

# Getting Organized for Emergency Preparedness

## *Neighbors Helping Neighbors*



- Context
- Types of Multi-Unit Housing
- 3 Types of Emergencies
- Key Players
- Needed Prior to Emergency
- Problem Statement
- Desired State
- Solution
- OK-Help Signs

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# Context

An Individual

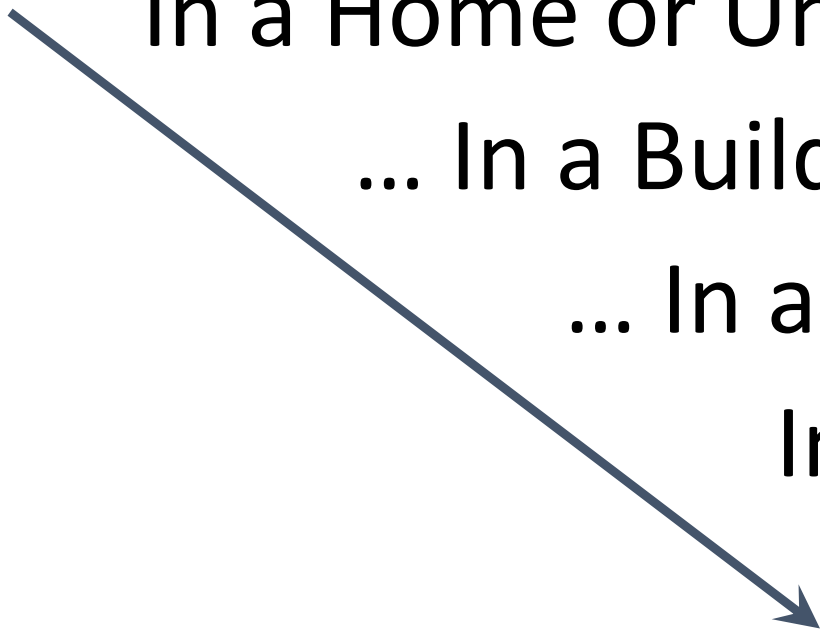
In a Home or Unit

... In a Building

... In a Complex

In a Neighborhood

In a Community



# Types Housing

## **Single-Family Homes**

*Owners and HOAs*

## **Apartments & Townhouses**

*Renters and Property Managers*

- Large Complexes (50 to 500+ units)
- Small Complex (under 50 units)
- Duplex, Triplex and Quad Apartments
- Rentable Townhouse Units

## **Condominiums**

*Owners and HOAs*

- Apartments
- Townhouses

# 3 Types of Emergencies

## **“Catastrophic” Emergency**

**Example: Subduction Fault Earthquake**

- Last occurred on January 26, 1700 at 9pm
- 39% chance of 7.0+ earthquake in the next 50 years
- Will cause multiple emergencies and a broad spectrum of needs
- Many people do not believe that this could happen to them and are unprepared
- Recovery could take 30+ days

## **“Major” Emergencies**

**Example: 2020 Ice Storm**

- Trees and electrical wires down
- Roads Blocked
- Many areas affected
- Occurs 1 - 2 times per year on average
- Recovery could take 7-10 days

## **“Minor” Emergencies**

**Example: Broken Water Pipe**

- Street Floods
- Building Fire
- Affects a limited area
- Occurs several times each month

# About Emergencies

## Causes of Emergencies ...

- Water Pipe Break
- Sewer Line Break
- Gas Line Break
- Electrical Outage
- Hazardous Waste
- Hot or Cold Weather
- Cell Phone Outage
- Smoke
- Fire
- Wind
- Flood
- Toxic Fumes
- Broken Glass
- Toppled Furniture
- Building Collapse
- Wires Down
- Trees Down
- Roads Blocked
- Stores Closed

