



# DISASTER HEALTH FOR THE COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAM

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**A disaster is characterized as an encounter between forces of harm and a human population in harm's way, influenced by the ecological context, that creates demands that exceed the coping capacity of the affected community.**

# DISASTER ECOLOGY MODEL

**Resilience Factors**

**Risk Factors**

Societal/Structural Context

Community Context

Individual/Family Context

Individual/Family Context

Community Context

Societal/Structural Context

**Forces of Harm**

**Affected Population**

**Disaster  
Impact**

# PSYCHOSOCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF DISASTER

**1**

**Widespread and Pervasive**

**2**

**Spectrum of Severity**

**3**

**Range of Duration**

**4**

**Disaster-related**

1

# PSYCHOSOCIAL CONSEQUENCES: WIDESPREAD

In a disaster,  
the size of the  
psychological  
“footprint”  
greatly  
exceeds the  
size of the  
medical  
“footprint.”

psychological  
“footprint”

medical  
“footprint”

1

# PSYCHOSOCIAL CONSEQUENCES: WIDESPREAD

**SAFETY  
FUNCTION  
ACTION**  
FOR DISASTER RESPONDERS



psychological  
"footprint"

medical  
"footprint"

1

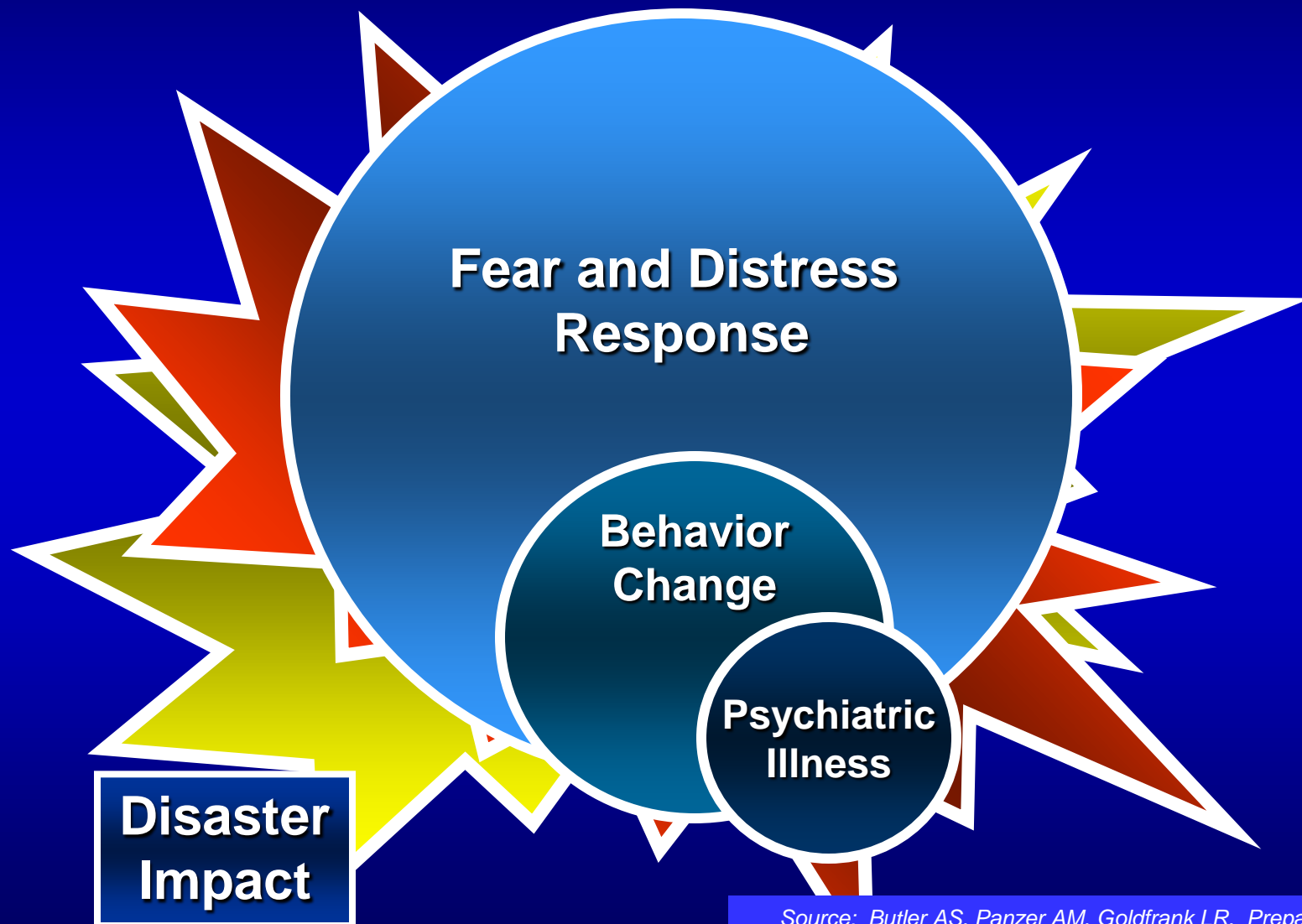
# PSYCHOSOCIAL CONSEQUENCES: WIDESPREAD

**SAFETY  
FUNCTION  
ACTION**  
FOR DISASTER RESPONDERS



2

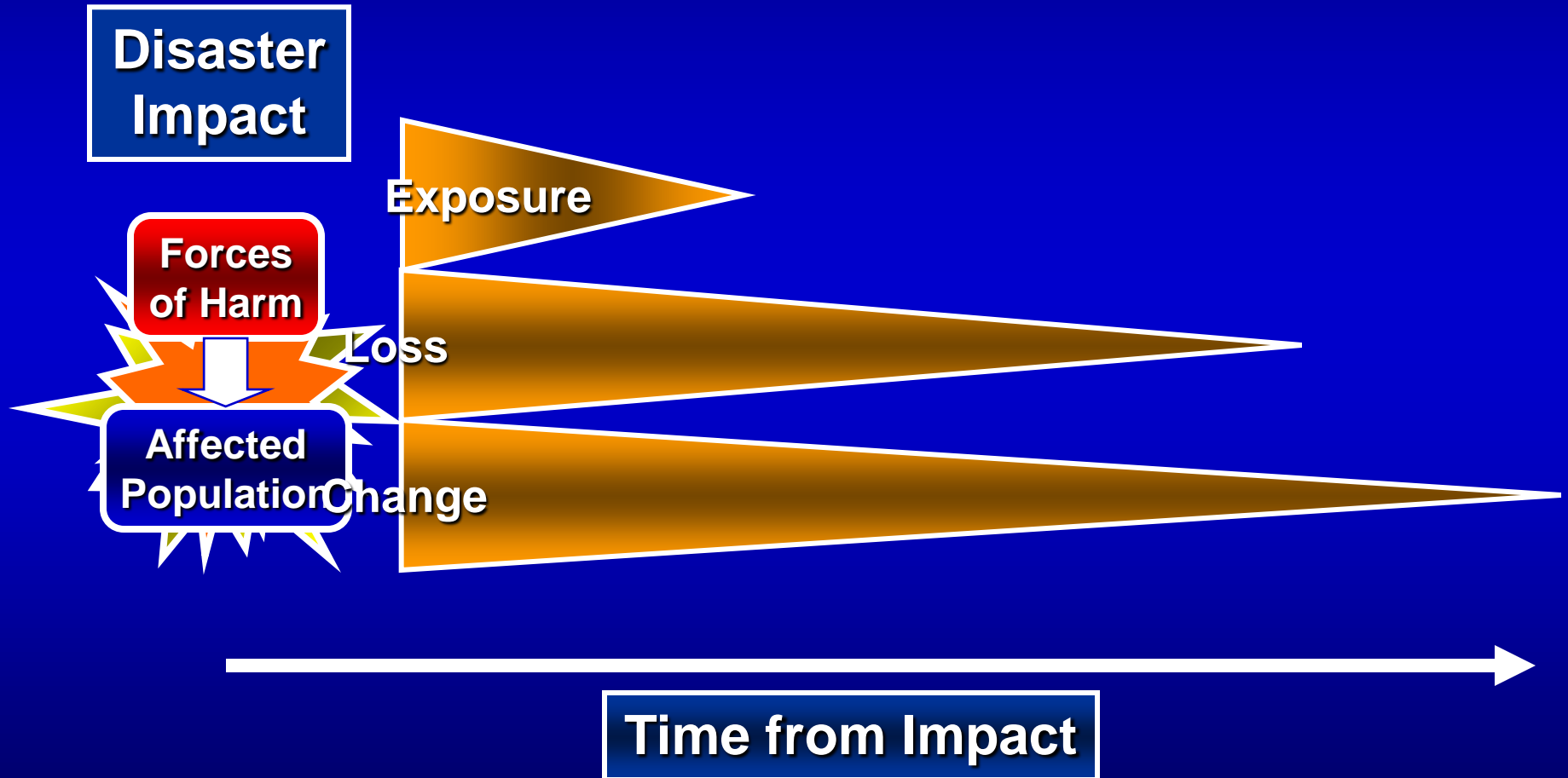
# PSYCHOSOCIAL CONSEQUENCES: SPECTRUM OF SEVERITY



Source: Butler AS, Panzer AM, Goldfrank LR. *Preparing for the psychological consequences of terrorism: A public health approach.* Washington, D.C.: National Academies Press, 2003.

3

# PSYCHOSOCIAL CONSEQUENCES: RANGE OF DURATION



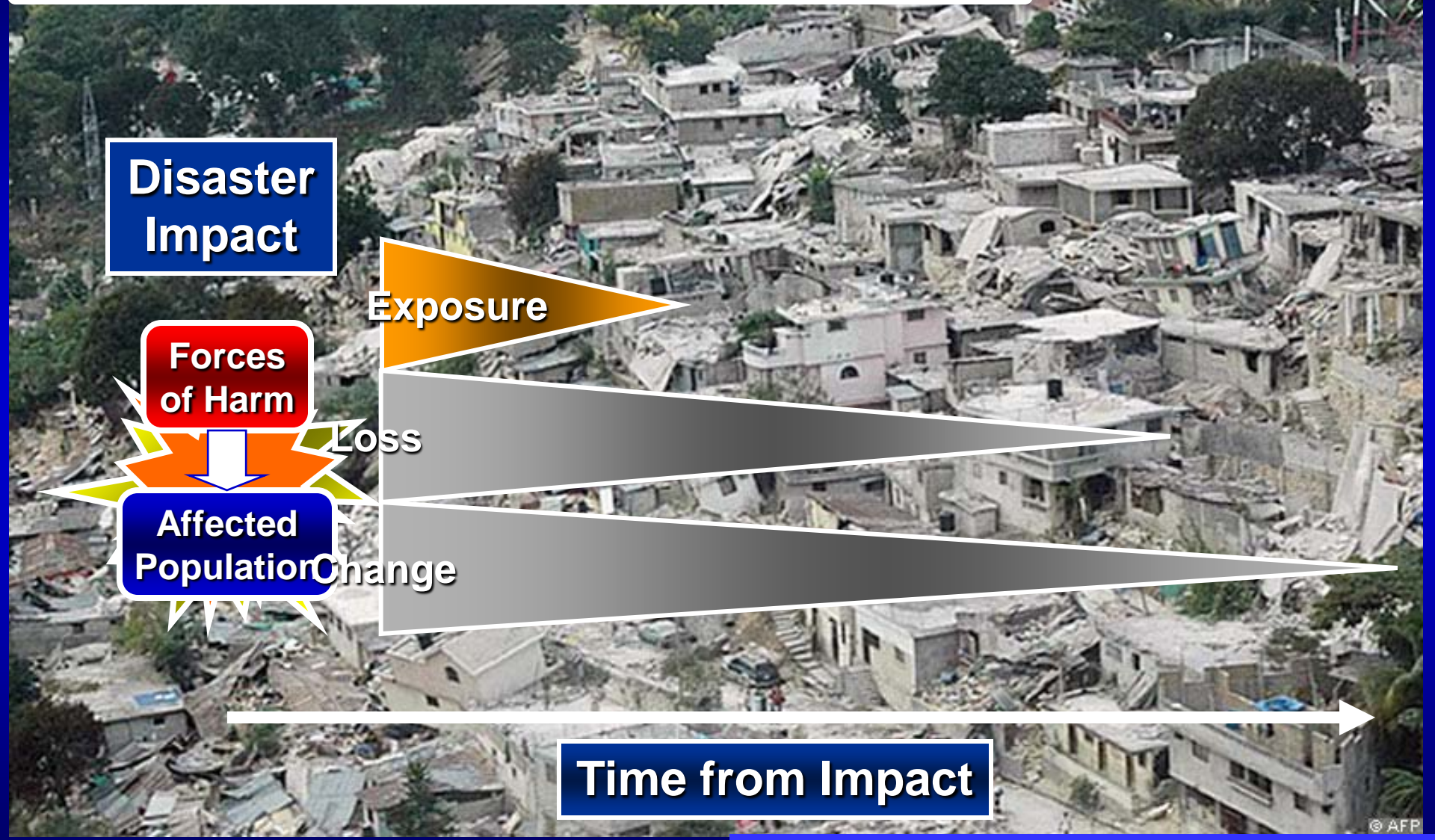
Source: Shultz JM, Espinel Z, Galea S, Reissman DB.

*Disaster Ecology: Implications for Disaster Psychiatry.* In Ursano et al. (eds.)

*Textbook of Disaster Psychiatry,* Cambridge University Press, 2007.

