

# WHAT IS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT?

Emergency management is the **heart of community resilience**—a system that unites people, resources, and strategies to **protect what matters most when chaos threatens**. It's the organized framework that not only responds to crises with compassion and expertise but proactively builds community capacity to withstand, adapt to, and recover from disasters, **ensuring that when people face their darkest moments, they never face them alone**.



**Aligns efforts** between federal, state, and local governments



**Ensures seamless coordination** across government agencies



**Brings together stakeholders** before, during, and after disasters including non-governmental organizations and the private sector

## PRE-EVENT



## POST-EVENT



### PREPAREDNESS

- Enhances capability, builds capacity, and ensures a state of readiness through planning, training, and exercises.
- Federal support fills capability gaps at the state and local levels.



### DISASTER IMPACT REDUCTION

- Protects infrastructure and property from potential impacts, saves costs post-event, and builds resiliency.
- Insurance must be available as a first line of defense during a disaster.



### RESPONSE

- Refers to the community's reaction to, and stabilizing, an event, including life-saving activities, sheltering, and provision of commodities such as water.
- The Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) is vital and the most cost-effective tool for states to respond to an event.



### RECOVERY

- Supports activities including rebuilding infrastructure, long-term housing, and community restoration.
- Requires extensive coordination across federal, state, and local agencies and other recovery partners.

## NEMA RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REFORMING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- Implement a phased-in cost share on homeland security grants, similar to the Emergency Management Performance Grant at 50%, and allow time for states and locals to adjust budgets.
- Provide incentives to states to establish their own disaster aid programs.

- Provide a single, pre-event block grant to states.
- Projects should be risk-informed, infrastructure-focused, and prioritized to reduce the physical impacts of a disaster.
- Collaborate with and incentivize insurance agents who recommend coverage, and policyholders who obtain it, to promote adequate risk transfer for all risks, including flood.

- Prioritize people.
- Provide quicker financial assistance from FEMA to overwhelmed state and local governments based on estimates and block grants.
- Establish a new threshold that takes into account the event severity, population, historical costs for similar events, and an adjustment for inflation.

- Reform recovery policies and regulations to cut red tape.
- Align federal programs, utilize a single disaster survivor application, and empower the Federal Coordinating Officer to help states access resources across the federal interagency.
- Provide technical assistance to states and locals for catastrophic disaster recovery.