Disaster Response Plan

Name

Institutional Affiliation

Natural disasters and pandemic diseases can strike a community anytime thus it requires preparation in order to prevent casualties in case it occurs. A disaster response plan comprises of a sequence of events that are aimed at preparing for an emergency. This plan ensures well coordinated efforts in provision of assistance to communities, tribal and local government, and the federal agencies in management and response of natural disasters. This paper will focus on preparation of a disaster response plan. It is important to note that the plan will not apply to hazardous substance or oil spill responses (Kahn, 2012).

**Goals and objectives of the plan**

-To ensure the safety of the staff involved and the locals who are exposed to immediate effects of the disaster.

-Assessing the threats to guarantee protection of the affected from indirect or direct effects of contamination.

-Assisting in recovery from the disaster

-Ensuring satisfactory control, containment, disposal, and cleanup of contamination and debris

-Ensure protection from indirect and direct effects of contaminated land, water, food and air through assessing the public health threats.

-Creating awareness on how to avoid casualties in case of an emergency

-Come up with safe and convenient ways of evacuating locals in case of a disaster.

**The organization**

The incident command functions will be directed by the incident commander who is in charge of the incident. The public information officer will be in charge of provision of any necessary information to the media or any other party in need of such information. The safety officers will be in control of monitoring safety conditions and developing measure to ensure safety of the personnel. The liaison officer will be in charge of on scene contact for all the agencies assigned to the incident. The command system will support the incident commander together with; the operation, planning, logistics and the finance sections. The operation section carries out the response activities. The organization in this section will develop upwards in order to expand supervision. In this section the various resources assigned to the incident are utilized and managed (Kramer, 2009).

The logistic section provides services, facilities and materials to carry out the rescue operations. These facilities include personnel to operate the equipments at the incident. In the planning section, evaluation, collection and dissemination of information about the incident are carried out. Here, the incident action plan is developed which outlines the response activities and the utilization of resources. The services of the department of environmental conservation may be needed in this section. In the finance/administration section, tracking the costs of the incident and reimbursement accounting is done (Wilkinson, Lewis, & Dennis, 2010).

The general functions of this response department will be: coordinating response activities in disaster incident. It will also be providing support to the state emergency operation centre as well liaising with the state emergency operations centre upon notice of an emergency. The response department will also work on disaster training, planning, exercise, preparedness and equipment use. It will be responsible for provision of support to the response agencies when required. The unit will be alerting notifying and warning about any impending disaster as well as providing back-up communications (Kahn, 2012).

Disaster preparedness can prevent worsening of situation. Planning helps in understanding the various ways of achieving safety in case of disaster. It plays a vital role business in ensuring their operations after a disaster. Disaster response plans also helps in reducing impacts of a disaster such as psychological effects (Kramer, 2009).

Disaster preparedness is vital no matter what type of calamity strikes. With right equipments and knowledge, it is possible evade the effects of disasters. once the ;department of health and the state is prepared for any form of disaster, the safety of the citizens is ensured since even if a disaster strikes the state will always be ready to deal with it. Reviewing the plan regularly ensures that the citizens are aware of what action to take in case of a disaster (Bradley, 2011).

References

Bradley, A. T. (2011). *Disaster preparedness handbook: A guide for families*. New York: Skyhorse Pub.

Kahn, M. (2012). *Disaster response and planning for libraries*. Chicago: American Library Association.

Kramer, W. M. (2009). *Disaster planning and control*. Tulsa, Okla: PennWell/Fire Engineering.

Wilkinson, F. C., Lewis, L. K., & Dennis, N. K. (2010). *Comprehensive guide to emergency preparedness and disaster recovery*. Chicago: Association of College and Research Libraries.