

## 8. PREPARING NURSES TO RESPOND TO DISASTERS AND PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES

8.4 Employers should incorporate the expertise of nurses to proactively develop and implement an emergency response plan for natural disasters and public health emergencies in coordination with local, state, national, and federal partners. They should also provide additional services throughout a disaster or public health emergency, such as support for families and behavioral health, to support and protect nurses' health and well-being.

### 1. Key Strategic Stakeholders

#### Health Care Organizations

Military/US Public Health Service

#### Non-profit Organizations

American Red Cross

#### Federal Government

FEMA; Health and Human Services Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness & Response

#### State, Local Government

National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO); Association of State and Territorial Health Officials; state and local emergency response teams; area agencies on aging; community behavioral health resources

#### Education

Nurse Educators/Institutions; staff development in organizations; schools; early childhood orgs

#### Other

Hotels; grocers; faith-based organizations

### 2. Top 3-5 Actions for 2021

- A. Assessment of local and national organizations engaged in disaster planning
- B. Nurses become certified
- C. Develop annual disaster reviews/simulations
- D. Employers and other stakeholders convene (include nursing)
- E. Intentional inclusion of all communities that will have access to plans and are considered in the development
- F. Review employers current plans to include a nurse well-being and behavioral health component
- G. Solicit support and partnerships with community agencies to plan support for nurses' families
- H. Review current statutes surrounding preparedness

### 3. Top 3-5 Actions for 2022

- A. Mobilize developed plan for nurse support and well being
- B. Establish volunteer base or core
- C. Implement and conduct mock disaster simulations
- D. All groups involved have nurse representation in leading, planning and execution
- E. Determine a plan for collecting data

### 4. Success Indicators

- Number of plans that include nurse participation/expertise in development and implementation
- Number of plans that include additional services that include nurse well-being and behavioral health
- Inclusion of nurse well-being in national and state plan standards
- National/State/Local stakeholders identified
- Number of support services partnerships