The Role of NGOs in Drought Response – CSTE

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(Previously Environmental Health, Climate, & Health Disparities Projects)
Overview of CSTE
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Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE)

- Public health non-profit
- Member-driven organization

Mission – promote the effective use of epidemiologic data to guide public health practice and improve health

Vision – using the power of epidemiology to improve the public’s health
CSTE Members

• Professional home for over 1,900 applied public health epidemiologists

• Epidemiologists study the distribution and determinants of illness, injury, disability, and/or death in specified populations to minimize these outcomes

• CSTE supports members working in a wide-range of public health topics
CSTE Activities

- Regional Trainings
- Technical Assistance
- Position Statements & Briefs
- Toolkit/Guidance Document Development
- Webinars & Subject-Specific Meetings
- National Assessments
- Peer-to-Peer Learning
- Define Nationally Notifiable Diseases/Conditions
- Annual Conference
CSTE & Public Health Disasters
CSTE Disaster Epidemiology Subcommittee

- Provides forum for discussion of best practices, lessons learned, crowd sourcing, and/or tool development regarding environmental or man-made disasters
**CSTE Disaster Epidemiology Tool & Resource Repository**

Single location for disaster epi tools, reports, guidance, forms, assessments, etc. to be used during disaster response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>State, Agency</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Client Health Record</td>
<td>Morbidity surveillance</td>
<td>American Red Cross</td>
<td>Form</td>
<td>Hurricanes, flooding, extreme storms (including winter storms), chemical releases, radiological incidents</td>
<td>Client health record form for shelter in-take.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disaster Health Services Aggregate Morbidity Report Form</td>
<td>Morbidity surveillance</td>
<td>American Red Cross</td>
<td>Form</td>
<td>Hurricanes, flooding, extreme storms (including winter storms), chemical releases, radiological incidents</td>
<td>Form to report on all clients medically seen in shelter/site location over last 24 hours.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facility/Shelter Opening &amp; Closing Inspection</td>
<td>Shelter surveillance</td>
<td>American Red Cross</td>
<td>Form</td>
<td>Hurricanes, flooding, extreme storms (including winter storms), droughts, chemical releases, radiological incidents</td>
<td>Inspection form for facility/shelter opening and closing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDC Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER)</td>
<td>CASPER</td>
<td>CDC</td>
<td>Toolkit</td>
<td>Hurricanes, flooding, extreme storms (including winter storms), droughts, chemical releases, radiological</td>
<td>Toolkit guidelines for field staff conducting CASPER.</td>
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</table>
CSTE has partnered with CDC to support local health departments conduct CASPERs focused on drought

• CASPER = Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response
• CDC epidemiologic technique
• Provides quick & low-cost household-based information about affected communities
Previous Drought Activities – Annual Conference

Previous CSTE Annual Conferences have featured sessions relating to drought and health

- Provides an opportunity to promote findings, garner interest, and gather feedback from a large audience
- Presentations are recorded and publicly available for later viewing
Other Opportunities for Collaboration

• Present to related subcommittee

• Convene workgroup focused on epi methods related to quantifying drought-related health effects

• National assessment to determine gaps and/or needs of epidemiologists

• Participate in Annual Disaster Epidemiology Workshop, Climate & Respiratory Health Summit

• Develop brief or position statement on drought-related health outcomes
Main Takeaway
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As a member-based organization, CSTE can promote activities, findings, webinars, etc. widely!

- Members often involved with other programs with drought-focuses
- Nationwide representation allows for multiple view points
Thank you!

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