



Research on Social Work and Disasters

Calvin Streeter, Susan A Murty

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Over the past decade, several major natural disasters have had devastating impacts throughout the United States and the world. Since larger populations now live and work on land vulnerable to various hazards, natural disasters can be expected to affect more people each year. As a result, the social work profession soon will be stretched to its limits as it attempts to respond to growing human needs in the wake of hurricanes, tornadoes, storms, floods, earthquakes, and human-made technological disasters. Research on Social Work and Disasters provides the essential strategies social work researchers, other social scientists in the area of disaster research, and emergency management personnel need to prepare for and recover from all forms of disaster. Focusing on hazard, risk, and disaster research, this book presents conceptual approaches and empirical findings in this emerging and important area of social work. It includes research on natural and technological disasters as they impact both rural and urban environments. Research on Social Work and Disasters offers conceptual and methodological guidelines for social work researchers and provides insight into the range of opportunities and issues relevant for disaster research. Specific topics you will learn about include:

- research design, methodology, and measurement
- community awareness and activism
- traumatic stress and stress debriefing
- funding and ethical issues
- vulnerable populations
- hazard education
- action researchResearch on Social Work and Disasters not only addresses effective strategies for
 responding in the aftermath of particular disasters, but also suggests significant ways in which the social
 work profession can become involved in prevention, mitigation, and preparedness activities. The book
 features examples of recent research on disasters chosen to illustrate a variety of types of disasters,
 theoretical approaches, methodologies, and levels of analysis. The implications drawn from this book are
 consistent in suggesting the responsibility of society to care for vulnerable populations and to share the
 burdens caused by catastrophic events.



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