



Human Trafficking and Natural Disasters: Preparation, Action, Recovery

Nancy Hagan, PhD
North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission
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Traffickers

Commodify another human being for their own gain and are highly adaptable to changing environmental conditions.

Natural disasters disrupt systems, displace people, and create chaos. Traffickers exploit the upheaval.

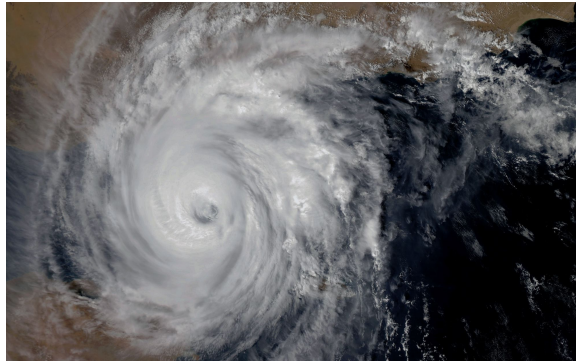
Individuals are often recruited into HT with promises of something desirable such as love, money, shelter, food, and employment.

Greenbaum et al., 2018, citing Reid, 2016

The urgency of meeting basic needs pre-, during, and post-disaster can create distinct vulnerabilities in populations at risk.

Vulnerabilities Associated with Natural Disasters

- Loss of housing/displacement
- Inability to safely meet basic needs
- Separation of families; disruption of social networks
- Loss of income
- Impacts may be emergent, short term and/or long term as with some communities who are still recovering post Hurricane Matthew, 2016





**I know a way you can
make some quick cash.**

#WATCHforTRAFFICK

LOVE146
END CHILD TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION



Lures

“I know a way you can make some quick cash.”

“Don’t want to stay at the shelter? We’ll take care of you.”

“We’ll hold your ID.”

“We’re looking for pretty girls who want to make quick money and get back on your feet after Harvey.”

“Can’t get in touch with family? I’ll help.”

“Stop worrying. You’ll get paid.”

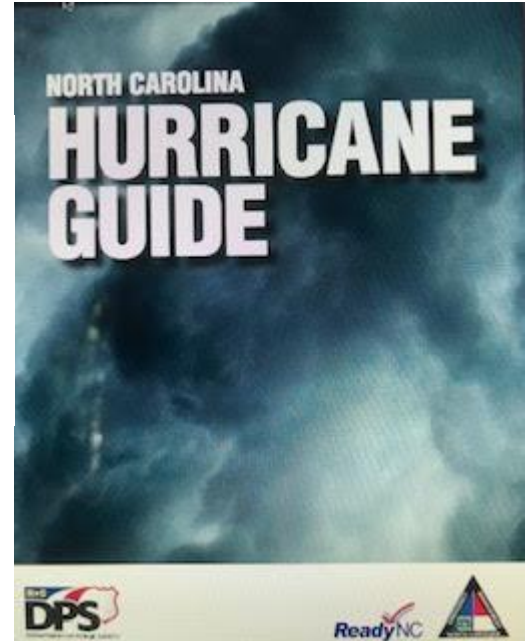
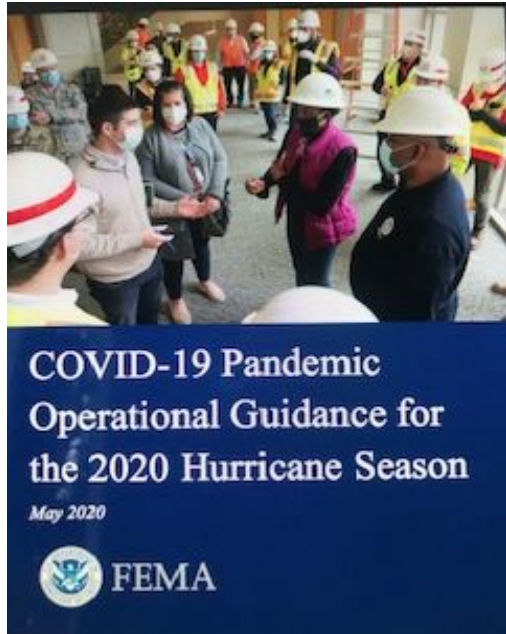
“You think I gave you all that help for nothing?”

“We’ll take care of housing, transportation, and everything you need.”

“We’re legit. Check out our website.”

