Welcome!

May 20, 2020 - ECA SoCal Online Workshop

Concurrent Disasters: What if an earthquake occurred during a pandemic?

Margaret Vinci (Caltech) and Heidi Rosofsky (Global Vision)

Co-Chairs
ECA SoCal Coordinating Committee
**Agenda**

- **ECA SoCal Activities, Resources, Bureaus, and Mini Awards**  
  *ECA SoCal Chairs: Margaret Vinci (Caltech) and Heidi Rosofsky (Global Vision)*

- **Responding to an Earthquake in the COVID-19 Era**  
  *Jenny Novak (CalOES)*

- **COVID-19 as a Teachable Moment for Inclusive (DAFN) Earthquake Preparedness**  
  *Heidi Rosofsky (Global Vision Consortium)*

- **Map Your Neighborhood Program Overview**  
  *Margaret Vinci (Caltech)*

- **Secure Your Space and ECA Statewide Updates - ECA Executive Director**  
  *Mark Benthien (So. Cal. Earthquake Center)*

Key links and resources mentioned are now listed at [EarthquakeCountry.org/socal/may20workshop](http://EarthquakeCountry.org/socal/may20workshop)

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**Earthquake Country Alliance**

- Created in 2003 in SoCal; expanded statewide in 2009 after first ShakeOut
- 1500+ *Public-Private-Grassroots* leaders
- *Statewide Sector-based committees* develop resources and programs
- *Regional Alliances* organize local events and outreach campaigns
- Support provided by California’s Office of Emergency Services

Join us! [EarthquakeCountry.org/alliance](http://EarthquakeCountry.org/alliance)
ECA SoCal Activities

Coordination, networking, and resource development

ECA So Cal Coordinating Committee Chairs:
Connie Lackey, Providence Health & Services
Heidi Rosofsky, Global Vision Consortium
Margaret Vinci, Caltech Earthquake Programs

ECA Regional Workshops
EarthquakeCountry.org/socal

Great ShakeOut and Tsunami Preparedness Week
ShakeOut.org/california
Tsunamizone.org/california

ECA Bay Area Mini Awards
https://earthquakecountry.org/socal/miniawards

ECA SoCal Coordinating Committee

- **Coordinating Committee Chairs:** Connie Lackey (Providence Health), Heidi Rosofsky (Global Vision), Margaret Vinci (Caltech)
- **Communications Coordinator:** Jeffrey Snoddy (City of Torrance)
- **Regional Workshops Coordinator:** Jenny Novak (CalOES Southern Region)
- **Membership Coordinator:** Anna Burton (Port of LA)
- **Media Bureau Coordinators:** Marilyn Jimenez (LA Red Cross) & Jessica Kellogg (City of LA EMD)
- **Participation Bureau Coordinator:** Pei-Lun Lee (Orange County Emergency Management)
- **Events Bureau Coordinators:** John Hammett & Lance Webster (Volunteers)
- **Sector-Based Committee Coordinator:** Pauline Louie (US Housing and Urban Development)

SCEC Regional Liaison for ECA SoCal: Gabriela Noriega (USC/SCEC)

Earthquake, Tsunami and Volcano Programs Representative: Sheri Blankenheim (CalOES)
ECA Mini Awards

Purpose: Assist ECA Associates to improve earthquake resilience, promote awareness and preparedness, and multiply impact of programs

Priority given to proposals for mitigation activities; other earthquake preparedness activities can also be proposed

$500 packages of materials are provided via a catalog, however other items can be proposed

2020 ECA SoCal Mini Award Winners

1. 12 Ways To Prepare – Ridgecrest CERT
2. St Andrews Bungalows Disaster Resilience Project – St. Andrews Bungalows HOA
3. S.O.S. Secure our School! – Palm Desert Middle Charter Middle School
4. School Earthquake Preparedness – Bakersfield Parent Nursery
5. Residential Earthquake Preparedness – Colby Regency HOA
6. Earthquake Preparedness Public Outreach (Map Your Neighborhood) – County of Inyo
8. Quake Ready Seniors – Laguna Beach CERT
9. Secure Community/Senior/Care & Reception Center – Westminster Police Department
10. Help Yourself Help Your Neighbor – Morongo Basin Community Organizations Active in Disasters
11. Earthquake Awareness Education for Patients – Watts Healthcare Corporation
12. Emergency Preparedness Storeroom – Spring Knolls Emergency Response Team (SKERT)
13. Naples Island Earthquake Preparedness Survey – Naples Improvement Association
How might current COVID conditions affect your response if a damaging earthquake occurred now?