## Potential Needs ...

Food and Water  
Ability to Cook Food  
Heating or Cooling  
Medication  
Medical Care  
Lighting  
Telephone Service  
Search & Rescue  
Short-term Shelter (Public, Family or Friend)  
Long-term Shelter (Public or New Place to Live)  
Power Bricks  
Gas for Car  
Protect Pets  
Tents, Portable Tables and chairs  
Extra Blankets  
Tarps and Rain Wear  
Radios and Training in Their Use  
Fire Extinguishers and Training in Their Use  
Escape Ladder or Chute  
Cash (since ATMs may be down)  
“To Go” Bag  
Updates on Status of Emergency

# Key Players ...

- Residents of Single-family Homes
- Residents of Townhouses
- Residents of Muti-Unit Housing
- People who rent out their apartment or condo
- Apartment Managers
- Apartment Owners
- Condo Boards
- Homeowner Association Boards
- Neighborhood Associations
- City and County Emergency Management Team
- Police, Fire and Public Works Departments

# Needed Prior to an Emergency

## 1. **Awareness**

Emergencies are real and can occur at any time

- Form a Resident Group
- Talk with your neighbors

## 2. **Educate** Yourself

How to prepare (food, water, special tools, etc.).

## 3. Gather **Information**

List of Volunteer Resources in your area

## 4. **Connect** with Your Neighbors

Ability to distribute resource information to neighbors at start of emergency

## 5. **Supplies**

Emergency supplies purchased individually or as a group

# Problem Statement

## **Residents ...**

- are often not prepared or organized to respond to an emergency
- often believe that someone will come to help them during an emergency (which may not be the case)



# Problem Statement

## **Residents of Multi-Unit Housing ...**

- are often considered “transient” even though they may be long- time residents
- do not have control over the structural integrity of their building
- may not know each other, especially in Multi-Unit Housing with 50+ units
- may not have previously experienced emergencies and may not understand that emergencies (large and small) will happen
- often believe that their building manager or HOA will help them during an emergency, which is generally not the case
- may not be aware of or be educated in emergency preparedness
- may have nowhere to have a group meeting
- have no one willing to apply for a Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) supply grant managed by the City Planning Department
- have no place to store materials that would be shared in an emergency (like a garage)

Desired State

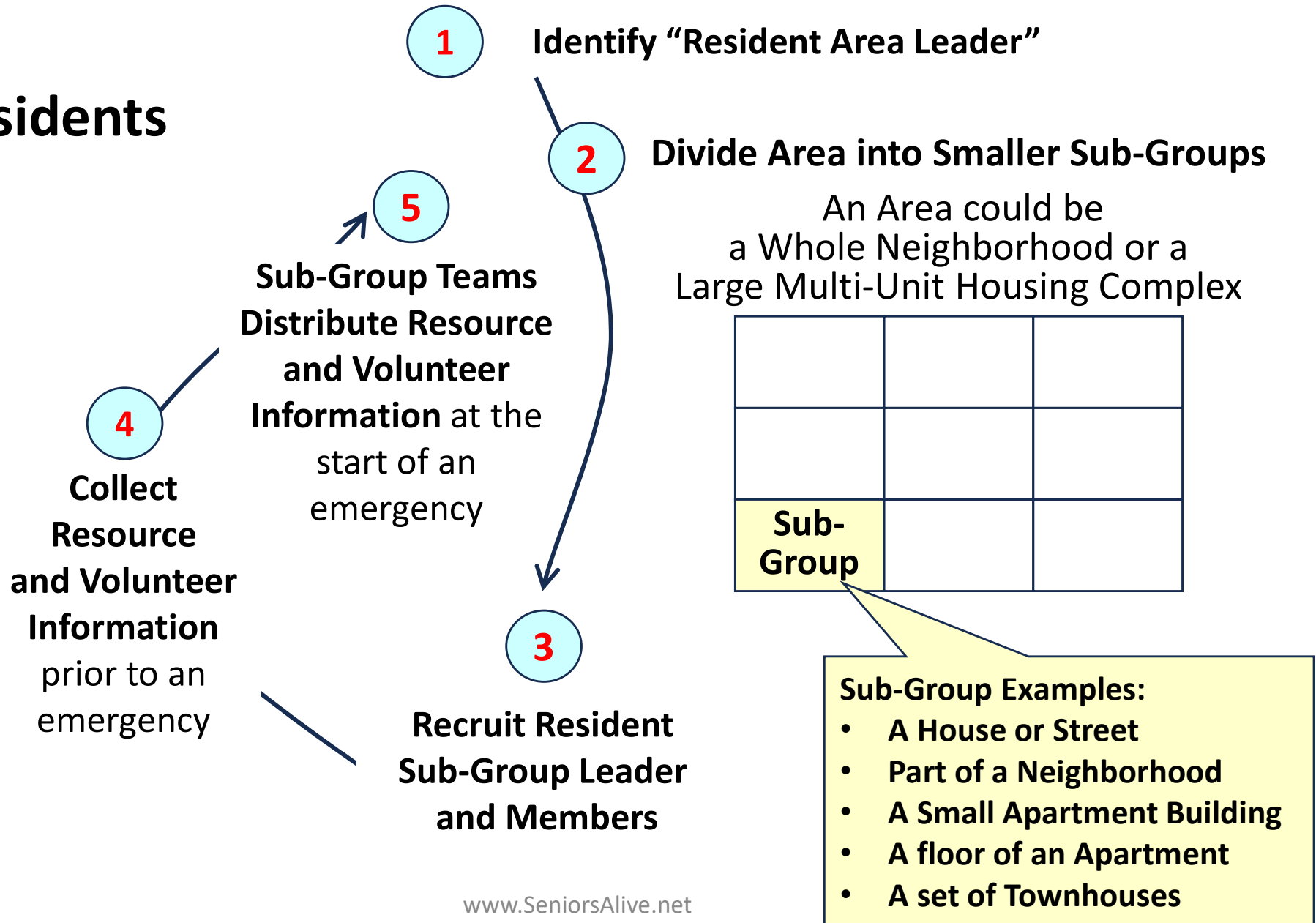
**Neighbors helping neighbors**  
manage during the **first week of**  
**an emergency**

