



# **Emergency Network Los Angeles Strategic Plan**

**Approved by the ENLA Board on  
September 15, 2022**

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*Cooperation, Communication, Coordination, Collaboration*

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## **Mission Statement**

Emergency Network Los Angeles' (ENLA) mission is to develop the capacity of nonprofits (community and faith-based organizations), government agencies, and the private sector to prepare for, mitigate against, respond to, and recover from emergencies occurring Los Angeles County. This is done by facilitating the "Four C's" between entities: cooperation, communication, coordination, and collaboration.

## **Organizational History**

Following the 1994 Northridge Earthquake, the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles convened a meeting of organizations that were active in disaster recovery. The combined efforts of this group had significantly aided the earthquake recovery efforts. In December of that year, that group, which had become known as Emergency Network Los Angeles, merged with the Los Angeles County VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters) and the Los Angeles Access Network (presently "211 LA") to bring all nonprofit disaster work in Los Angeles County under one umbrella. In 1997, both Los Angeles County and the City of Los Angeles designated ENLA as their primary point of contact with community-based ("CBO") and faith-based organizations ("FBO") for preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery efforts.

## **Profile**

- Facilitates disaster preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery for members by acting as a conduit of information sharing and collaboration between ENLA members and communities impacted by emergencies
- Provide capacity building opportunities (e.g: trainings, exercises) and share best practices with ENLA members
- Establish connections with members prior to, during, and following emergencies

## **Critical Issues**

It is important for ENLA to serve all of Los Angeles County in order to meet its mission.

### ➤ ***Disaster Management Area Representation***

ENLA will expand area representation by breaking down Los Angeles County into areas corresponding to the Los Angeles County Disaster Management Areas (map attached); ENLA will refer to them as Area A – H. Each area will have its own liaison to the board.

Area Board Liaisons ("ABL") will be responsible for:

1. Acting as a communication link between ENLA and local CBOs, FBOs and private sector organizations activated in disaster
2. Communicating local status reports
3. Recommending new member organizations within their areas
4. Identifying training and educational needs
5. Identifying and sharing training opportunities within their area among ENLA partner organizations
6. Maintaining relationships with respective Disaster Management Area Coordinator (DMAC)

### ➤ ***Funding and Sustainability***

Funding for staff and other activities has been inconsistent. In order to achieve sustainability, it should be a priority for ENLA to maintain at least one paid staff member to manage and coordinate events, activities, and administrative duties. Should a staff member not be in place, the board must ensure the VOAD's continuity of operations continues without interruption.

Several strategies should be in place to ensure sustainability:

1. Creation of a Development, Advancement, and Sustainability Committee ("DASC") to pursue funding (e.g.: grants, donations) and other opportunities, as well as expanding ENLA's visibility among relevant partners
2. Ensuring the dues structure is reviewed periodically
3. Partner with private sector entities who might provide both financial and in-kind assistance
4. Encouraging all ENLA members to serve on at least one functional committee (Development, Advancement, and Sustainability; Communications Committee; Mass Care; Volunteer Management; Donations Management; Recovery; Emotional and Spiritual Care)
5. Distributing annual assessment surveys to track the progress of and identify any gaps associated with the VOAD's general operations
6. Maintain a relationship and actively coordinate with Southern California/California VOAD, National VOAD, and area COADs/VOADs.

### **Goal and Subgoals**

**Goal:** To support the emergency management capabilities of the Los Angeles County Operational Area by better preparing for, mitigating against, responding to, and recovering from emergencies.

#### **Subgoals:**

1. To expand efforts in and promote the general welfare of underserved and high-risk communities in Los Angeles County. (e.g.: seniors; populations with access functional needs; socio-economically disadvantaged communities; ethnic, religious, cultural, and linguistic minorities; geographically isolated communities; communities at heightened risk for hazards and threats, etc.)
2. Encourage likeminded CBOs and FBOs operating within Los Angeles County to become active members of ENLA.
3. Partner with government agencies at the municipal, county, state, and federal levels.
4. Promote coordination at the local level by partnering with Disaster Management Area Coordinators to facilitate relationships with CBOs and FBOs.
5. Develop strategic, responsible relationships with private sector partners that promote the emergency management goals of the Los Angeles County Operational Area.
6. Develop, facilitate, and/or execute exercises and trainings on a periodic basis in order to build and maintain emergency management capabilities.
7. Support Long Term Recovery efforts by being an effective channel partner of local community recovery organizations.