- Less chance of people being trapped [in older commercial buildings, etc.]
- Lack of communication with others because they are staying at home.
- Challenges with social distancing while attending to injured victims
- Our CERT team has an older demographic so extra precautions would be taken to minimize contact and conserve PPE
- An earthquake will damage telecommunication infrastructure needed now
- Our members rely on specialty pharmacies for life saving medication
- As a CERT member, it might make me think twice about going to "strangers" homes to check on them
How have you utilized community programs to connect with neighbors?

• Have used our block captain email and phone lists to reach out to neighbors.

• Our MYN-style neighborhood group, CERT Volunteered at food bank. Major roadblock: many members over 65 - sheltering in place.

• We’ve activated our MYN block leaders to reach out to neighbors.

• CERT: welfare checks on AFN residents, did not use MYN for COVID response

• The knowledge gained through the program has helped me, as HOA president, to implement strategies to help my neighbors.

• As a block captain, I’ve sent out regular emails to the block about preparing for an earthquake and checking on folk.

Which items in your preparedness supplies have come in most handy during COVID-19? (What new items will you add now?)

• Fortunately we have disposable gloves & masks. Trying to secure gowns and sanitizing gel.

• Food and water for extended period. We were previously preparing for 3-7 day scenario. Now we think in terms of 2-4 weeks.

• Shelf stable foods, keeping one extra of everything (especially toilet paper!)

• Took opportunity to refresh emergency food and consume old.

• I'll add more sweets and more gloves

• Would now add toilet paper to prep supplies.

• Ha, the masks & gloves from my CERT bag!

• We usually leave our PPE inside when we evacuate, now we won't do that
Which services did you find most important during the COVID-19 pandemic? Which closed services did you miss, and how did you adjust?

- Found gov't services the most important, along with health services. Really miss just going out to dinner.
- Government, non-profits - I did not miss any closed services
- City government has been instrumental keeping our residents informed and safe.
- Governor Newsom has been great. I miss coffee shops where I can sit and work.
- Government response to post daily online, non-profit food distributions
- LA Nixle service. Frequent updates by Garcetti/Newsom. Virus maps. Miss going to restaurants
- Missed dog groomer and hair salons the most.

What changes to your personal / organizational preparedness plans will you be making based on your experience with the pandemic?

- Increase supply of alternative PPEs, sanitizers, etc.
- Adding protocols that include distance, and testing
- I will be putting a major emphasis on COMMUNICATION
- Will adjust organizational plan to meet new criteria for pandemics.
- Make sure residents and staff have a safe place to shelter should evacuation be required; everyone wearing a mask.
- Will incorporate our COVID scenarios into our plan & not hesitate to have office workers work from home assuming connectivity.
- Following social distancing guidelines, masks, creating new protocols around that, seating arrangements, staggered work schedule
Responding to an Earthquake in the COVID-19 Era

Jenny Novak, California Office of Emergency Services
MULTIPLE CONCURRENT INCIDENTS

• November 8, 2018: Two wildfires & a mass shooting in Ventura County, and the Camp Fire in NorCal
• Early December 2017: wildfires in SoCal
• USVI in September 2017: Two category 5 hurricanes
• Tornado outbreak April 12-13 2020: 139 tornadoes across 10 southern states

EARTHQUAKE IMPACTS

• Disruptions to communications
  • Isolation
• Debris & hazards blocking roadways
  • Geographic separation
• Supply chain interruptions
  • Lack of food, water and other supplies
• Building Damages
  • Need for Sheltering outside of Home
• Anxiety
  • Heightened already anxious state after pandemic
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IMPACTS: PROS

