



WA State Emergency Repatriation Plan (SERP)

WA State Emergency Management Association (WSEMA)
Conference: September 10, 2024

About Me

My work involves identifying key objectives in our strategic plan and supporting their development with project management.

Lately, most of my work intersects with emergency preparedness. I enjoy working through complexity.

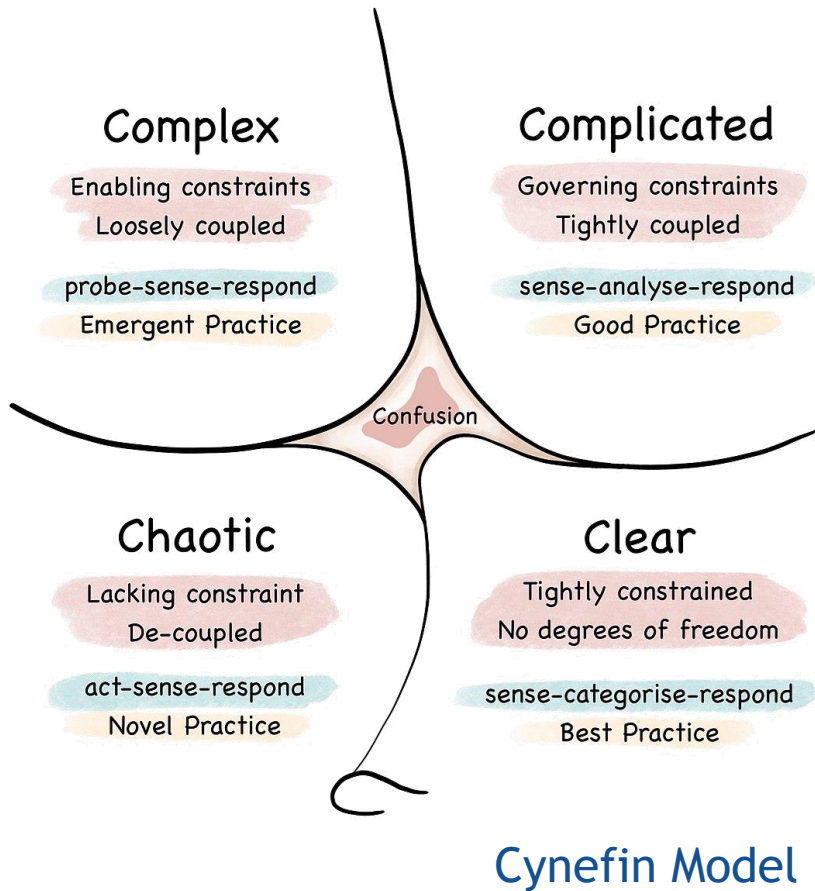
My two biggest projects are the State Emergency Repatriation Plan (SERP) and a project to promote a new Type 3 Incident Management Team (IMT).

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Logan MacGregor

Strategic Initiatives Development Manager
State Emergency Repatriation Coordinator



Incidents may be complex, but planning for them does not need to be confusing.

Operational elements can be organized, grouped, sequenced, and understood through the community planning process.

Complexity Simplified

State Emergency Repatriation Plan (SERP)





An internationally coordinated effort to bring U.S. citizens and their dependents to the United States from overseas due to war, threat of war, natural disaster, or similar crisis.

Emergency Repatriation

- **1935:** Social Security Act included federal temporary assistance for U.S. citizens and their dependents returning from overseas due to emergencies.
- **1935-2017:** No promulgated plan for *state-level* emergency repatriation operations. Some non-promulgated plans developed over the years.
- **2018:** At the request of Office of the Governor, DSHS launched a project to create first promulgated State Emergency Repatriation Plan (SERP) for the State of Washington.
- **2019:** On April 1, the Secretary of DSHS signed the first promulgated WA SERP.
- **2023-present:** Developing SERP 2.0 and associated capabilities.

History

- Onward travel
- Cash assistance
- Medical care
- Temporary shelter / housing
- Transportation
- Other assistance as needed: counseling, food, obtaining identification documents, childcare, translation services, etc.

Temporary Assistance

Israel-Lebanon War (2006)

- 17-day operation
- 61 flights
- Most evacuees did not need ongoing human services
- Main ports of entry included Maryland, Georgia, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania



Tyre, Lebanon

Photo credit: Masser via Flickr

- 34-day military conflict
- 1,300 Lebanese people and 165 Israeli people killed
- More than 12,400 people returned to the United States



Haifa, Israel

Photo credit: Tomer Gable via Flickr

Haiti Earthquake (2010)



*Haitian-Americans board a C-17 Globemaster III
Jan. 18, 2010, at Toussaint L'Ouverture International Airport, Port-
au-Prince, Haïti.*

- 3 million people affected
- Death tolls at over 220,000
- Over 250,000 residences collapsed or severely damaged
- Over 28,000 people repatriated
- 38-day operation with 835 flights
- 7 concurrent Emergency Repatriation Centers
- Florida was the main port of entry, receiving 20,000 (about 75%) of evacuees
- About 25% of evacuees needed ongoing human services

SERP

Current Planning Priorities



Consistency with
the new National
Emergency
Repatriation
Framework (NERF)



Identify and address
Equity, Diversity,
Access, and
Inclusion (EDAI)
concerns



Add King County
International
Airport (BFI) as
another Port of
Entry (POE)



Incorporate lessons
learned from recent
emergency response
efforts



Partnerships

Multi-Agency Leadership and Coordination

- American Red Cross
- Coalition for Inclusive Emergency Planning
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Health
- Department of Social and Health Services
- FEMA Region X
- Governor's Office
- Health Care Authority
- King County International Airport
- King County Office of Emergency Management
- Military Department
- Office of Human Service Emergency Preparedness and Response
- Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster

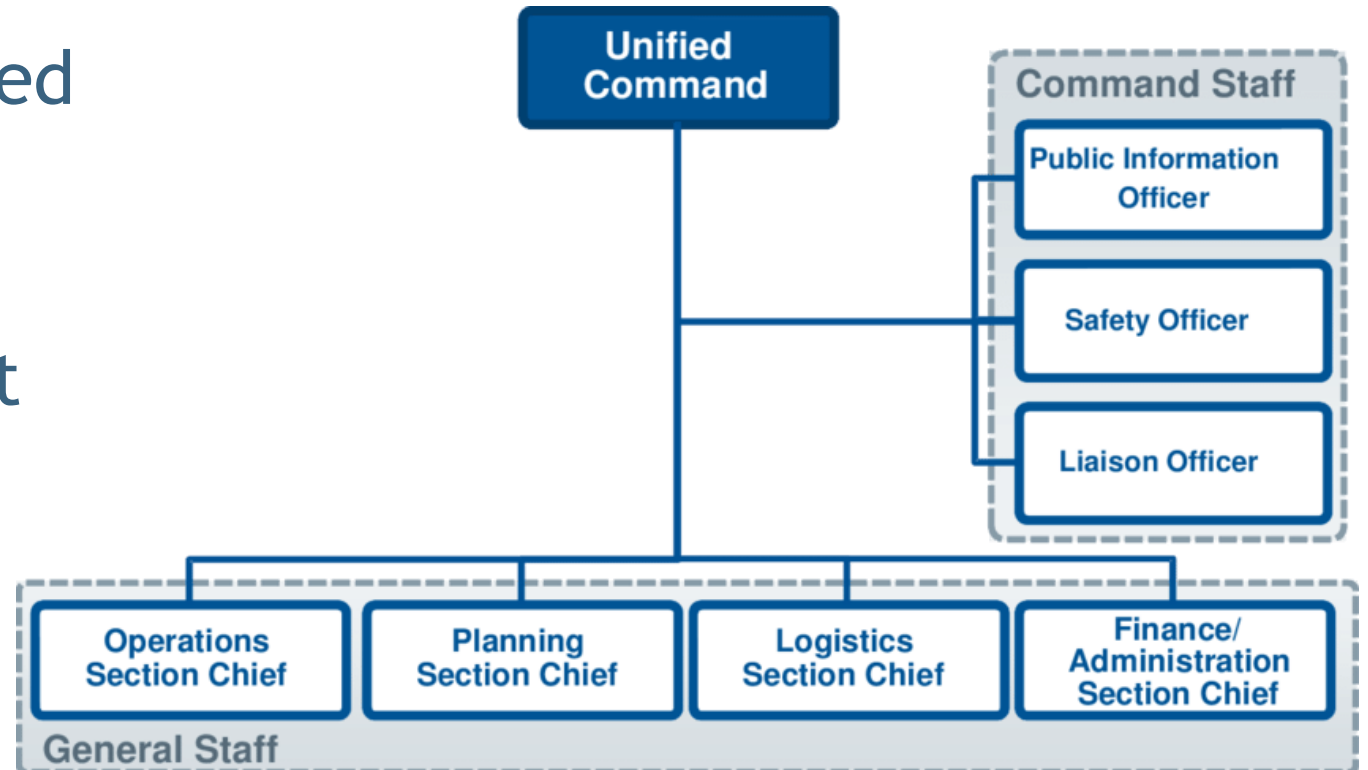
UC

Unified Command

Resource Direction at Time of Incident

UC-focused Tabletop Exercise held on June 12, 2024 promoted common understanding of the Command Function.

The resulting consensus is that DSHS and OHSEPR would form UC, with supporting airports forming Branches.



Integrated Planning

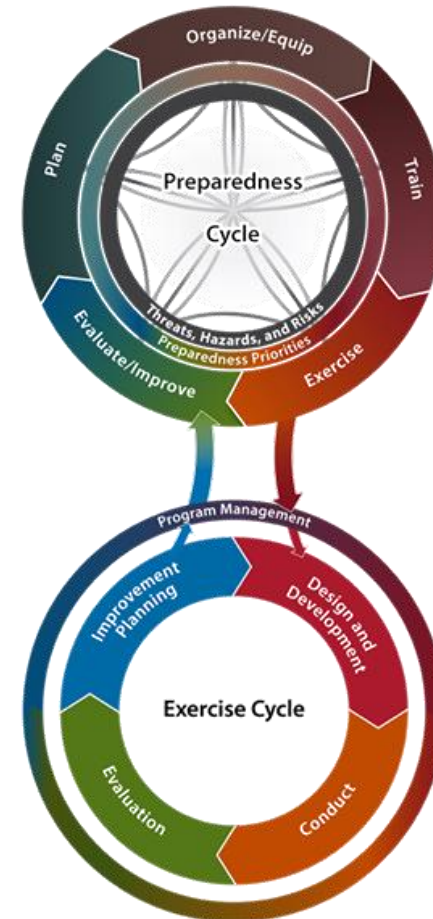
Preparedness Cycle

Community engagement for long- and short-term horizon activities.

SERP Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop (IPPW) held June 13, 2024.

The resulting theme the workshop is pivoting toward investments in operational capability.

SERP 2.0 is expected to be promulgated in the next 2-3 months.



DSHS West (ESA)

Type 3 Incident Management Team (IMT)

Preparing for SERP and other complex all-hazard incidents.



Trained



Equipped



Supported



Experienced



Credentialed



Equity, Diversity, Access and Inclusion

Questions?



Washington State
Department of Social
& Health Services

Transforming lives

Thank You

