

# LESSON 7-1

## CAPSTONE ACTIVITY

**Lesson:** Capstone Activity

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### **Intended Audience of Learners**

A broad range of health professionals who may work with the older adult population.

### **Learning Objectives**

At the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to:

- 7-1.1 State key issues in caring for older adults before, during, and after disasters that apply to your profession and occupational setting.
- 7-1.2 Describe planning and logistics considerations for caring for older adults in disasters.

### **Estimated Time to Complete This Lesson**

120 minutes

### **Suggested Learner Activities for Use in and Beyond the Classroom**

#### **Part 1:**

This activity can be conducted either with learners working individually or with learners working in small groups. If learners are working in small groups, each learner should consider the discussion questions below from his or her perspective and share those thoughts with the group members. At the end of the discussion, a member of each group can share key takeaways from the discussion with the other groups.

### Reflection Questions

Ask learners to think about their occupation, work setting (or anticipated work setting if not working currently), and prior experiences when they answer this series of questions.

Module One: What are 3 new things you learned about the demographics of older adults in the United States and how would you apply these things in your profession or work setting?

Module Two: What are 3 new things you learned about day-to-day health issues in older adults that impact how older adults plan for and cope with a disaster?

Module Three: Given likely disasters in your geographic setting, what are 3 new things you learned about how those kinds of disasters affect older adults?

Module Four:

- What are 2 new things you learned about how to care for the older adult population related to the disaster **preparedness** phase and how would you apply these things in your profession or work setting?
- What are 2 new things you learned about how to care for the older adult population related to the disaster **response** phase and how would you apply these things in your profession or work setting?
- What are 2 new things you learned about how to care for the older adult population related to the disaster **recovery** phase and how would you apply these things in your profession or work setting?

Module Five: What are 3 new things you learned about caring for older adults in disasters in your work setting or anticipated work setting?

Module Six: What are 3 ethical or legal considerations you learned about in relation to caring for older adults in a disaster?

### Part 2:

In this section, learners will consider the implications for planning and logistics of caring for older adults in disasters.

### Scenario

Either individually or in small groups with each small group doing the following together, imagine you are going to plan a meeting to discuss various planning and

logistical implications of what you have learned so far in this curriculum. Small groups will identify the context or setting for this meeting. Examples include, but are not limited to fully integrated health systems, a health care coalition, a small critical access rural hospital, a for-profit tertiary care trauma center, a larch academic center, a skilled nursing facility, etc. Use the prompts below to assist your learners in completing this section if necessary.

- Who would be present at this meeting and why is their presence important?
  - People in your workplace? People in your professional association? People in other professions? People in your community? Regional, state, county, and local systems of care? Health care coalitions?
    - Please consider any of the following possible stakeholders (adapted from<sup>1-3</sup>):
      - Health care providers and systems (hospitals, clinics, rehabilitation centers, mental health facilities, home care agencies, skilled nursing facilities, healthcare coalitions)
      - Public health
      - Federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial government agencies
      - Public safety and security (fire, law enforcement, emergency medical services)
      - Housing agencies
      - Transportation and sanitation infrastructure
      - Utilities (water, energy, communication)
      - Universities or research institutions
      - Service, faith-based, and volunteer organizations
      - Nonprofit agencies
      - Media
      - Interested members of the public (individuals affected by a disaster)
  - Draft a hypothetical agenda for this meeting. As you think about who to invite to the hypothetical meeting and the agenda, here are some topics to reflect on:
    - What questions would you ask and why? What issues would you raise and why are these issues important?
      - What are the risks and hazards for your geographical jurisdiction? What vulnerabilities do these hazards and risks pose for your population, your profession, and your work setting?
    - Please consider the following disaster planning and logistical issues:

- Communications
- Staffing
- Command & Control: Who is in charge? Who is giving direction?
- Safety & Security
- Resources
  - Medical: medications, supplies, assistive technologies
  - Nonmedical
- Transport
- Continuum of care and services
- What decisions would you want to make in this meeting?

### Part 3:

What are 3 action steps that you can take so you individually, your workplace, your profession, or your community can plan to better care for older adults in disasters?

For example, these could be areas in which you want to learn more, conversations you want to have, or any other ways in which you want to follow up on what you have learned in this curriculum.

Identify a timeframe for you to accomplish these action steps.

Tell 2 fellow learners about your action steps. Then, ask 2 of your fellow learners what their action steps will be.

### Sources Cited in Preparing Outline and Activities Above

1. *Standing Together: An Emergency Planning Guide for America's Communities*. The Joint Commission. [http://www.jointcommission.org/assets/1/18/planning\\_guide.pdf](http://www.jointcommission.org/assets/1/18/planning_guide.pdf). Published 2005. Accessed December 4, 2014.
2. Stakeholders and their roles in recovery. Federal Emergency Management Agency website. <http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/downloads/hdr/session%204%20powerpoint.pdf>. Accessed December 4, 2014.
3. VOAD network: national organization member. National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster website. <http://www.nvoad.org/voad-network/national-members/>. Accessed December 4, 2014.