Planning for children in disasters presents a unique set of planning considerations:
- Logistical requirements
- Cultural considerations
- Children with medical needs
- Shelter placement
- Unaccompanied children
- Children in state or federal custody
- Impact from stress / trauma
- Neonatal transport / services
When Plans Fail

• Hospital Evacuation
• Alternate Care Sites
• Field Triage Sites
• Residential Care Facilities for Medical Needs
  – Need to be prepared to meet medical needs of children
Logistics

• Cribs & Crib Linens
• Pack-n-Play
• Clothing
• Food
• Eating Utensils
• Diapers
• Pediatric Durable Medical Equipment
• Pediatric Consumable Medical Supplies
Cultural Considerations

- Children can not adjust as rapidly or easily as adults; cultural considerations need to be made for children. Especially as it pertains to food services.
- Not considering cultural needs may lead to medical concerns such as
  - Gastrointestinal Disorders
  - Vomiting
  - Diarrhea
Providing for Medical Needs

• Children require
  – Specific pediatric medical equipment
  – Specific dosages for medications
    • Ensure that standing orders cover pediatrics
  – Planning considerations need to include
    • The process for making medical decisions for unaccompanied children
    • Maintaining chain of custody for children in state or federal custody regarding medical decisions
Shelter Placement Considerations

• Children with disabilities should be sheltered with their families in general population shelters
  – It is important to ensure adequate planning for children with disabilities to include provision of DME, CMS, PAS etc.

• If a child has a medical need that requires professional licensed staff oversight then placement in a medical shelter may be suggested
  – Planning should include considerations for keeping the family unit together

• Placement for families within the general population shelter should be considered
Partnerships and Support

• Children will have a unique response to disaster impact
  – Trauma
  – Stress

• Draw on partnerships to assist with children
  – Educational opportunities
  – Games and recreation
  – Counseling opportunities
    • Psychological First Aid
Contact

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