# 3

## PSYCHOSOCIAL CONSEQUENCES: RANGE OF DURATION



**Disaster  
Impact**

**Forces  
of Harm**

**Affected  
Population**

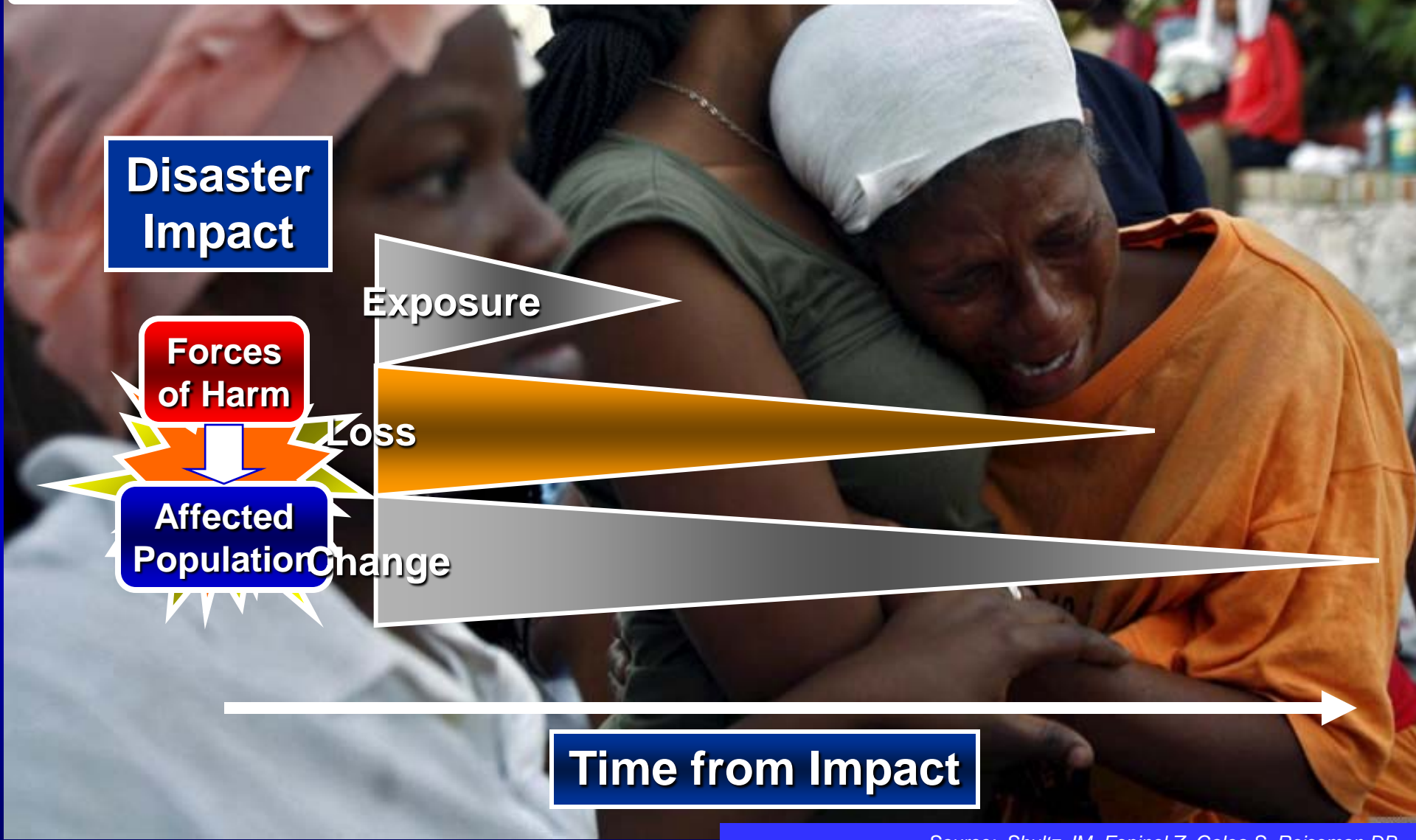
Exposure

Loss

Change

**Time from Impact**

# 3 PSYCHOSOCIAL CONSEQUENCES: RANGE OF DURATION



**Disaster Impact**

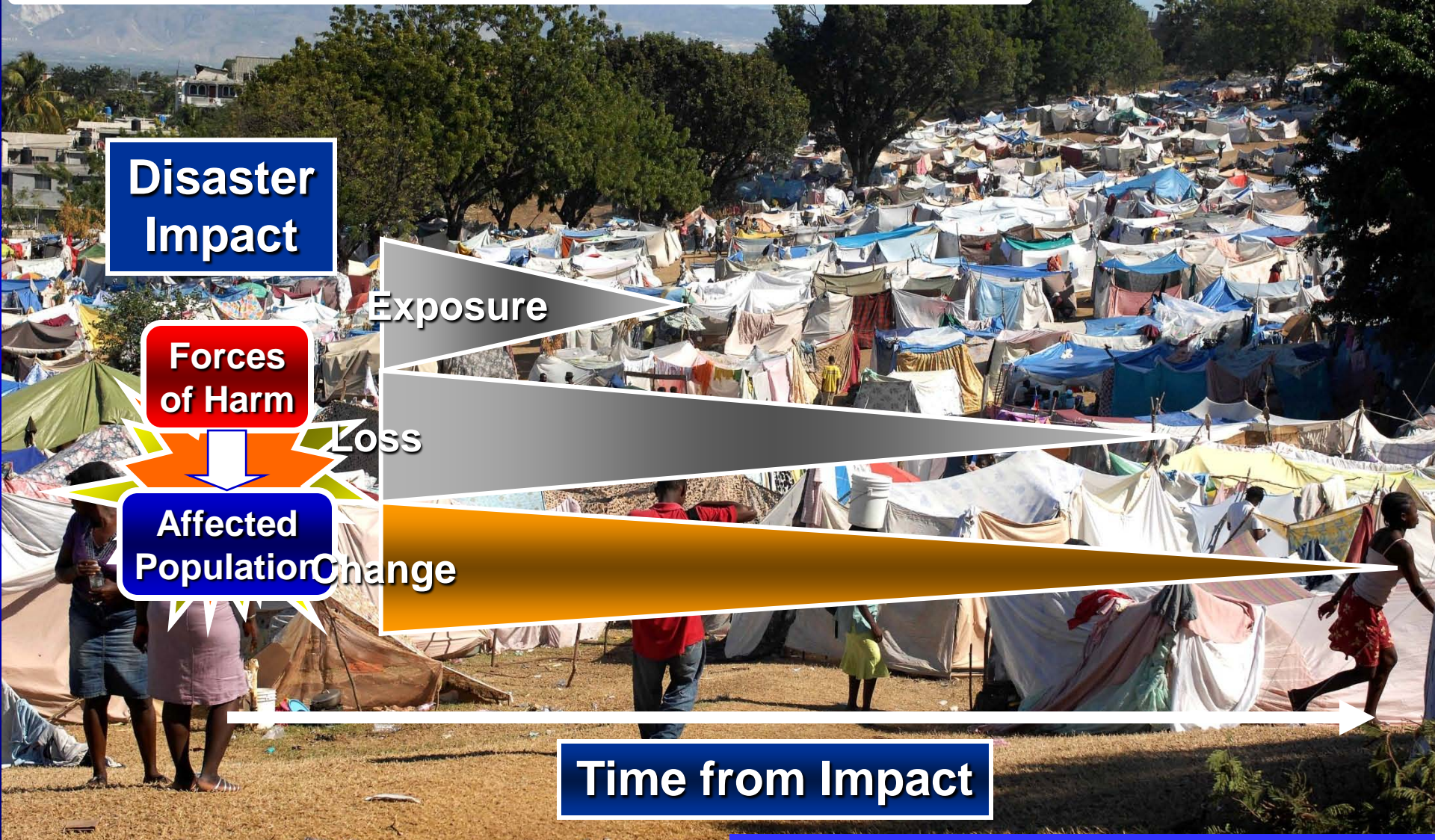
**Forces of Harm**

**Affected Population**



**Time from Impact**

# 3 PSYCHOSOCIAL CONSEQUENCES: RANGE OF DURATION



# 4

## PSYCHOSOCIAL CONSEQUENCES: TYPE OF DISASTER

### *Natural Disasters*

Hurricanes, Storms

Floods, Mudslides

Wildfires, Extreme  
Heat, Cold

Earthquakes,  
Tsunamis, Landslides

Pandemics

### *Human-Generated Disasters*

Non-intentional

Technological

Intentional

Mass Violence

Terrorism

Complex  
Emergencies

# 4

## PSYCHOSOCIAL CONSEQUENCES: TYPE OF DISASTER

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## PSYCHOSOCIAL CONSEQUENCES: TYPE OF DISASTER

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**Non-intentional**

**Technological**

**Intentional**

**Mass Violence**

**Terrorism**

**Complex  
Emergencies**

