist can help structure disaster planning and help disaster plans be more locally focused.
- Readiness.** Preventionists understand readiness as a metric. They can collect data for disaster readiness and teach others about the concept of readiness.
- Risk and Protective Factors.** Preventionists can talk about shared risk and protective factors that may lead to substance use and mental health disorders.
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE).** Going through a disaster can be more difficult for adults with a high ACE score. Preventionists understand this connection and can teach disaster professionals about ACEs and the neurobiology of trauma.
- Outcomes-Based Prevention (Epi Workgroups).** Preventionists can connect disaster professionals to data through the epi workgroups and highlight data of interest such as emergency room visits related to substance misuse and local patterns of health disparities.
- Public Deliberation and Facilitation.** Preventionists understand how to facilitate a group meeting and be objective. They are trained advocates for policy changes, identifying strategies, and mobilizing groups for action.
- Media/Social Media.** Preventionists know how to talk to the media and design appropriate messaging.
- Socio-Ecological Model/Public Health Approach.** Preventionists understand the various levels of a community and understand the necessity of planning interventions for the broadest benefit, as in population-based approaches.
- Best Practices/Fidelity.** Preventionists understand the need for best practices interventions and how to conduct them with fidelity.
- Continuum of Care.** Preventionists understand the broad range of individuals across the continuum of care. People in recovery are in disasters and have special needs. Preventionists know their boundaries within that continuum.
- Brain Science.** Preventionists have an awareness of brain science and addiction. They understand the risk of relapse during stressful situations.
- Wellness and Self-Care.** Preventionists understand the role of self-care and practicing it regularly and encouraging others to practice wellness and how important that is for professional growth.
- Psychological First Aid.** Psychological First Aid is an evidence-informed modular approach to help children, adolescents, adults, and families in the immediate aftermath of disaster and terrorism. Preventionists can become trained in this approach.
- Cultural Humility/Responsiveness.** Preventionists understand the importance of health equity and cultural competence. They can use the Cultural and Linguistically Appropriate Standards (CLAS) to evaluate disaster plans.

