The Role of NGOs in Drought Response – CSTE

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CSTE

Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists

Overview of CSTE

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Council of **S**tate and **T**erritorial **E**pidemiologists **(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
- Toolkit/Guidance Document Development
- Peer-to-Peer Learning
- Technical Assistance
- Webinars & Subject-Specific Meetings
- Define Nationally Notifiable Diseases/Conditions
- Position Statements & Briefs
- National Assessments
- Annual Conference

CSTE & Public Health Disasters

CSTE

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

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Title	Topic	State, A...	Type	Response	Summary
Client Health Record	Morbidity surveillance	American Red Cross	Form	Hurricanes, flooding, extreme storms (including winter storms), chemical releases, radiological incidents	Client health record form for shelter in-take.
Disaster Health Services Aggregate Morbidity Report Form	Morbidity surveillance	American Red Cross	Form	Hurricanes, flooding, extreme storms (including winter storms), chemical releases, radiological incidents	Form to report on all clients medically seen in shelter/site location over last 24 hours.
Facility/Shelter Opening & Closing Inspection	Shelter surveillance	American Red Cross	Form	Hurricanes, flooding, extreme storms (including winter storms), droughts, chemical releases, radiological incidents	Inspection form for facility/shelter opening and closing.
CDC Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER)	CASPER	CDC	Toolkit	Hurricanes, flooding, extreme storms (including winter storms), droughts, chemical releases, radiological	Toolkit guidelines for field staff conducting CASPER

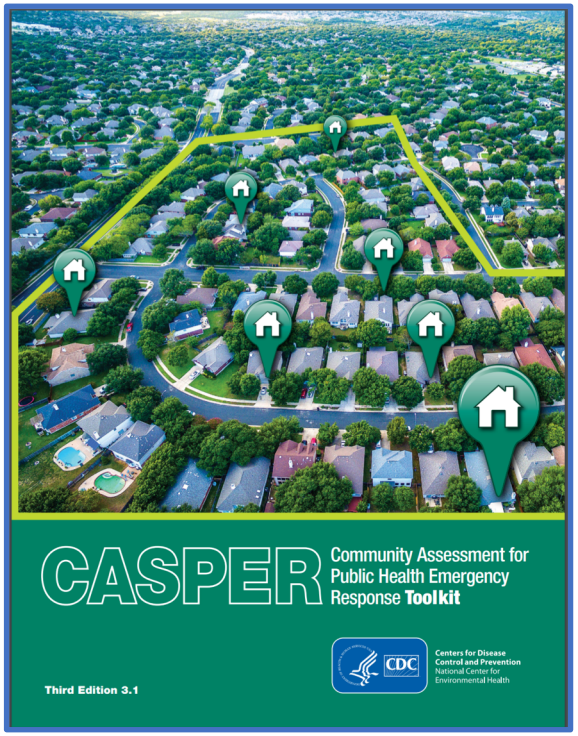
CSTE & Drought

CSTE

Previous Drought Activities – CASPERs

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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