An All-Hazards Approach for Advancing Rural Resilience Training Program

About the National Center for Disaster Preparedness (NCDP)

Since 2016, the National Center for Disaster Preparedness (NCDP) at Columbia University has been awarded several U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) training grants. These programs have focused on mass care community sheltering and relocation assistance, pandemic preparedness and response, post-disaster economic and housing recovery, Tribal Nations readiness and resilience, and rural and Tribal Nations all-hazards resilience. These training programs have highlighted best practices and lessons learned for emergency managers, first responders, community groups, and the whole community.

Rural Preparedness Training Curriculum (Coming Soon)

Disasters in rural communities pose a complex and urgent challenge, marked by geographic isolation, aging infrastructure, and economic limitations. In many remote areas, the distance from major urban centers results in slower emergency response and recovery times, as well as difficulties accessing critical resources. These communities often struggle with industrial control systems and limited municipal revenue, which exacerbates their vulnerability to natural hazards such as wildfires, floods, droughts, and severe storms, as well as human-caused threats, including school-based incidents. In 2024, NCDP was awarded a training grant to address these preparedness gaps by developing a curriculum on an "All-Hazards Approach for Rural Resilience."



AWR-360-W: Establishing an All-Hazards Crisis Plan for School-Based Incidents in Rural Communities

This web-based course will cover the basics of all-hazard crisis management planning during school-based incidents. Upon completion of this 90-minute awareness-level, web-based training course, learners will be able to:

- Identify the key principles of all-hazard planning and crisis management for school-based incidents in rural areas.
- Describe the importance of all-hazard crisis planning in addressing school-based incidents in rural communities.

PER-337-V: Ensuring Continuity of Operations when Planning for Emergencies in Rural Jurisdictions

This four-hour live virtual course will cover the basics of planning for the continuity of operations during emergencies in rural communities. Upon completion of this four-hour performance-level, live-virtual training, learners will be able to:

- Describe key considerations for continuity of operations planning in rural jurisdictions.
- Analyze the specific challenges faced by rural jurisdictions during emergencies.

MGT-352: Incorporating Extreme Weather Planning into Hazard Mitigation Projects in Rural Communities

This seven-hour course will cover advanced topics around enhancing hazard mitigation projects with extreme weather planning in rural communities. Upon the completion of this seven-hour management-level, instructor-led training, learners will be able to:

- Evaluate how the potential risks extreme weather poses to rural communities can guide the development of hazard mitigation strategies
- Analyze how extreme weather planning can improve hazard mitigation efforts in rural communities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ncdptraining@columbia.edu

This project is supported by Cooperative Agreement EMW-2024-CA-05117 administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Points of view or opinions expressed in this document are those of the author and do not represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.