# CATASTROPHE

# PSYCHOSOCIAL CONSEQUENCES: MECHANISMS

**1**

**Extreme exposure during impact**

**2**

**Extreme hardship in the aftermath**

**3**

**Separation or loss of loved one**

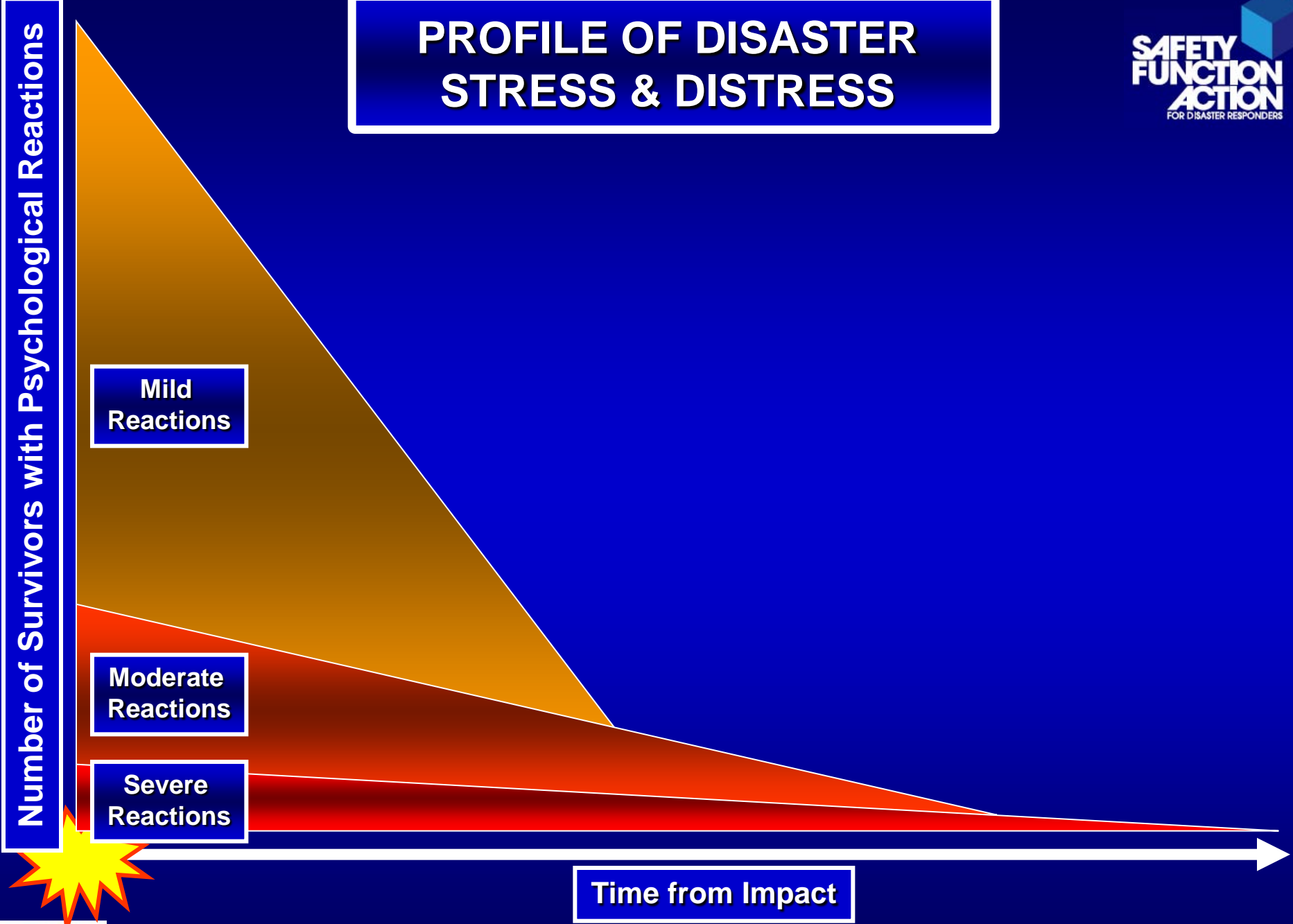
**4**

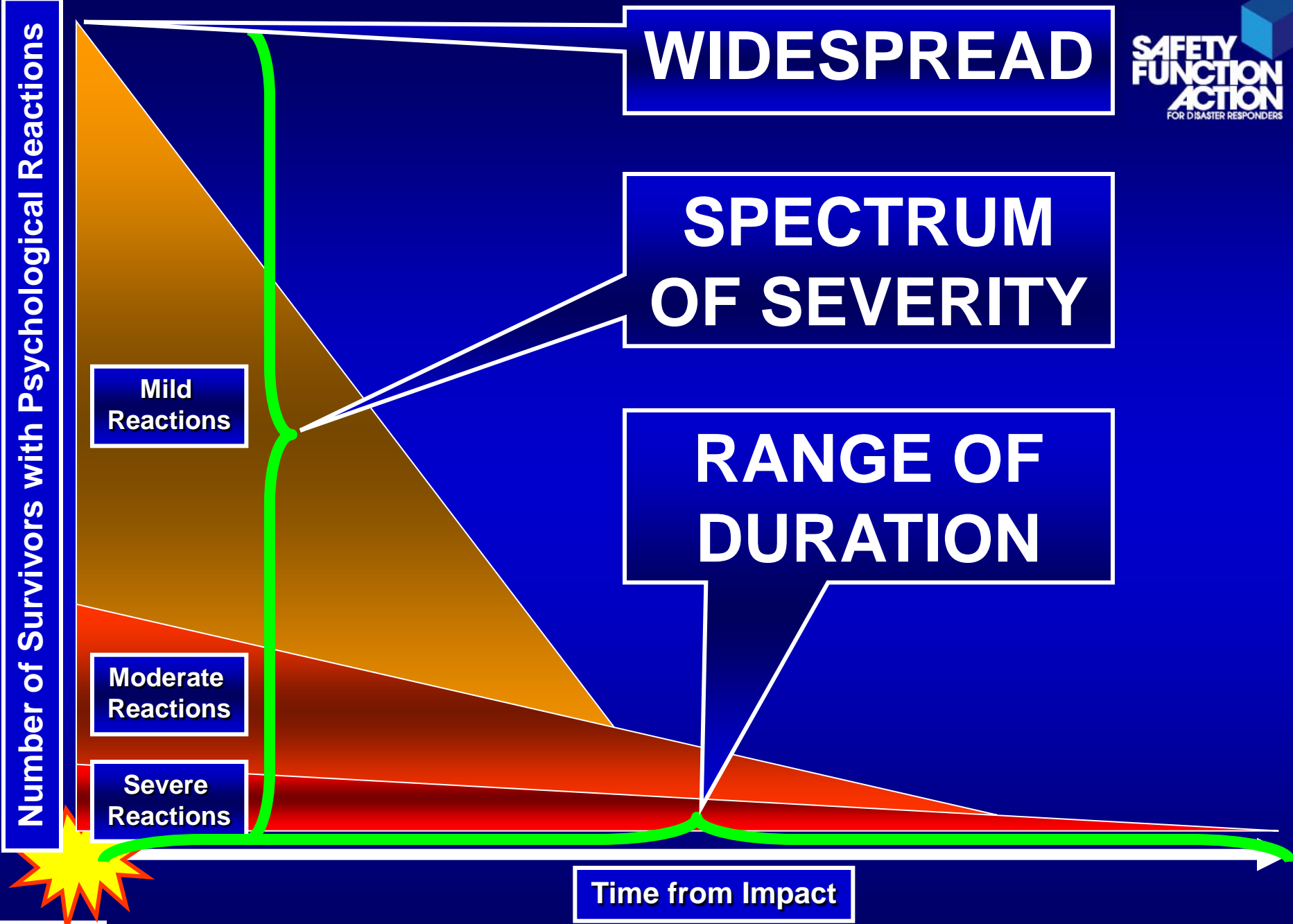
**Loss of place or territory**

**5**

**Violation of meaning, justice, order**

# PROFILE OF DISASTER STRESS & DISTRESS





# SFA FRAMEWORK

**SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION**  
is a framework  
for achieving and maintaining  
a high level of  
**DISASTER HEALTH**  
and well-being

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION GOAL



Achieve and maintain  
a high level of  
**DISASTER HEALTH**  
and well-being.

# HSPD-21: DISASTER HEALTH

## Homeland Security Presidential Directive 21 (HSPD 21)

“National Strategy for Public Health and Medical Preparedness.”



HSPD 21 proposes a new field  
of “**disaster health**”  
to bring together medical,  
public health, public safety, and  
behavioral health aspects of  
disaster preparedness and response.

# DISASTER HEALTH: DEFINITION

## DISASTER HEALTH

Maximal **SAFETY**,  
optimal **FUNCTION**,  
and effective **ACTION**