• Organizational structure – already in place
• Staffing patterns already created
• Resource request process well established
• Multi Agency Coordination Group for Scarce Resources established
• State of Emergency already proclaimed for most jurisdictions
• Emergency food distribution already taking place
• Hospital surge plans already activated

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IMPACTS: CONS

Emergency Operations Centers have been active for months
• Operational costs
• Staff fatigue
• Virtual Coordination could be interrupted
• Sheltering / Staging sites already in use for COVID-19 testing
• New life saving missions would push the systems to their limits
• Supply chains would be interrupted – worsening the shortage of PPE, disinfectant, etc.
KEY MESSAGES FOR PROTECTIVE ACTIONS

- Earthquake protective actions do not change: Drop, Cover, and Hold On
- Tsunami protective actions do not change: If you are near the coast evacuate to higher ground / inland.
- Safer At Home applies to the pandemic, it does not supersede any other emergency situation that may arise

VOLUNTEER IMPACTS & RESOURCES

- Fewer senior citizens available to volunteer for in person activities
- Regular in person meetings can no longer happen
- Lots of needs for help: food bank distribution, well-checks, meal delivery, shelter assistance
- Volunteer training / onboarding that normally happens in person is canceled
- Californians for All
  [www.californiavolunteers.ca.gov/get-involved/covid-19](http://www.californiavolunteers.ca.gov/get-involved/covid-19)
- California Health Corps
  [covid19.ca.gov/healthcorps](http://covid19.ca.gov/healthcorps)
- Virtual opportunities – 211 calls, well-checks, mental health help
- More teenagers & young adults potentially available due to school closures & unemployment
SHELTERING IMPACTS

• American Red Cross has developed guidelines
• Health screening, Social Distancing, disinfecting, handwashing stations, PPE, testing plan
• Some shelters already opened, cooling centers have been activated with these protocols in place – keep congregate shelters to 50 or fewer
• Non-congregate opportunities
  • Trailers & RV’s
  • Vehicles
  • Hotels (Project Roomkey)
  • Outdoor options

DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACTS

• Low income populations
• Service industry workers
• DAFN populations
• Chronically / terminally ill
• Institutionalized settings
• Senior citizens
• People experiencing homelessness
• People of color
INDIVIDUAL / FAMILY PREPAREDNESS PLANS

- Pro: many families are not currently separated by work & school
- Plan updates:
  - Secure your space in advance to make your home the safest shelter
  - Consider a generator in case of power disruption
  - Identify friend or family member to stay with rather than congregate shelters
  - Consider outdoor options for sheltering
  - Create / enhance financial emergency plan

INDIVIDUAL / FAMILY PREPAREDNESS KITS

- Pro: many people have stockpiled supplies
- Consider adding additional masks, gloves, and other protective gear for each family member
- Increase hand sanitizer, disinfecting supplies
HOW TO BETTER PREPARE YOUR ORGANIZATION

• Conduct a table top discussion exercise about what actions you would take during an earthquake, tsunami or other disaster and how they are impacted by the pandemic
• Make changes to your plan based on the results
• Adapt your plan to incorporate Social Distancing, virtual coordination tools, disinfecting, handwashing stations, PPE, testing plan

FURTHER RESOURCES

• California’s COVID-19 website
• Local COVID-19 websites
• Local emergency notification systems
• What Happens If a ‘Big One’ Strikes During the Pandemic? Atlantic article
• Earthquakes and Other Geohazards in a Time of Pandemic Working Group
• What Happens when disasters combine? Lori Dengler, Times Standard newspaper
• What if a Major Earthquake Struck During the COVID-19 Pandemic Coachella Valley Disaster Preparedness Network
• Video Overview of Mass Care Activities in Sheltering in Affected Areas Red Cross
• Exercise Starter Kit on Reconstituting Operations FEMA
COVID-19 as a Teachable Moment for Inclusive (DAFN) Earthquake Preparedness

Heidi Rosofsky, Global Vision Consortium
ECA SoCal Co-Chair
Our Audience

- People with Disabilities
- Seniors/ Older Adults
- In Institutional Settings
- Diverse Cultures
- Limited English Proficiency
- Low Income
- Transportation Dependent
- Bariatric Equipment Users
- Children

Inclusive Planning

Anyone likely to require accommodations and/or assistance to receive and/or act upon emergency information before, during & after an emergency.