# Solution – Residents Get Organized

1. Form an **“Area Group”** and identify an **“Area Group Leader”**
2. Identify **smaller sub-groups** as appropriate
3. Identify **Sub-Group Leaders and Members** for each sub-group
4. **Sub-Groups Collect** Resource and Volunteer information **prior to** an emergency
5. **Sub-Groups Distribute** Resource and Volunteer Information at the **start** of an emergency

# Solution – Residents Get Organized

## Residents



# Solution - Supplies

## Recommended Action

### Preparedness Starts at Home ...

- **Emergency Multi-Tool:** Gas & Water Shut Off, Pry Bar, 4 in 1, Non-Sparking, Emergency earthquake Gas Shut Off Valve - Fireman Tools - Gas Turn Off Wrench - Tern Tool
- **Portable Power Station:** Lithium Battery Power, AC, DC, USB QC3.0, used for LED flashlight, charging cell phone, CPAP, and running refrigerator
- **Headlamp Flashlight:** USB Rechargeable Led Head Lamp
- **Emergency Food Bucket:** 150-200 total servings, variety of meals, just add water
- **Water:** 1 gallon per day per person and pet
- **Window sign** with “OK” on one side with a green background and “Help” on the other side with a red background.
- **Garbage Bags** - Large Heavy Dusty Black Plastic and smaller White Plastic

# Solution - Supplies

## Recommended Action (continued)

### Preparedness Starts at Home ...

- **Radios** – two way and with City and training in their use
- **Temporary Shelter** – Tent, Extra Blankets, Table and Chairs, Portable Stove
- **Fire Extinguishers** - and training in their use
- **Escape Ladder** or Chute
- **Cash** since ATMs may be down
- Prepare a **“To Go” Bag** in case a resident has to evacuate their residence. Strap down water heater
- **Prepare Furniture** - attach furniture, such as bookcases, to wall so they won't tip over

# OK

**We are OK and have evacuated. We can be contacted at:**

Place in window visible from the street



# HELP

**Resident**

**Name:**

**Phone #:**

**Emergency Contact**

**Name:**

**Phone #:**