



Building Resilient Communities

June 2021

Issue No. 111



We are Stewards of God's Creation

We are making great strides in disaster preparedness moving from concerned conversations to action. With fire season already underway, our state governor and legislative leaders are advocating for unprecedented financial support in order to boost firefighting efforts and expand a

variety of prevention measures across the state. While every dollar spent on prevention is crucial, these potential funds are truthfully about saving lives, homes, and livelihoods.

Last year marked the heaviest wildfire season on record for our state. More than 4 million acres and over 10,000 homes and other structures were burned to the ground by five of the largest fires in the state's recorded history. Devastatingly the loss was far greater than structures, at least 33 lives were lost.

Fire conditions this year could be even worse. Many of California's largest reservoirs are only half full, and winter snow and rain in Northern California have been below their average level. **We must all do our part.**

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Find out in advance where you can take your pets if you need to evacuate.

Being prepared for disasters is more critical than ever and preparing you is at the heart of BRC's mission. We ask you to take time to prepare yourselves and consider those vulnerable lives around you including your precious pets. The care of animals was, and still is an important priority for God. Our beloved pets depend on us to take care of their needs every day. Preparing for our pets and animals is an important step in our family preparedness planning. **June is National Pet Preparedness month.** BRC asks that you take time to make your plan for yourself, your family, and pets. They are all counting on you!

#BeInformed



In reverence for all God's creation, Debra



Pets Depend on Us!

In an emergency, your pets will be even more dependent on you for their safety and well-being. Your family's disaster plans must include your pet family members too. Unfortunately, some pet owners are not prepared when a disaster strikes and many pets are left behind to fend for themselves. Disasters can happen at any time. Pets are family and should never be left behind.

Whether a bird, reptile, dog, cat or other small animal such as gerbils and hamsters, they all depend on you. Learn what to do to keep your

cherished pets safe by preparing for an emergency evacuation and recovery.

BRC has everything you need to help prepare your pets in a disaster. Check out BRC's store line of emergency supplies and vet approved disaster kits for pets here.

Top Tips for Keeping Your Pets Safe During a Disaster

If it's not safe for you to stay in your home during an emergency, it's not safe for them either!

Include supplies for your pet in your emergency kit or assemble an emergency kit for your pet.

Make an evacuation plan for you and your pets. Many hotels and shelters do not accept animal guests, other than service animals.

For more information on how to prepare for your pets in a disaster go to: www.ready.gov/pets

Pet Basic Disaster Kit should include:

- Food and water for at least five days for each pet, bowls and a manual can opener if you are packing canned pet food. Keep an extra gallon of water on hand for your pets needs and if your pet has been exposed to chemicals or flood waters and needs to be rinsed.
- Store medications and medical records in a waterproof container and a first-aid kit. A pet first-aid book is also a good idea.
- Cat litter box, litter, litter scoop and garbage bags to collect all your pets' waste.
- Sturdy leashes, harnesses and secure carriers to transport pets safely and to ensure that your pets can't escape. Make sure that your cat or dog is wearing a collar and identification that is up to date and visible at all times.
- Current photos of you with your pets and descriptions of your pets to help others identify them in case you and your pets become separated—and to prove that they are yours once you're reunited.
- Written information about your pets' feeding schedules, medical conditions and behavior issues along with the name and number of your veterinarian in case you have to board your pets or place them in foster care.
- A favorite toy for comfort and a familiar blanket for warmth, particularly for smaller pets.

BRC Gets a Shout Out from Corporate HQ!

In a recent corporate newsletter article **4 Imprint** is helping spread the word to thousands of their followers about BRC's efforts to raise awareness when disaster strikes. BRC partnered with **4 Imprint** earlier this year through their corporate One by One program. Here's the article that 4imprint shared.

"If you don't have holes in your boat, then you can help everybody else." That's the mantra of BRC. Faith-based BRC trains people in houses of worship how to assist their community when disaster strikes—from earthquakes to floods to house fires. Affiliated with the local, state and federal government, BRC's services range from preparing facilities to training volunteer emergency teams to providing supplies.

BRC received branded labels for its Mask Up program distributing thousands of two-gallon bags with PPE and emergency preparedness materials. Having branded labels for these lifesaving bags provides awareness of how BRC can help the community in a

disaster.

Since the start of the pandemic, they've distributed more than 50,000 face masks, 2,000 face shields, 1,600 hand sanitizers and more. And with the labels, BRC has spread the word about their work to thousands more people.



"The fact [4imprint is] willing to give us the labels with the one-by-one grant is huge. They do not have to do that. It takes a team effort between non-profits and for-profits to help the community. When they provide a grant like that, it means we can use that money someplace else," CEO Debra Williams said.