Access & Functional Needs: requires physical, programmatic, and/or effective communication accessibility to ensure equal access to emergency programs.
Inclusive Planning

• Messages **must** be specific & relevant to our audience

• **Must** be reviewed & revised by intended community before public release

COVID-19 as a Teachable Moment

People are more aware of the need to stockpile essential items

Preparedness messages need to lead beyond the pandemic to earthquake preparedness
Personal Planning

- Preparing is key to maintaining independence
- Assess your situation
- Address your specific needs & concerns
- Personalize disaster kits

Neighbor Helping Neighbor

Promote neighbors & communities banding together

Map Your Neighborhood

Create Personal Support Teams
Personal Support Team

- At least 3 people who can come check immediately
- Learn how best to assist
- Know how to operate any assistive devices used
- Know location of disaster supply kits, assistive & ADL equipment to take

Plan, Practice, Prepare Together!

Know Earthquake Safety Actions

- If you can’t get back up, don’t get down
  - Bend over and cover your head and neck with your arms/hands
- Instruct others how to assist you
- Practice is key
- EarthquakeCountry.org/disability

Protect Yourself During Earthquakes!
Know Earthquake Safety Actions

If you can’t take cover under a sturdy object:

• Move toward an interior wall
• Beware windows & falling objects
• Make yourself the smallest target possible
• Protect your head & neck with your arm
• Close you eyes until the shaking stops
• Check yourself for injuries
• Look for hazards before moving

Resources

• Inclusive Earthquake Preparedness Guide and Tips: EarthquakeCountry.org/disability

• Language Guidelines for Inclusive Emergency Management: fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/107874

• “Awkward No More” video youtube.com/watch?v=Gv1aDEFIXq8
Presentation

Map Your Neighborhood Program Overview

Margaret Vinci, Caltech

Surviving Disasters
Map Your Neighborhood (MYN)

Program designed to help neighbors prepare for disasters
And fills the gap between individual and community emergency response

- **Recruit Leaders** – block captain
- **Define Your Area** - # households
- **Scout Your Area** - Identify assets & risks in your neighborhood and gathering site for effective response
- **Create a neighborhood plan** - Identify gas/water turn-off; households; know your needs
- **Build Your Teams**
- **9 Steps for neighborhood’s response**
9 Steps to Safety
When disaster comes what do you do...

- Dress for safety (helmet/hard hat, gloves, sturdy shoes, goggles)
- Check for injuries and take care of loved ones
- Check natural gas or propane leaks (shut off if leaking)
- Shut off water at house main (preserve good water in home)
- Place the HELP or OK sign in window (who needs help first)
- Put an extra fire extinguisher on sidewalk for neighbors to put out small fires before they become larger fires
- After Steps 1-6 go to neighborhood gathering site
- Form teams to do assigned jobs (check neighbors, listen to radio for info, check gas leaks, check homes for help)
- After neighborhood secured return to gathering site and care center

Coronavirus and MYN

- Contact neighbors on a regular basis via phone, text, email
  - Check on needs and get to know your neighbors
  - GET TO KNOW NEIGHBORS
  - Provide communication for isolated neighbors
- Pick up groceries or prescriptions
- Make and provide masks
- share supplies
  - Toilet paper
  - Bacterial soap
  - Disinfectant cleaner
- Connect with families
- Provide updated State/County/City info

  - Lesson Learned: Different disasters provide limitations
    - limited volunteers due to personal risk
mil.wa.gov/map-your-neighborhood

emergency.lacity.org/rylan/about

cityofpasadena.net/fire/community-programs/map-your-neighborhood/

ShakeAlert.org/implementation

Public Alerting
- MyShake
- Quakealertusa
- ShakeAlertLA

Automated Operations
Secure Your Space and ECA Statewide Updates

Mark Benthien
SCEC/Earthquake Country Alliance

Earthquake Country Alliance

• Created in 2003 in SoCal; expanded statewide in 2009 after first ShakeOut
• 1500+ Public-Private-Grassroots leaders
• Statewide Sector-based committees develop resources and programs
• Regional Alliances organize local events and outreach campaigns
• Support provided by California’s Office of Emergency Services