in preparedness for, and response to,  
emergencies, disasters,  
and extreme events.

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION 3 KEYS TO DISASTER HEALTH



Maximal

**SAFETY**

Optimal

**FUNCTION**

Effective

**ACTION**

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION 3 KEYS AND SIX STRATEGIES

## 3 KEYS TO DISASTER HEALTH

Maximal

**SAFETY**

Optimal

**FUNCTION**

Effective

**ACTION**

## 6 STRATEGIES

**SAFEGUARD**

**SUSTAIN**

**COMFORT**

**CONNECT**

**ADVISE**

**ACTIVATE**

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION PARALLEL STRATEGIES

**PREPARE**  
SKILLS SET

STRATEGIES FOR  
RESPONDERS

SAFEGUARD

SUSTAIN

COMFORT

CONNECT

ADVISE

ACTIVATE

**RESPOND**  
SKILLS SET

STRATEGIES FOR  
SURVIVORS

SAFEGUARD

SUSTAIN

COMFORT

CONNECT

ADVISE

ACTIVATE

**SAFETY**

**FUNCTION**

**ACTION**

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION BUILDING BLOCKS



**1 GOAL**

Achieve and maintain a high level of **DISASTER HEALTH** and well-being.

**DISASTER HEALTH DEFINITION**

Maximal **SAFETY**, optimal **FUNCTION**, and effective **ACTION** in response to emergencies, disasters, and extreme events.

