

Crisis Planning and Other Resources

Emergency Plan Web Site

The United States Department of Education's (ED) Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools' Emergency Plan Web site www.ed.gov/emergencyplan provides a one-stop site for information to help plan for, mitigate, respond to and recover from any emergency (natural disasters, violent incidents, terrorist acts and the like). The site provides access to ED materials, such as Practical Information on Crisis Planning, and links to additional emergency planning resources of government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, health-care provider resources, mental health resources, and state and local resources.

Practical Information on Crisis Planning: A Guide for Schools and Communities

This binder provides schools and communities with basic guidelines and useful ideas on how to develop and refine their emergency response and crisis management plans for each phase of crisis planning: mitigation and prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. This information is available at www.ed.gov/emergencyplan/.

Infrastructure Protection: National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities

This Web-based clearinghouse at www.edfacilities.org provides information on school safety issues, such as how to design buildings to prevent or mitigate possible terrorist attacks and violence.

Bomb Threat Assessment Guide: ED and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

The Step-by-Step Guide for Bomb Threats can assist school districts, administrators and emergency responders in planning an effective bomb threat response protocol in schools. A CD-ROM interactive planning tool provides schools with a 15-step guide. In 2003, a copy of the CD-ROM was distributed to every school district in the country. It is still available at www.ed.gov/emergencyplan/.

Campus Public Safety Guide

The Department of Homeland Security's Office of Domestic Preparedness published a series titled Campus Public Safety: Weapons of Mass Destruction and Terrorism Protective Measures in April 2003. This document describes affirmative steps colleges and universities can take to prevent, deter or effectively respond to an attack by weapons of mass destruction. It is available at www.ed.gov/emergencyplan/.

Safe Schools Initiative: ED and the U.S. Secret Service

The 2002 Safe Schools Initiative Guide and Final Report provides guidelines for managing threatening situations and offers ways to create a safe school environment. It is available at www.ed.gov/emergencyplan/.

Information Specifically for Children

A Web site with age-appropriate information for children on disasters is at www.fema.gov/kids/. In addition, the Department of Homeland Security is working to expand its citizen preparedness "Ready" campaign by getting children involved in preparing for crises. The Web site is planned to be launched later this year.

Information Dealing With Trauma

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network Web site http://www.nctsnet.org/nccts/nav.do?pid=ctr_tool contains the following links to tools and materials that can be used by schools both for school planning purposes and as handouts to parents and caregivers:

The link to "Presentation Tools"

http://www.nctsnet.org/nccts/nav.do?pid=ctr_tool_present allows one to view and download slide presentations on selected topics related to child trauma and traumatic stress, including statistics on the prevalence of child trauma, current interventions to reduce the impact of child traumatic stress, and an overview of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network.

The "Educational Materials" link

http://www.nctsnet.org/nccts/nav.do?pid=ctr_tool_educ includes tip sheets for parents, caregivers, and teachers on current topics, as well as basic information on child traumatic stress for different audiences.

Terrorism: Preparing for the Unexpected

<http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/keepsafe/terrorism.pdf>