

*The information contained in this Executive Summary has been taken directly from the Nueces County Emergency Management which has been designated as a CONFIDENTIAL document. The below information should be handled accordingly.*

## **NUECES COUNTY ANNEX O- HUMAN SERVICES Commissioners Court Executive Summary**

The purpose of this annex is to help provide human services support to people who require food, clothing, mental health services, and victim's compensation in the aftermath of an emergency. The services described in this annex apply to limited scale incidents as well as major emergencies and disasters.

### **Assumptions**

- Disaster survivors evacuated from their homes and housed in temporary shelters, those that remain in their homes under adverse conditions, and emergency responders may need human services support in the aftermath of a disaster.
- In the aftermath of an emergency, victims and emergency responders, normally not clients of local and state human service agencies, may require some form of human services assistance, including food, clothing, and disaster mental health services. These needs may place abnormal demands on the delivery of human services, including disaster mental health services, emergency assistance, and the care of individuals with functional and access needs. Consequently, the clientele of both local and state human service organizations may increase.
- In some cases, personnel may need disaster mental health services during response operations.

### **Activities by Phases of Emergency Management**

#### **Prevention**

- Identify population groups who may require special assistance during an emergency.

#### **Preparedness**

- Identify volunteer groups and other sources that can provide emergency food and clothing in the aftermath of emergencies.
- Identify agencies or groups that can provide disaster mental health services and victim's services during and in the aftermath of emergencies
- Identify and train human services representatives who will staff the County EOC.

## **Response**

- Provide food and clothing to disaster victims as needed.
- Register evacuees or victims or assist volunteer groups in performing this task.
- Provide contact information to victims who need human services assistance.

## **Recovery**

- Assess needs of victims and provide assistance, including, but not limited to, temporary housing, food, clothing, clean-up services, minor home repairs, and other support.
- Coordinate with the Public Information Officer to inform the public of the availability of human services programs.
- Assess the need for disaster mental health services for emergency responders and disaster victims. Coordinate and arrange for such support, if needed.
- Provide human services personnel to staff the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC), if activated.

## **Organization & Assignment of Responsibilities**

### **General**

- The County Judge shall provide policy guidance with respect to emergency human services operations. The Nueces County Human Services Director will manage the human services function during emergency operations.
- Human services will be provided through the coordinated efforts of local human services professionals, human service agencies, local volunteer groups, the ARC, TSA, and other volunteer organizations.

### **Task Assignments:**

County Judge

Social Services Director

Behavior Health Center of Nueces County

Shelter Officer

Public Information Officer

Volunteer Groups & Charitable Organizations