One more grand example of corporations and community nonprofits partnering together for success.

Prepare Your Community Resource Corner

What is the Medical Baseline Allowance (MBL)?

If you or someone in your household requires the regular use of electrically-powered medical equipment or device, you may be eligible for MBL. The program provides additional electricity at the lowest baseline rate to help offset the cost of operating medical equipment.

1. MBL is not income qualified – it does not have an income limit
2. No medical professionals signature is required through June 30 – sign up now
3. Many types of medical equipment and devices qualify

Examples of common electrically-powered medical equipment and devices: CPAP machine, powered scooter, electric nebulizer

Heating and/or cooling (A/C) can qualify if medically required for a life-threatening illness, compromised immune system, or temperature sensitivity.

Go to www.sce.com/medicalbaseline

EDISON
Energy for What's Ahead™

MORE ENERGY AT OUR LOWEST RATE WITH MEDICAL BASELINE

There is nothing more important than your health. That's why we created the Medical Baseline Allowance program. Specifically designed for households that rely on in-home medical equipment, this program allows you to use more electricity at our lowest rate, which can lower your overall monthly energy costs, assuming consistent electricity use.

Apply Now >

Your health. Your energy.

Until June 30, 2021, you can apply for the Medical Baseline Allowance program without a doctor's signature. A wide range of medical devices are eligible, so qualifying is easier than ever. Apply today and start saving!

Qualify	Apply	Save
From mobility scooters to respirators – see what equipment qualifies .	Apply without a doctor's signature until June 30, 2021.	Enjoy peace of mind with lower energy costs.

Be Prepared

When you depend on in-home medical equipment, outages can be even more critical. We're here to help. Sign up for **Outage Alerts** and learn more about creating an Emergency Back-Up Plan.

Sign Up For Alerts >

BRC Learning Center Upcoming Training

June 16 - How to Keep Your Church Safe and Secure

Acts of targeted violence against houses of worship are a real—and potentially growing—problem in the United States. Keeping these facilities secure while sustaining the open and welcoming environment necessary requires a holistic approach to security.

This course is designed to teach you how to assess your current security policies and posture and identify potential threats and vulnerabilities.

Topics include developing a security plan with procedures, creating a safety/security team, securing your assets. Go to the BRC website for details.



A Time to Heal

BRC is an essential Operation RIVCO Shield team member who is teaming up with over fourteen local nonprofit organizations and the Moreno Valley Unified School District to put a dent in COVID-19. Join BRC Saturday, June 5th from 8:30AM to 4:30PM for a free COVID-19 vaccination.

Youth ages twelve (12) and up are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Operation RIVCO Shield partners will be on site to answer any vaccination related questions. Youth along with their families can walk-in to receive their 1st or 2nd dose of Pfizer vaccine on site. BRC and a variety of nonprofit partners will provide critical resources and information as part of a fun drive-through resource fair.

Who: Open to everyone twelve (12) years of age and older. Those 12 - 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian to receive their vaccine.

Where: Vista Del Lago High School, 15150 Lasselle St., Moreno Valley

When: Saturday, June 5th from 8:30AM-4:30PM

What: Vaccine Clinic & Drive thru resource fair and COVID-19 vaccination site. Receive your COVID-19 vaccination (Pfizer) and enjoy music, giveaways, and a Carl's JR lunch while supplies last.

How: Want to register in advance? Register at: tinyurl.com/5dhttuzf

Need a ride to the site? Rides to the event can be scheduled at <https://cbhw.info/vaccine-booking-schedule>

BRC is honored to be a part of this exciting event. For many persons, this event may be the first time they will attend a community event in over a year. BRC invites you to get vaccinated and have some socially distanced fun!

Get Vaccinated -

**Continue to
MaskUp!**

WHAT'S IN YOUR GO BAG?

Water and food



Resolve to be **Ready.**

Let BRC Help You!

Shop our easy online store!

Disaster preparedness kits and supplies for every size household or business.

Make your purchase to prepare yourself and family while supporting our mission.

Go to www.brcus.org!

Shop Father's Day gifts at **smile.amazon.com** to support us while you shop



Shopping on Amazon? Experience feel-good shopping and support BRC by using Amazon Smile! When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you will find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to BRC. Get shopping and make a difference today!



Preparing for Disaster | Strengthening Communities | Training Leaders

Building Resilient Communities is a 501 (C)(3) nonprofit organization that relies on the support of its donors to provide service to the community. Your gift can make a difference to a lifesaving opportunity for another.

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