



The Putnam County Community Resiliency Coalition

Every day, 69 million children spend a significant portion of their lives in childcare facilities or schools. Despite this, these child-serving institutions are often left out of preparedness planning. During and after disasters, children and their families have unique and specific needs. Quickly returning a child to a routine can improve recovery and simultaneously allow the family unit to return to some sense of normalcy.

The Putnam County Community Resilience Coalition (CRC) is creating a sustainable foundation for a resilient community by strengthening the ability of local organizations to collectively protect children before, during and after an emergency or disaster. The CRC brings together key community stakeholders to ensure that our children are safe and our community is resilient.

THE PUTNAM COUNTY COMMUNITY RESILIENCE COALITION (CRC) ENVISIONS A RESILIENT COMMUNITY IN WHICH ALL OUR CHILDREN ARE ABLE TO QUICKLY RECOVER FROM AN EMERGENCY OR DISASTER WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS SERVING THEM.

Current Preparedness in Putnam County:

- Only 51% of households report having an emergency plan their whole family knows about and of those with a plan, only 60% have all of the recommended items in their preparedness kit.
- 41% of households are not familiar with their child's childcare/school evacuation and emergency plans.
- 45% of households believe help will arrive in under an hour in the event of a disaster.
- 59% of households believe they will be reunited with their children within several hours; it took an astounding seven months to reunify the last child with her family after Hurricane Katrina.
- 45% of households have concerns about the community's ability to meet the unique needs of children during a disaster.
- In the United States, of every \$10 spent in federal preparedness grants, less than one penny goes to activities targeting children's safety.

The Putnam County CRC is part of a three-year effort, the Resilient Children/Resilient Communities Initiative (RCRC), which aims to build a sustainable, replicable, and scalable model of child-focused community resilience and disaster preparedness. The RCRC Initiative is working with two pilot communities - Putnam County, New York and Washington County, Arkansas.

A Prepared Putnam County is a Resilient Putnam County.

Learn more or find out how to get involved by visiting the CRC homepage:
<http://www.putnamcountyny.com/health/community-resilience-coalition/>

Questions? Contact the community champion Barbara Garbarino: barbara.garbarino2@gmail.com
Visit the RCRC Initiative Homepage: <http://ncdp.columbia.edu/rcrc>