



Public Meeting Summary

Thursday, September 7, 2017

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. ET

Teleconference: 1- 800-857-1795, International Dial-In: 1-210-234-6207 Passcode: 5549987

NACCD Members Present

Michael Anderson
Allison Blake
Roberto Garza
Linda MacIntyre
Susan McCune
Scott Needle
Sarah Park
Mary Riley (retired)
Georgina Peacock
Jeff Upperman

ASPR Staff

Evelyn Seel
Maxine Kellman
Belinda Green

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Conflict of Interest Rules

Evelyn Seel, MPH, Designated Federal Official, NACCD
CDR, U.S. Public Health Service
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

CDR Evelyn Seel, Designated Federal Official within the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time and welcomed the members of the National Advisory Committee on Children and Disasters (NACCD) in attendance via teleconference. She reviewed the mission of the NACCD and identified the purpose of the meeting as to hear a presentation from the Human Services Work Group (HSWG) Chair, and then to discuss and vote on the draft Human Services Work Group Report. CDR Seel then took a roll call of NACCD members and confirmed a quorum. She reviewed the Federal Advisory Committee Act and Conflict of Interest Rules as they relate to the NACCD. CDR Seel invited Dr. Scott Needle, Acting Chair of the NACCD, to speak.

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Welcome and Introduction of Human Services Work Group Report Presentation

Scott Needle, M.D.
Chair, NACCD

Dr. Scott Needle provided an introduction to the Human Services Work Group’s report and thanked Mary Riley (retired member) and Allison Blake for their contributions. He invited Allison Blake to provide a summary of the report.

Presentation of the Human Services Work Group’s Draft Report

Allison Blake, Ph.D.
Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Children and Families
Co-chair, Human Services Work Group

Allison Blake gave an overview of the Human Services Work Group’s report: *Exploring Approaches and Strategies for Human Services and Child-Serving Institutions to Promote Resiliency and Recovery for Children and Youth Affected by Natural Disasters*. She first extended her thanks to co-chair Captain (ret.) Mary Riley for her contributions to the report, and to subject matter experts (SMEs) consulted for the report, including NACCD members Lauralee Koziol, Robin Gurwitch and Linda MacIntyre. She also expressed gratitude to the other members of the NACCD who provided feedback.

Over the course of a year, the HSWG consulted SMEs, published literature, research, and public policy documents to provide recommendations, best practices, and opportunities to improve the provision of human services before, during, and after a natural disaster, with a specific focus on children and their families. Because their stress systems can be triggered by natural disasters, children are especially vulnerable to long-term effects. Schools, child care centers, Head Start programs, and human services organizations in communities play an important role in emergency planning and response.

The report categorized recommendations based on three periods: before, during and after a natural disaster. For each time period, the HSWG sorted these recommendations into three main buckets: public policy, funding, and research opportunities. An overarching theme for many of these findings was the need to integrate human services, child-serving institutions, and programs into all levels of emergency management policy and planning.

Other recommendations included a central clearinghouse for federal funding streams, increased flexibility for human services agencies, and increased funding for training for formal and informal caregivers to children.

Allison Blake closed by thanking ASPR staff Belinda Green, Maxine Kellman, Evelyn Seel, Charlotte Spires, Justin Willard and Jyl Woolfolk for their support. She opened the call for discussion and questions. Lieutenant Commander Roberto Garza from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) and Captain Mary Riley voiced their appreciation for the hard work that went into the report. Captain Riley

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expressed hope that the HSWG report will serve as a springboard for future ideas and work around children, disasters and emergency response.

Public Comment Check via Email

CDR Evelyn Seel, MPH

CDR Seel stated that the NACCD did not receive any comments by email of the NACCD comment form located on the NACCD public website prior to or during the meeting.

NACCD Vote on Human Services Work Group Report

CDR Evelyn Seel, MPH

CDR Seel called a vote on approval of the Human Services Work Group Report. All NACCD voting members present on the call approved the report. The draft report will be removed from the [NACCD website](#) and replaced with the final report. It will be publicly available on the ASPR website located at www.phe.gov/NACCD within the next week. Ultimately, the report reaches the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the ASPR for review. CDR Seel invited Dr. Needle to make final comments.

Wrap-Up and Conclusions

Scott Needle, M.D.
Acting Chair, NACCD

Dr. Needle concluded by thanking all involved with the report for their efforts. He echoed co-chair Captain Riley's statement that the report should serve as a foundation for future research on children and emergency preparedness and response, especially in light of the recent hurricane in Texas and [then] impending hurricane in Florida and Puerto Rico. Dr. Needle expressed hope that the report will impact efforts now and in the future.

Meeting Adjournment

CDR Seel thanked everyone for attending today's NACCD public meeting and encouraged participants to visit the [NACCD public website](#) located at www.phe.gov/NACCD for updates and future announcements. CDR Seel adjourned the meeting at 3:45 P.M. Eastern Time.