

The Corporation for National and Community service subscribes to the belief that all disasters are managed at the local level; as needs increase, the support and management is elevated through the state to the federal government. National service can play a powerful role on all levels of disaster (local, state, and federal). To ensure efficient and effective engagement, partnerships with local government and state Emergency Management Agencies (EMAs) are essential. By building these networks prior to a disaster, you can maximize the potential of your efforts by engaging national service in a disaster response.

The NSDS is a tiered framework for a community, nonprofit, and/or State Service Commission to guide their relationship and role in emergency management through AmeriCorps and Senior Corps. Each level has specific targets in order to attain as well as to maintain critical partnerships.

WHY NATIONAL SERVICE

National service programs **AmeriCorps** and **Senior Corps** engage citizens in a variety of focus areas under the CNCS mission to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering.

➤ **Force multiplier:** AmeriCorps members and Senior Corps volunteers bring skills and experience to lead others, maximizing the volunteer efforts

➤ **Local:** National Service programs and projects are already serving in the community

➤ **Commitment:** AmeriCorps members and Senior Corps volunteers can commit more time and energy to disaster activity than your average volunteer



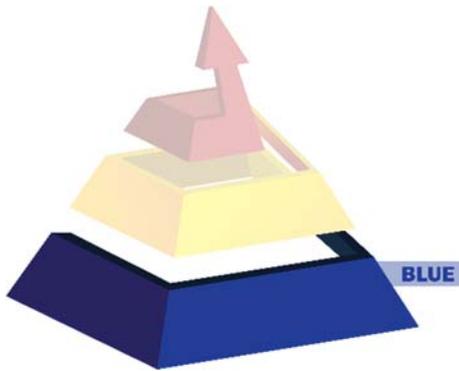
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Email: dsu@cns.gov

Website:

www.nationalservice.gov/focus-areas/disaster-services

National Service Disaster Scale



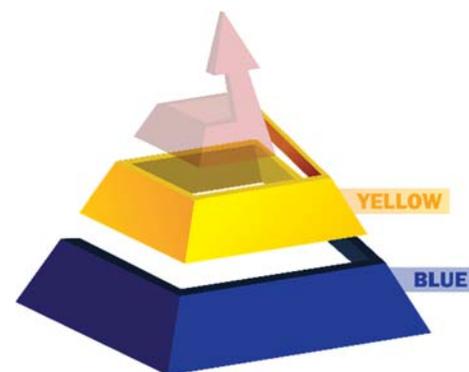
Blue: Identify & Connect

Attain

- Identify your existing level of disaster engagement
- Introductory meeting with Voluntary Agency Liaison
- Outreach meeting with VOAD
- Review DSU resources

Maintain

- Meet quarterly to discuss any disaster engagement
- Included on VOAD contact list
- Meet with the EMA twice a year to maintain relationship



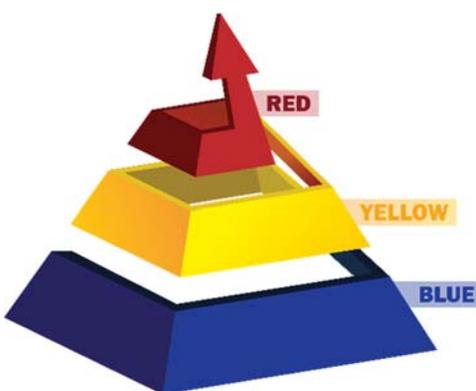
Yellow: Train & Prepare

Attain

- State specific national service assets sheet
- Attend VOAD meetings
- Expand EMA network to include: mass care, donations, case management
- Staff complete disaster trainings

Maintain

- Attend VOAD meetings regularly
- Distribute state specific national service assets sheet
- Continue conversations with EMA on partnerships during "blue sky" and response
- Share training resources with programs and partners



Red: Implement & Lead

Attain

- Meet regularly with EMA
- Have a formal partnership with the EMA (MOU, part of EMA response plan, etc)
- Designated disaster response contact on staff
- Engage in EMA events, such as simulations and preparedness activities
- All programs to have one disaster related training
- Connect with the FEMA Regional VAL

Maintain

- Revisit formal agreement with EMA annually
- Deliver disaster related trainings to programs and community
- Mentor other communities and State Service Commissions to help raise their level on the NSDS