**3 KEYS TO DISASTER HEALTH**

**SAFETY**

**FUNCTION**

**ACTION**

**6 STRATEGIES**

**SAFEGUARD**

**COMFORT**

**ADVISE**

**SUSTAIN**

**CONNECT**

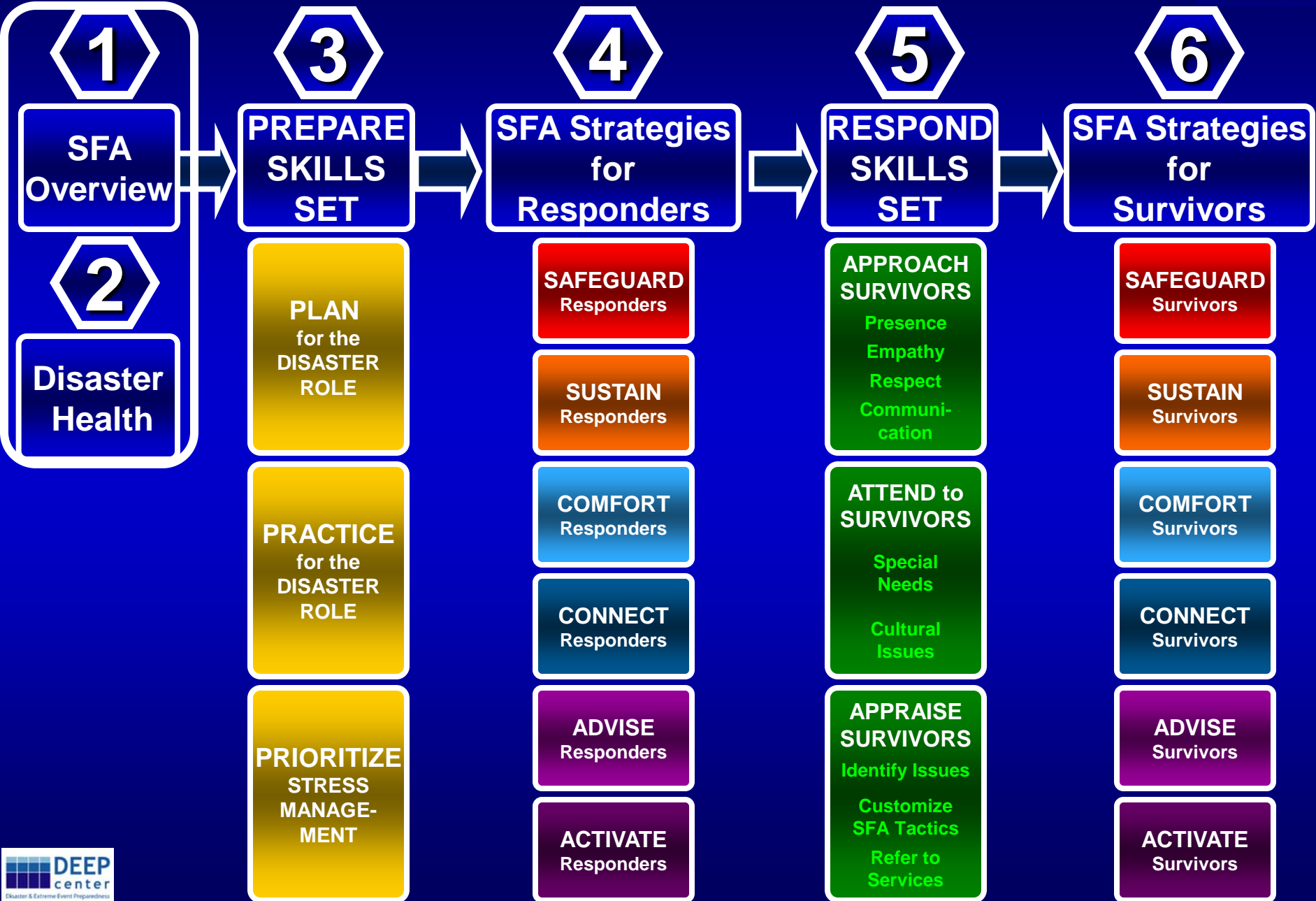
**ACTIVATE**

**2 SKILL SETS**

**PREPARE SKILL SET**

**RESPOND SKILL SET**

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION PATHWAY



**1**

**SFA Overview**

**2**

**Disaster Health**

**3**

**PREPARE SKILLS SET**

**PLAN**  
for the  
DISASTER  
ROLE

**PRACTICE**  
for the  
DISASTER  
ROLE

**PRIORITIZE**  
STRESS  
MANAGEMENT

**4**

**SFA Strategies for Responders**

**SAFEGUARD**  
Responders

**SUSTAIN**  
Responders

**COMFORT**  
Responders

**CONNECT**  
Responders

**ADVISE**  
Responders

**ACTIVATE**  
Responders

**5**

**RESPOND SKILLS SET**

**APPROACH SURVIVORS**  
Presence  
Empathy  
Respect  
Communication

**ATTEND to SURVIVORS**  
Special Needs  
Cultural Issues

**APPRAISE SURVIVORS**  
Identify Issues  
Customize SFA Tactics  
Refer to Services

**6**

**SFA Strategies for Survivors**

**SAFEGUARD**  
Survivors

**SUSTAIN**  
Survivors

**COMFORT**  
Survivors



**CONNECT**  
Survivors

**ADVISE**  
Survivors

**ACTIVATE**  
Survivors



# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION TRAINING MODULE GUIDEBOOK

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION


FOR DISASTER RESPONDERS

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Achieve and Maintain a High Level of DISASTER HEALTH and Well-being

## TRAINING MODULE GUIDEBOOK

James M. Shultz  
Andrea Allen  
Harlee Bustamante  
Zelde Espinel






# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION LAMINATED SHEET



## SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION STRATEGIES, OBJECTIVES & TACTICS

SAFETY FUNCTION  
ACTION STRATEGIES  
FOR DISASTER RESPONDERS

SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION GOAL → ACHIEVE AND MAINTAIN A HIGH LEVEL OF DISASTER HEALTH AND WELL-BEING.

PREPARE SKILLS SET :  
PLAN FOR THE DISASTER ROLE • PRACTICE THE DISASTER ROLE • PRIORITIZE STRESS MANAGEMENT

KEYS TO DISASTER HEALTH	STRATEGIES	OBJECTIVES	TACTICS
SAFETY	<b>SAFEGUARD</b> SAFEGUARD and protect disaster responders from harm.	<b>SECURE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Secure the home front.</li><li>Secure the scene to protect responders.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide human security.</li><li>Assure responders of their safety.</li></ul>
	<b>SUSTAIN</b> SUSTAIN disaster responders with vital supplies and equipment.	<b>SHELTER</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Shelter in fortified structures.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Safeguard responder facilities and disaster response sites.</li></ul>
FUNCTION	<b>COMFORT</b> COMFORT, support, manage stress, and de-stress disasters for disaster responders.	<b>SHIELD</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Shield with personal protective equipment.</li><li>Maintain safe distance.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Shield responders from excessive exposure to traumatic scenes.</li></ul>
		<b>SIGNAL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Attend to disaster warnings.</li><li>Alert responders to danger.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Signal the need for help.</li></ul>
		<b>SUPPLY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Supply basic needs.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide interoperable equipment.</li></ul>
	<b>CONNECT</b> CONNECT disaster responders with team members and sources of interpersonal support. Maintain contact with home and family.	<b>SERVE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide medical services.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide essential services.</li></ul>
		<b>STOCKPILE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Identify sources of supply.</li><li>Stockpile supplies for 120 hours.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rotate and restock regularly.</li><li>Maintain Go-Kits.</li></ul>
		<b>STRETCH</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ration scarce resources.</li><li>Improvise and substitute.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Share resources among teams.</li></ul>
ACTION	<b>ADVISE</b> ADVISE disaster responders about the disaster situation. Educate about positive coping strategies.	<b>RELAX</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Practice stress management.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Prioritize healthy sleep.</li></ul>
		<b>REASSURE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Listen actively to teammates.</li><li>Display gratitude.</li><li>Praise, encourage, motivate team.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Be consistent: Say what you will do and do what you have said.</li></ul>
		<b>RESPECT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Comfort teammates who have been exposed to trauma.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Validate teammates' reactions.</li><li>Constructively address anger/illumination.</li></ul>
	<b>ACTIVATE</b> ACTIVATE disaster responders to serve responsibly, capably, and resiliently.	<b>RESTATE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Restate "worry" thoughts.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Restate positively to instill hope.</li></ul>
		<b>REFUEL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Engage in comforting self-care.</li><li>Prevent burnout.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Guard against compassion fatigue.</li></ul>
		<b>UNITE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Build supportive teams.</li><li>Connect to buddies and teammates.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Create positive work environment.</li></ul>
<b>ADVISE ON DISASTER</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide disaster situation reports.</li></ul>	<b>UNIFY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Network responder units.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Link communications systems across responder units in the field.</li></ul>	
	<b>ADVISE ON MISSION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Orient arriving teams.</li><li>Provide team briefings.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>"Be there" for team members.</li><li>Connect to home and family.</li></ul>	
	<b>ADVISE ON COPING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide information on stress reactions.</li><li>Advise on coping strategies.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Give interpersonal support.</li><li>Receive interpersonal support.</li></ul>	
<b>ACTIVATE RESPONSIBLY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conduct self-check prior to duty.</li><li>Review and rehearse disaster role.</li></ul>	<b>UTILIZE SUPPORT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Give interpersonal support.</li><li>Receive interpersonal support.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide incident action plan.</li></ul>	
<b>ACTIVATE CAPABLY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Stay focused on response duties.</li><li>Perform disaster role competently.</li></ul>	<b>ADVISE ON COPING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide information on stress reactions.</li><li>Advise on coping strategies.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conduct after action review.</li></ul>	
<b>ACTIVATE RESILIENTLY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Maintain disaster health on duty.</li><li>Balance work/home demands.</li></ul>	<b>ACTIVATE RESPONSIBLY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conduct self-check prior to duty.</li><li>Review and rehearse disaster role.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Know chain of command.</li></ul>	
	<b>ACTIVATE CAPABLY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Stay focused on response duties.</li><li>Perform disaster role competently.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Improve/master response skills.</li><li>Serve survivors effectively.</li></ul>	
	<b>ACTIVATE RESILIENTLY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Maintain disaster health on duty.</li><li>Balance work/home demands.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Learn and grow from the disaster experience.</li></ul>	



## SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION STRATEGIES, OBJECTIVES & TACTICS

SAFETY FUNCTION  
ACTION STRATEGIES  
FOR DISASTER SURVIVORS

SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION GOAL → ACHIEVE AND MAINTAIN A HIGH LEVEL OF DISASTER HEALTH AND WELL-BEING.

RESPOND SKILLS SET :  
APPROACH DISASTER SURVIVORS • ATTEND TO CULTURAL ISSUES & SPECIAL POPULATIONS • APPRAISE DISASTER SCENE & SURVIVORS

KEYS TO DISASTER HEALTH	STRATEGIES	OBJECTIVES	TACTICS
SAFETY	<b>SAFEGUARD</b> SAFEGUARD survivors from harm and offer protection.	<b>SAVE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Search for persons in harm's way.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rescue survivors from harm.</li></ul>
	<b>SUSTAIN</b> SUSTAIN survivors by providing basic survival needs.	<b>SECURE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Secure the scene.</li><li>Provide human security.</li></ul>	<b>SECURE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Secure the scene.</li><li>Provide human security.</li></ul>
FUNCTION		<b>COMFORT</b> COMFORT, calm, stabilize and orient distressed and emotionally overwhelmed survivors.	<b>SHELTER</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Evacuate away from harm.</li></ul>
	<b>SHIELD</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Shield from exposure to the scene.</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Shield from rumors, excess media.</li></ul>
	<b>SIGNAL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide disaster warnings.</li><li>Alert survivors to ongoing danger.</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Respond to signals for help.</li></ul>
	<b>CONNECT</b> CONNECT survivors to family, friends, neighbors, pets, community support systems, and disaster responders.	<b>SUPPLY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Supply basic needs.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Outreach and distribute supplies.</li></ul>
		<b>SERVE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide or connect survivors to medical care.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Assist survivors to restore essential services.</li></ul>
		<b>STOCKPILE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Identify sources of supply.</li><li>Stockpile supplies to aid survivors.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rotate and restock supplies.</li></ul>
ACTION	<b>ADVISE</b> ADVISE and inform survivors about the disaster and teach coping strategies.	<b>STRETCH</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ration scarce resources.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Improvise and substitute.</li></ul>
		<b>RELAX</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Teach stress management skills.</li><li>Identify and reduce stressors.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Encourage healthy sleep.</li><li>Stabilize overwhelmed survivors.</li></ul>
		<b>REASSURE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Listen and respond attentively.</li><li>Praise, encourage, and motivate.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Be consistent: Say what you will do and do what you have said.</li></ul>
	<b>ACTIVATE</b> ACTIVATE survivors to participate in disaster recovery, aid other survivors, and access resources.	<b>RESPECT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Validate survivors' reactions.</li><li>Comfort survivors who have been exposed to trauma.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Console survivors who are bereaved or who have witnessed a death.</li><li>Aid survivors to diffuse anger/illumination.</li></ul>
		<b>UNITE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Keep family units intact.</li><li>Reconnect separated loved ones.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Facilitate family communications.</li><li>Connect survivors to each other.</li></ul>
		<b>UTILIZE SUPPORT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Be a connection for survivors.</li><li>Connect survivors with helpers.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Inform survivors about the importance of interpersonal support.</li></ul>
<b>ADVISE ON DISASTER</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide survivors with information on the disaster.</li></ul>	<b>ADVISE ON COPING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Inform about stress reactions.</li><li>Inform about coping strategies.</li><li>Advise on the role of responders.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide regular disaster updates.</li><li>Advise about loss and change.</li><li>Warn about risk behaviors.</li></ul>	
<b>ASSIST</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Engage survivors in recovery.</li><li>Help survivors to help themselves.</li></ul>	<b>ASSIST</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Engage survivors in recovery.</li><li>Help survivors to help themselves.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Help survivors to help each other.</li></ul>	
<b>ACCESS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Give referrals to disaster services.</li><li>Give referrals to support services.</li></ul>	<b>ACCESS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Give referrals to disaster services.</li><li>Give referrals to support services.</li></ul>		

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# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION FLIPBOOK



DEEP center  
Disaster & Extreme Event Preparedness

**SAFETY  
FUNCTION  
ACTION**  
FOR DISASTER  
RESPONDERS

MILLER SCHOOL OF MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI  
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DEEP center  
Disaster & Extreme Event Preparedness

**SAFETY  
FUNCTION  
ACTION**  
FOR DISASTER  
SURVIVORS

MILLER SCHOOL OF MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI  
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

# FIVE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

<b>SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION FRAMEWORK</b>		<b>FIVE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS</b>
<b>SAFETY</b>		
	<b>SAFEGUARD</b>	<b>Safety</b>
	<b>SUSTAIN</b>	
<b>FUNCTION</b>		
	<b>COMFORT</b>	<b>Calming</b>
	<b>CONNECT</b>	<b>Connectedness</b>
<b>ACTION</b>		
	<b>ADVISE</b>	<b>Self-Efficacy</b>
	<b>ACTIVATE</b>	<b>Efficacy &amp; Hope</b>

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION DISTINCTION

1

First course focusing on DISASTER HEALTH

2

Public health, medical preparedness, and behavioral health integration

3

Primary focus on responders

4

One framework for responders and survivors

5

Operates 360° throughout the disaster cycle

6

Incorporates resilience training for responders and psychological support for survivors