Join us! EarthquakeCountry.org/alliance
Seven Steps To Earthquake Safety

1. Secure Your Space
2. Plan To Be Safe
3. Organize Supplies
4. Minimize Financial Hardship
5. Drop, Cover, and Hold On
6. Improve Safety
7. Reconnect and Restore

EarthquakeCountry.org/sevensteps

Step 1: Secure Your Space

- Identify hazards
- Secure moveable items
- Reduce Injuries and damage

EarthquakeCountry.org/step1
Top-Heavy Furniture

Use flexible nylon straps (buckles or velcro)

TVs and Electronics

Straps and buckles secured with adhesive and bolted to anchor points
**Wall Hangings**

- No glass above beds
- Use closed hooks

**Smaller Items**

- Earthquake Putty
- Microcrystalline Museum Wax
**Kitchen Cabinets**

Many options available at hardware stores and online

**Water Heaters and Large Appliances**

- Use flexible stainless-steel gas connectors
- Secure large appliances to wall studs
Begin to Secure Your Space:

TODAY:
Move a heavy object to a lower location

- Review EarthquakeCountry.org/step1
- List potential hazards to be secured
- Secure everything in a weekend, or over time
- Show your friends, family, neighbors, tenants, etc. to encourage them to Secure Their Space (even better… help each other!)

June 11: ECA “Secure Your Space” Webinar

Seven Steps To Earthquake Safety

1. Secure Your Space
2. Plan To Be Safe
3. Organize Supplies
4. Minimize Financial Hardship
5. Drop, Cover, and Hold On
6. Improve Safety
7. Reconnect and Restore

EarthquakeCountry.org/sevensteps
Develop Messaging and Resources:
EarthquakeCountry.org
Terremotos.org

Support Tsunami Preparedness Week:
TsunamiZone.org/california

Creation and Coordination of
The Great California ShakeOut:
ShakeOut.org/california

Staying Safe Where the Earth Shakes

- Developed by CEA & CalOES with input from ECA subject matter experts
- Features Seven Steps to Earthquake Safety
- 10 Regional versions:
  - ShakeOut Regions
  - Statewide
- Statewide in multiple languages:
  - English & Spanish (online and printed)
  - Chinese (online only)

EarthquakeCountry.org/stayingsafe
ECA Sector-Based Outreach Committees

- Non-Profit & Faith-Based Organizations
- Public Sector
- Healthcare
- Multi-Cultural
- Businesses
- Higher Education
- K-12 Schools
- Seniors and People with Disabilities
- Museums, parks, libraries, etc.

Join us! Email info@earthquakecountry.org

Seniors and People with Disabilities Resources

- Earthquake Preparedness Guide for People with Disabilities and Other Access or Functional Needs
- Seven Steps to Earthquake Safety
- EarthquakeCountry.org/disability
Adapt Your Response

- If you can’t get back up, don’t get down
  - Bend over and cover your head and neck with your arms/hands
- Instruct others how to assist you
- Practice is key
- EarthquakeCountry.org/disability

Protect Yourself During Earthquakes!

Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills

- Schools, organizations, and families practice earthquake safety and other aspects of their emergency plans
- 2019: 68+ million people worldwide; 10.8 million in California
- 2020 International ShakeOut Day: October 15
- Learn more and register: ShakeOut.org
Earthquake Safety Video Series

- Separate short videos:
  - indoors, nearby table/desk
  - indoors, no table/desk
  - theater/stadium
  - near the shore
  - in a car
  - in bed
  - people with mobility disabilities

- View at [Youtube.com/greatshakeout](https://www.youtube.com/greatshakeout)


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Final Q&A

Key links and resources mentioned, and the full recording, are now available at [EarthquakeCountry.org/socal/may20workshop](http://EarthquakeCountry.org/socal/may20workshop)
Connect with ECA

• EarthquakeCountry.org
• Terremotos.org
• info@earthquakecountry.org
  socal@earthquakecountry.org
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• 213-740-3262