

ESF 6: Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing, and Human Services

Primary Agency

Pacific County Emergency Management Agency (PCEMA)

Support Agencies

Pacific County Public Health and Human Services

Department(s) of Public Works

Pacific County Disaster Recovery Organization (PACDRO)

American Red Cross (ARC)

Department of Community Development (DCD)

I. Introduction

A. Purpose

1. To coordinate efforts to provide mass care and shelter following a major emergency or disaster to persons unable to provide for themselves.

B. Scope

1. This ESF addresses shelter needs in all of Pacific County during a major emergency or disaster and the coordination of opening shelters through the county's Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

C. Policies

1. None specific.

II. Situations and Assumptions

A. Policy

The Pacific County Emergency Management Agency will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 as amended by the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, Public Law 110-325, which requires emergency policies enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster related programs together with their service animals.

B. Situations

1. Mass care requirements during an emergency or disaster will overwhelm local social service agencies.
2. Pacific County has no designated shelters or resources to manage shelters and depends upon community based organizations for shelter operations.
3. Disaster response and recovery organizations do not have an established trained volunteer base within Pacific County.

C. Assumptions

1. The ARC relief services are designated to immediately mitigate the suffering caused by a disaster through provision of food, shelter, nursing, and mental health assistance. Assistance is based on the regional, ethnic, and cultural customs and practices of the people affected by a disaster. If the ARC cannot provide all of the services needed, victims will be referred to community, church, or other social service shelters that may be opened. Available shelters will be identified through the local media.
2. The opening of shelter(s) for all jurisdictions will be coordinated with the Pacific County EOC.

III. Concept of Operations

- A. Mass care provides for the immediate survival needs of victims through group services and facilities.
- B. Mass care will normally be carried out during and immediately after an emergency/disaster until individual services can be provided.
- C. The ARC supports and assists in alleviating the distress caused by disasters in accordance with arrangements between the Southwest Washington Chapter of the ARC and PCEMA.

- D. Mass care includes such basic human needs as emergency shelter and emergency medical care. Provisions of food, water, basic first aid, and other essential needs will be provided to all citizens without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability.
- E. Individuals/families arriving at shelter/mass care facilities in recreational vehicles may use their vehicle, supplemented by shelter resources, or utilize the shelters provided.
- F. PCEMA will share lists of victims and disaster assistance inquiries maintaining confidentiality as applicable.
- G. In cooperation with the ARC, PCEMA will coordinate with local cities, agencies, churches, institutions, commercial facilities, and volunteer organizations for mass care resources and facility support and mutual aid.

IV. Organization

- A. Mass care is a function of the Logistics Section of the Pacific County EOC.
- B. Organization occurs under the principles of the Incident Command System and the National Incident Management System in terms of EOC response and coordination.

V. Actions

- A. Initial
 - 1. Activate the Pacific County EOC Logistics and Planning Sections. Coordinate ESF 6 from the Logistics Section of the Pacific County EOC and/or at other locations as required.
 - 2. Coordinate needs and response actions among all shelter and mass care agencies.
 - 3. Coordinate direction and control with the EOC or other entities as appropriate.
 - 4. Maintain situational awareness regarding mass care support for threatened and/or impacted areas.
 - 5. Monitor and direct mass care resources and response activities to include pre-positioning for response/relocation due to the potential impact(s) of the emergency situation.
 - 6. Participate in/contribute to EOC briefings, development of Incident Action Plans, Situation Reports, and meetings.
 - 7. Coordinate with support agencies, as needed, to support mass care activities.
 - 8. Obtain other resources through state or regional Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreements.

9. Upon request, coordinate all resources into the affected areas.
10. Coordinate with ESF 4 Firefighting, and ESF 13 Public Safety and Security regarding potential mass care needs.

B. Continuing

1. Coordinate information with EOC Planning Section regarding mass care services provided.
2. Continue to provide support and coordination as required until response activities are concluded.
3. Assist in recovery operations.
4. Conduct planning with ESF 6 support agencies and other emergency support functions to refine mass care operations.
5. Prepare and maintain mass care procedures, resource inventories, personnel rosters, and mobilization information necessary for implementation of the responsibilities of the lead agency.
6. Maintain an inventory of ESF 6 assets that can be deployed during an emergency.
7. Assign and schedule sufficient personnel to implement ESF 6 tasks for an extended period of time with assistance from EOC Logistics as appropriate.
8. Ensure lead agency personnel are trained in their responsibilities and duties.
9. Maintain liaison with the EOC and support agencies, participate in training and exercises involving the EOC Operations Section.
10. Liaison with ARC or other volunteer organizations. Keep public informed via all available means of shelter status.

VI. Responsibilities

A. Primary Agency

1. Pacific County Emergency Management Agency
 - a. Inform the ARC of the need for shelters and/or feeding stations, areas to be evacuated, and when possible, the approximate number of evacuees.
 - b. Coordinate and maintain liaison, with private providers of mass care resources and services.
Public information

B. Support Agencies

1. Pacific County Public Health and Human Services
 - a. Coordinate the provision of nursing staff to shelters.
2. Department(s) of Public Works
 - a. Identify county and city properties that can serve as evacuation sites and temporary mass care tent sites.
Coordinate with the Pacific County DCD.
3. Pacific County Disaster Recovery Organization
 - a. Coordinate humanitarian services to disaster victims including the provision of shelter, food, clothing, crisis counseling, spiritual support and other individual and family assistance, such as legal and financial, when available.
4. American Red Cross (ARC)
 - a. The Act of Congress constituting the ARC charter requires the ARC to undertake relief activities for the purpose of mitigating suffering caused by disaster and obligates the ARC to develop and carry out measures to prevent suffering.
 - b. The ARC provides disaster victims with food, clothing, shelter, first aid, and supplementary medical/nursing care and meets other urgent needs within the resources of the local unit.
 - c. Either unilaterally or upon request by Emergency Management officials, the ARC may open, staff, and fund ARC shelters or feeding stations. The location of shelters or feeding stations will depend on the area affected, accessibility, security, and staff and supply considerations.
 - d. Assess equipment and training needs.
 - e. Maintain and update shelter agreements.
 - f. Provide liaison to county EOC when requested.
 - g. Deliver water as requested.
5. Pacific County Department of Community Development
 - a. Provide for the coordination of health and sanitation services at mass care facilities.

VII. References

- A. Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan

- B. MOU Between ARC, Southwest WA Chapter and Southwest WA Counties
- C. Pacific County Alternate Care Facility Plan

VIII. Attachments