7

Structured for evaluation



**SAFETY  
FUNCTION  
ACTION**  
FOR DISASTER RESPONDERS

**PSYCHOLOGICAL  
SUPPORT  
FOR RESPONDERS**

# PREVENTION

- Preparedness
  - Disaster plans
  - “Disaster ready lifestyle”
- Recognition
  - Educate about disasters
    - Expectability of psychological reactions
    - Understanding of disaster health concept
    - Effective stress management and coping skills

# Dimensions of the Stress Response

**Physical**

**Body reactions**

**Emotional**

**Feelings**

**Cognitive**

**Thinking/decision-making**

**Behavioral**

**Actions**

**Spiritual**

**Beliefs and values**

**Social**

**Interactions**

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION FRAMEWORK

## RESPONDERS-PREPARE SKILLS SET

### PREPARE SKILLS SET

**PLAN** for the **DISASTER** **ROLE**

**PLAN**  
for the  
**DISASTER**  
**ROLE**

**PRACTICE** for the **DISASTER** **ROLE**

**PRACTICE**  
for the  
**DISASTER**  
**ROLE**

**PRIORITIZE** **STRESS** **MANAGEMENT**

**PRIORITIZE**  
**STRESS**  
**MANAGEMENT**

# Plan and Prepare: Florida Demographics

- 3<sup>rd</sup> largest state in the nation
  - Overall population: 18.5 million
- 7<sup>th</sup> fastest growing state
  - 3+ million new residents in past 10 years
- Vast number of foreign-born individuals
  - 16.7% of the population
  - Accounts for 61% of state's population increase
- 1.2 million people live in rural FL
- 700,000+ illegal immigrants in FL (many are migrant workers)

US Census Bureau (2010). *Florida Quick Facts*. <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/12000.html>. Accessed May 2010.



Immigration Support (2010). *Immigration to Florida*. <http://www.usimmigrationsupport.org/florida.html>. Accessed May 2010.

# Plan and Prepare: Characteristics of Rural Communities

- High levels of:
  - Poverty (17.8% poverty rate in rural areas vs. 13% poverty rate in urban areas)
  - Unemployment
  - Health related problems
- A usually homogeneous community with pockets of minorities
- Large percentage of population is involved with organized religion

# Plan and Prepare: Rural Populations Post-Disaster

- Accessing population
  - Agricultural considerations (i.e. free time)
  - Migration
  - Living situation
- Cultural values
  - Individualism and independence
  - Stigma of mental health services
  - Religion

# Plan and Prepare: Cross-Cultural Issues

- Recognizing ethnicity
  - Avoiding labels
- Language barriers
- Migration history
  - Reasons for migrating
  - Experiences in homeland, during migration, and in current location
- Level of acculturation
- Social support networks

# Plan and Prepare: Co-occurring Issues Post-Disaster

- Poverty
- Housing
- Lack of understanding and/or language
- Immigration status
- Transient population = lowered social network
- Transient population = lack of stable access to social services
- Compounding health issues
- Mental health symptoms
- Slavery and abuse

# Immigration, Children, and Disasters

- Prior to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti
  - 6% of children in Florida are foreign-born
  - 28% of children in Florida have immigrant parents
- Following the 2010 earthquake in Haiti

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION PARALLEL STRATEGIES

STRATEGIES FOR  
RESPONDERS

STRATEGIES FOR  
SURVIVORS

SAFEGUARD

SAFEGUARD

SUSTAIN

SUSTAIN

COMFORT

COMFORT

CONNECT

CONNECT

ADVISE

ADVISE

ACTIVATE

ACTIVATE

SAFETY

FUNCTION

ACTION

# **DISASTER STRESSORS: HAITI'S YOUTH**

# STRESSORS FOR CHILDREN



**INTENSE EXPOSURE**

# STRESSORS FOR CHILDREN



**INTENSE EXPOSURE**

# STRESSORS FOR CHILDREN



LACK OF SURVIVAL NEEDS

# STRESSORS FOR CHILDREN



**LACK OF BASIC SUPPLIES**

# STRESSORS FOR CHILDREN



**PERSONAL INJURY**

# STRESSORS FOR CHILDREN



INJURY TO CAREGIVERS

# STRESSORS FOR CHILDREN



SEPARATION OR LOSS OF CAREGIVERS

# STRESSORS FOR CHILDREN



**FUNCTIONALLY-IMPAIRED CAREGIVERS**

# STRESSORS FOR CHILDREN



**DISPLACEMENT / POST-IMPACT HARDSHIPS**

# SEVERE PSYCHOLOGICAL REACTIONS

1

INTENSE EXPOSURE

2

LOSS OF A LOVED ONE

3

DISRUPTION OF SURVIVAL NEEDS

4

DISRUPTION OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES

5

PRIOR TRAUMA

6

MAJOR LIFE STRESSORS

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION 3 KEYS AND SIX STRATEGIES

## 3 KEYS TO DISASTER HEALTH

Maximal

**SAFETY**

Optimal

**FUNCTION**

Effective

**ACTION**

## 6 STRATEGIES

**SAFEGUARD**

**SUSTAIN**

**COMFORT**

**CONNECT**

**ADVISE**

**ACTIVATE**

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION

Maximal

# SAFETY

Optimal

# FUNCTION

Effective

# ACTION



# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION



**SAFEGUARD**

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION



**SAFEGUARD**

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION

**SAFETY  
FUNCTION  
ACTION**  
FOR DISASTER RESPONDERS



**SUSTAIN**

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION



SUSTAIN

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION



COMFORT

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION

**SAFETY  
FUNCTION  
ACTION**  
FOR DISASTER RESPONDERS



# CONNECT

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION

SAFETY  
FUNCTION  
ACTION  
FOR DISASTER RESPONDERS



## CONNECT

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION



**ADVISE**

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION

**SAFETY  
FUNCTION  
ACTION**  
FOR DISASTER RESPONDERS



**ACTIVATE**

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION

**SAFETY  
FUNCTION  
ACTION**  
FOR DISASTER RESPONDERS



**ACTIVATE**

# POST-DISASTER INTERVENTIONS

- Classified according to
  - Timing
    - When to intervene
      - Is the survivor receptive for services?
      - Does the intervention drain already minimal resources?
  - Intention
    - Early post-disaster
      - Re-establish sense of safety and security
    - Intermediate post-disaster
      - Increase coping skills
    - Long-term post-disaster
      - Address symptoms of PTSD, Major Depressive Episode, Complicated Grief, Anxiety
      - Build Resiliency

# EMPIRICALLY-INFORMED EARLY INTERVENTION

- Expert panel consensus in 2001 suggests move towards
  - Flexible
  - Non-prescriptive
  - Multi-faceted approach
- Focus on
  - Securing basic needs
  - Applying principles of psychological first aid
  - Conducting needs assessment
  - Monitoring rescue and recovery
  - Providing outreach and information
  - Fostering resilience and recovery
  - Conducting triage and referral
  - Providing psychiatric treatment for subset of survivors (NIMH, 2002)

# SAFETY FUNCTION ACTION PARALLEL STRATEGIES

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