**Children and Youth Task Forces Support**

**Summary:**

The HHS Administration for Children and Families (ACF) can provide support and assistance to States, Tribes, or Territories to convene and launch a Children and Youth Task Force for disaster.

**Detailed Information:**

The Children and Youth Task Force model is a highly successful practice based on lessons learned using the model in disasters such as the 2011 Joplin MO tornado, Hurricane Isaac in Louisiana, Superstorm Sandy in New Jersey and New York, and the SR530 slides disaster in Washington state. Children and Youth Task Forces are State/Tribe/Territory-led coalitions bringing together into a single forum Whole Community partners serving children and youth.

ACF has expertise and capacity to assist the State/Tribe/Territory to convene a Task Force. ACF’s [Office of Human Services Emergency Preparedness and Response](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ohsepr) and the ACF Regional Administrator and Regional Emergency Management Specialist for the affected region can provide experience and assistance with setting up a Task Force, bringing together a combination of partners to address the needs of children, youth, and families.

ACF has produced a *Children and Youth Task Forces in Disaster: Guidelines for Development* document, available on the web at <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ohsepr/childrens_task_force_development_web.pdf>

More information on this and other capabilities of ACF to support States, Tribes, and Territories in preparedness, response, and recovery, can be obtained from OHSEPR by writing the ACF Watch Desk at hswatchofficer@acf.hhs.gov.