

Polls for Online Session

A Seat at the Table: Working with First Responders

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1. What are some common needs among the general public during the response phase of a disaster after basic needs (food, water, shelter, safety) have been met?

(Check top 10.)

Medicine; refilling prescriptions

Filing FEMA forms

Getting insurance information

Replacing lost drivers' licenses

Recreational reading

Something for kids to do

Homework help

Contacting family and friends

Setting up an email account

Looking up names and addresses

Information about the status of their homes and communities

Solving bar bets

Faxing services

Printing maps to relatives' homes

Access to local newspapers

Weather information

Identifying pills and medications

Getting contact information for doctors

Sense of normalcy

Checking on Ebay bids

Stopping US mail to one's home

Reporting in at work

Applying for unemployment

Applying for a job

Recharging cell phones

2. Which of the following was NOT a major role for libraries pre-Internet? (Choose one.)

Contacting friends and family via email.

Assisting evacuees in filling out FEMA forms.

Providing access to organizations in order to register missing children and relatives.

Assistance in applying to replace vital records and other documents.

None of the above.

All of the above.

**3. What are some possible benefits of partnerships?
(Check all that apply.)**

Initiates process of deliberating and negotiating encourages trade-offs and increases flexibility.

Forces information professionals to explain library functions in non-library terms.

Provides opportunity to develop leadership skills.

Allows for “passing the buck” if something goes wrong.

Allows information professional to gain better understanding of the community, its needs and opinions.

Provides opportunity to become more assertive.

Makes the director more important to library staff.

Provides opportunity to draw on expertise in areas the library staff does not have.

Provides opportunity to make the library more visible in the community.

Is easy and things seldom go wrong.

Helps library define mission in terms of benefit to community.

Spreads the risk and allows library to try new things.

4. What are some possible pitfalls/negatives of partnerships? (Check all that apply.)

Organizational missions and focus of various partners may not be the same – may even be competitive.

Librarian may not have assertiveness skills and projects poor image of the library.

No one is in charge; nothing gets done.

Library may begin to attract new users that are not currently library users.

Lines of responsibility and authority are not clear, resulting in chaos.

Greater range of resources to draw upon.

Potential infighting, back-stabbing and dirty politics.

Community partners may derive greater understanding and appreciation of what the library does.

Library may be able to more effectively target services to the community.