“If you don’t cooperate, I’ll”

Federal and State Response Guides to Natural Disasters during COVID-19



Natural Disasters during the COVID-19 Pandemic

NCDPS (Shelter)

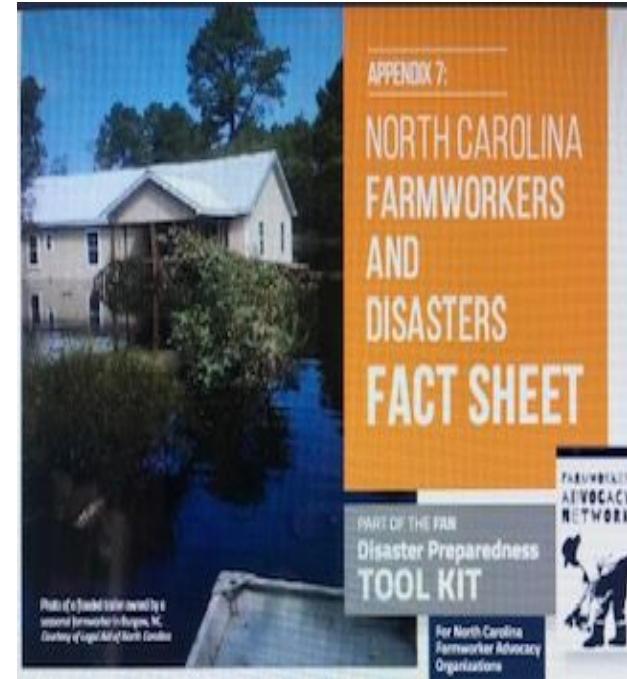
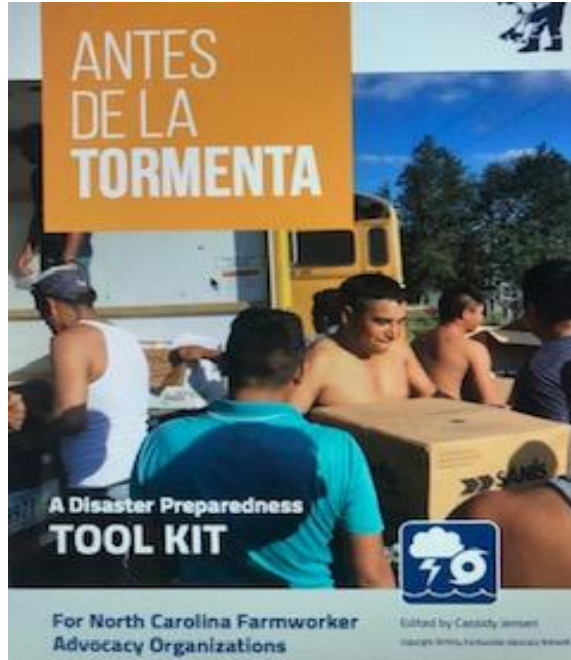
- Make a plan to stay with family or friends at a safe place inland, or at a hotel, if you need to evacuate.
- Social distancing will reduce the capacity at shelters this year. Shelter space in many counties will be limited and should be only considered as a last resort.
- Non-congregate sheltering options like dormitories, campgrounds or other facilities where people can maintain distance may be in use during the COVID-19 pandemic. Follow your local government website and social media channels for sheltering information.
- Shelters may not offer cots for sleeping, only safe refuge until a storm passes. Plan to bring your own amenities like food and bedding.

Preparation and Response: Salvation Army Disaster Relief Services



- Training
- Food service
- Emotional and spiritual care
- Emergency Communications
- Disaster social services
- Donations management
- Recovery

NC Response to Natural Disasters: Farmworker Advocacy Network Toolkit



Bilingual, Spanish/English
Produced in response to Hurricanes Florence and Michael in 2018

Workshop Series: Partnerships for Disaster Resilience in Latino Communities

- Thursday, August 27 at 3:30 PM – “How do Latino community leaders and organizations respond to disasters in 2020?” featuring AMEXCAN, Black River Health Services, and Episcopal Farmworker Ministry.
- September 3, 2020 at 3:30 PM – “How do public agencies respond to disasters in 2020?”
- September 10, 2020 at 3:30 PM – “Your Rights During a Disaster”

REGISTER: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DisasterPrepWorkshops>

CITY OF HOUSTON MAYOR'S OFFICE

Anti-Human Trafficking Division

SYLVESTER TURNER, MAYOR



HOME

THE ISSUE

OUR APPROACH

TOOLKITS

RESOURCES

NEWSROOM

Toolkits

<https://humantraffickinghouston.org/toolkits/emergency-disaster-response-toolkit/>

Emergency Disaster Response Toolkit

Resources included in the Houston Toolkit

- Shelter letter for evacuees
- Shelter Monitor training
- Cot notes
- Post Katrina Case Studies
- Corporate Risk Mitigation
- Lessons learned

Collection of Resources for Natural Disaster Toolkit

- **Purpose:** The toolkit will provide a framework to inform protocol and messaging in the event of a natural disaster in order to streamline and inform effective service provider response and prevent exploitation in the Immediate Aftermath and Rebuilding Periods.
- **NCCAHT Members to submit resources by September 10, 2020**
- **To Include:**
 - **Information on the Intersection of Human Trafficking and Natural Disasters**
 - **Available Trainings and Information on Best Practices for Response**
 - **Comprehensive Listing of Available Resources for Vulnerable Populations and Trafficking victims**
 - **Signage, Handouts, Messaging**
 - **Protocol for Coordinating Response**
- **NC Coalition Against Human Trafficking, NC Coalition Against Sexual Assault, and NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence to Collaborate of Planning**

NC Human Trafficking Commission

Questions and Contact Information:

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