National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

PEPH Webinar

Residents, Responders, and Resilience

Date: February 25, 2014
Time: 1:00-2:30 p.m. ET

Please register at: http://bit.ly/PEPH_Resilience
(registration required)

The Role of Individual and Community Resiliency in Post-Disaster Recovery
Brian Mayer, Ph.D., University of Arizona

This presentation will explore the interaction between individual and community-level resiliency, using a concept called the Resilience Activation Framework. In looking at the connections between the two concepts, we will examine how social capital—expressed through social connections in the community—may be the key connector that allows individuals to mobilize and access vital resources necessary for the recovery process. Using insights from ongoing research projects in the Gulf of Mexico post-Deepwater Horizon oil spill and coastal Maryland post-Hurricane Sandy, we will examine the practical implications for both research and outreach in utilizing the Resilience Activation Framework.

Utilizing a Community Advisory Committee to Define Future Efforts of the Healthy Gulf, Healthy Communities Project
Tracy Irani, Ph.D., University of Florida | Samuel Mathews, Ph.D., University of West Florida

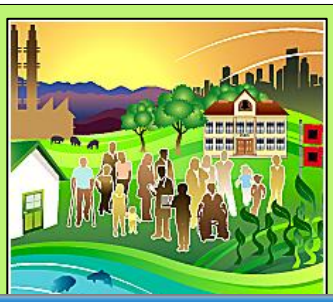
Tracy Irani

Samuel Mathews

The Healthy Gulf, Healthy Communities (HGHC) project addresses seafood safety, public health, and resilience effects of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Northeastern Gulf Coast. Its initial work included establishing community partners and a community advisory committee (CAC) with representatives from affected areas. In August 2013, the Community Outreach and Dissemination (COD) Core conducted an environmental scan with nine members of the CAC. Their input indicated a refocus of the communities away from the disaster and towards longstanding social problems. Partners discussed how generational poverty hampers resilience; indicated that the demand for services continues to be above pre-disaster levels; and spoke of the growing problem that NGOs, faith-based organizations, and other groups supporting recovery and resiliency faced with diminishing resources. In response to this feedback, the COD team is developing a regional network to support NGO development and community resiliency, providing training for communities that fosters consortium building, identifying initiatives by partners for mitigating key factors limiting resiliency, and exploring development of a regional community organization incubator.

Building Community and Worker Resilience in Response to Natural and Man-Made Disasters
Ebony Turner, Ph.D., Dillard University

Dillard University's Deep South Center for Environmental Justice (DSCEJ) has been operating in response to natural and man-made disasters for the last several decades. Although major attention has been given to the increase in catastrophic natural disasters in the Gulf Coast Region since Hurricane Katrina, this trend has been evident for quite some time. Disasters of note include Hurricane Betsy in 1965, Hurricane Camille in 1969, and the May 8th Flood of 1995. In addition, man-made disasters have occurred over the decades from neighborhoods being built on landfills (Agriculture Street Landfill) to chemical plant explosions that affect the Mississippi River Chemical Corridor, an 85-mile stretch from New Orleans to Baton Rouge. The DSCEJ has worked for nearly 20 years, building capacity within communities to respond to these disasters. The major focus of the DSCEJ has been addressing the community and worker resilience in response to natural and man-made disasters through its workforce development and community education and training programs.



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PEPH Webinar Series
The Partnerships for Environmental Public Health (PEPH) program established the PEPH Webinar Series to promote interactions among PEPH grantees and to increase awareness of common issues and approaches. The webinars facilitate consideration of emerging issues. While the primary audience is grantees within the PEPH network, anyone interested in environmental public health is welcome to register.

If you have any questions about this webinar, please contact Liam O'Fallon (ofallon@niehs.nih.gov, 919-541-7733).

Individuals with disabilities who need accommodation to participate in this event should contact Liam O'Fallon (ofallon@niehs.nih.gov, 919-541-7733). TTY users should contact the Federal TTY Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Requests should be made at least 5 business days in advance of the event.

Upcoming Webinars
- Socioeconomic Effects of Polluted Sites (March)
- Climate Change (April)