

Process Tool for Planning for Safe Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergencies

Build Capacity

- Determine the Emergency Preparedness and Response structure in your city or region and how it integrates with Public Health and Volunteer Organizations.
- What groups or programs do you already have common goals with around safe infant feeding?
- Who can you collaborate with? Consider Volunteer Groups, Community Leaders, Lactation Consultants, WIC, Emergency Preparedness, Maternal Child Health, Early Childhood, Medical Reserve Corps.
- Form a project team if you can. Showing the 3-min. "why" video on IYCF-E is also a great way to start.

Create Plan

- What external partners lead emergency response/who is in charge of mass care in your community? OR What partners lead maternal child health and lactation that could bring expertise to writing a plan?
 - Go to their meetings to dialogue, gain input and support for safe infant feeding in emergencies.
- Who are your trusted community experts and leaders?
 - Listen to and learn from their ideas and solutions (and fund them).
- Write plan and determine on-the-ground process for deploying volunteers and supplies during response.
 - Engage Emergency Preparedness Incident Command structure, shelter managers, volunteer coordinators.

Trainings & Kits

- Determine available (internal and external) funds for supplies and kits.
- Tailor trainings and kits to your community needs. There are several existing online and in-person trainings. Partnering with local, community lactation and infant feeding experts is powerful.
- Finalize formal process for deploying trained volunteers and kits during an emergency, as well as process/needs to distribute kits or supplies in advance of a disaster for a family to shelter-in-place.
- Your plan and process is unique to your community and always adapting!

Practice!

- Practice all parts of your plan, including notifying volunteers and deploying resources.
- Have social media posts ready to share across partner networks during an emergency that includes the importance of protecting safe infant feeding and where to access resources (hotline, checkpoints, etc).

For more info: Colorado Community Preparedness & Safe Infant Feeding in Emergencies google folder
<https://tinyurl.com/39hx7cc3>

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 Contact: Allison Wilson awilson@jeffco.us