

In Response

san francisco

card

A Publication of San Francisco Collaborating Agencies Responding to Disaster
made possible by support from the Pacific Gas and Electric Company and the United Way

In Response is SFCARD's monthly newsletter for current information
on disaster preparedness in the San Francisco community.

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Issue 21, September 2003

The Disaster Files

Keep an Eye out for Food Conference Invitations!

SFCARD is organizing the **Disaster Food Conference: Meeting Food Needs** on October 30th from 8:30am to 1pm.

The conference is free and open to all agencies with a food program including: food pantries, congregate meal sites, homebound delivery programs, large kitchens, residential facilities and so forth.

After a disaster all agencies with food programs will be expected to respond. Be sure that you know how!

Visit the SFCARD website www.sfcard.org and click on the Food Conference link to register for the conference and fill out a survey on the services you provide.

We look forward to seeing you on October 30th.

Fleet Week is here and the Community Disaster Fair is back!

It's that time of year again, when the Blue Angels soar over the city streets and give even the most tenacious cell phone user pause!

Once again, the SF Office of Emergency Service will organize a Community Disaster Fair featuring SFCARD, the Volunteer Center of San Francisco, the Red Cross Bay Area, the Salvation Army, SFPD, SFFD and many others.

Come visit us Saturday and Sunday, October 11th and 12th from 10am – 5pm at the west end of the Marina Green (Marina Blvd & Scott).

Brown Bag Lunches and Other Free Training Opportunities

Department of Building Inspection

www.sfgov.org/dbi

1660 Mission, room 2001

12-1pm

1. October 16th
Lead Paint Rules, Regulation and Enforcement
2. November 20th
Electrical Safety in San Francisco Buildings
3. December 18th
Emergency Response Plans for Earthquakes and Other Events

SF Ready

www.sfready.org

SF Federal Reserve Bank,

101 Market Street

12 – 1:30pm

1. October 15th
Emergency Technology Update: Cyber Security, Telecom & Data Recovery
2. December 17th
Workplace Issues and Labor Law

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Fire Safety Campaign Targets Infants and Toddlers

FEMA is kicking off a campaign to raise awareness about the increased risk of fire death for young children, and to teach parents and caregivers how they can avoid the tragedy. The campaign's message emphasizes installing smoke alarms, securing lighters and matches, and developing a fire evacuation plan under the theme: "Prepare. Practice. Prevent the Unthinkable."

A baby or toddler under age five dies nearly every day in a residential fire, according to U.S. Fire Administration statistics. From 1989 through 1998, U.S. children younger than age five were twice as likely as the rest of the population to die in a residential fire. The campaign targets parents and caregivers, such as grandparents, to prevent residential fires from starting, and to increase the chances that the entire family can escape a fire quickly and safely. Even toddlers can be taught how to quickly respond in case of fire and adults need to know how they will escape with infants.

The Fire Safety Campaign for Babies and Toddlers includes four national partner organizations that have pledged to spread the message to parents and caregivers, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, ZERO TO THREE, National SAFE KIDS Campaign and the National Fire Protection Association. The campaign materials include a print public service announcement, an educational video on fire safety for babies and toddlers, posters, brochures and fact sheets.

Parents and other caregivers can visit a new Web site at www.usfaparents.gov to view the materials in English and Spanish, and to order materials through the **U.S. Fire Administration's Publications Online Catalog**.

Other FEMA News

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, Department of Homeland Security has increased the maximum amounts for assistance under the Individuals and Households Program (IHP) for emergencies and major disasters declared on or after October 1, 2003. The new maximum amount of IHP financial assistance provided to an individual or household under section 408 of the Act with respect to any single emergency or major disaster is \$25,600. The maximum amount of Repair Assistance is \$5,100, and the maximum amount of Replacement Assistance is \$10,200.

This assistance is critical for individuals after a disaster but the application process can seem complicated. Agencies that work with vulnerable populations can play a critical role in facilitating this application process for their clients after a disaster.

For further information, please check the FEMA website at www.fema.gov.

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SFCARD NEWS!!!

An enormous thank you to our wonderful volunteers from Saint Ignatius High School **Alice** and **Hunter**. They were a tremendous help with the Disaster Food Conference. They researched those agencies with food programs and confirmed the appropriate person to invite. They were wonderful and we couldn't have done this without them.

Thank you to **Bob Jacklevich, Auxiliary Communications Service** and **NERT Auxiliary** who came through yet again for our August mitigation training. Also a big thank you to **Elizabeth Thompson, Marin Department of Social Services** for speaking on the impacts of a disaster on mental health. She addressed the importance of planning to support staff and client mental health, Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM), and tips for self-care.

Our next **information exchange** training will be on Thursday, **October 9th**. **Dr. Tomaso Aragon, SF Department of Public Health** and **Glenn Ortiz-Schuldt, Emergency Communications Department** and former Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) will discuss current health challenges as well as health issues to consider during a disaster.

Date: **Thursday, October 9th, 2003**
Time: 9am – 11am
Place: Rose Resnick Lighthouse for the Blind
214 Van Ness Avenue, at Hayes
Nearest MUNI/BART: Civic Center
RSVP: info@sfcard.org or leave a voice mail on (415) 558.2737

Lastly, our new **Information Exchange Training Schedule for 2003-2004** is out. If you didn't receive a copy you can download it from our website at www.sfcard.org. We have been extremely fortunate and have wonderful speakers and a variety of new and interesting topics. Join us and learn how you and your agency can be prepared for any emergency!

As always, if you have anything to add or would like us to address in our next newsletter let us know at info@sfcard.org