Local Assistance Center (LAC)

Children’s Area Worker Training

Mission

- LACs provide a centralized location for services and resource referrals for disaster-caused needs, assistance and guidance following a disaster or significant emergency.

Children’s Area Worker Position Description

- Care
  - Care for children while parents or legal guardians are at the LAC receiving assistance. This is not daycare. Do not distribute any medication or meals.
  - Keep the area sanitized and assist in light cleaning.

- Enforce
  - Explain the rules of the area to the parent/legal guardian and child at check-in and issue both a matching numbered bracelet.
  - Enforce rules to keep the children safe, especially with check-out procedures where the child is only released to the person wearing the matching numbered bracelet and the two-adult bathroom escort.

Children’s Area Worker Position Description

- Support
  - Support children by giving them encouragement and reassurance.
  - Consult the Children’s Area Supervisor if support or guidance is needed.

- Observe and Document
  - Observe and document behavior of children who have extreme trouble coping with the disaster. Please, share with the parent/guardian and offer referrals for assistance.

Quick Tips

- Sign in
- Obtain Children’s Area Worker Vest
- Check in with LAC Manager
- Review the Children’s Area Worker Checklist
- Review the Children’s Area Policies and Guidelines

Good Luck

- Remember, children are not small adults. They have unique needs.
- If a child does not respond to you, try asking another Worker for help they might have better luck.
- At the end of the shift sign out and return the vest.
- Thank you for your commitment.