



We Are All in this Together.

Almost daily, a disaster occurs somewhere in the world. These unplanned events deeply affect the needs of our communities and strain their resources. Large-scale disasters such as the recent hurricanes and raging wildfires affecting large numbers of people remind us of the critical necessity to continue to focus our attention on disaster planning and preparedness.



Disasters vary considerably in scope, size, and context. But one thing remains constant. How we react to them. BRC reminds us that our work in preparedness is not over. We must be diligent in our commitment to continue to prepare our households and dedicate ourselves to help our neighbors. **The first assets in a disaster are your own neighbors. And, in turn, you may be their first responder.**

BRC reminds you to get to know your neighbors. In fact, it turns out that your neighbors have everything to do with your immediate chances in a disaster, and your neighbors and their collective extended connections determine how well and how fast your community will recover. The more connected the community is before a disaster hits, the stronger its ability to bounce back after disaster hits. **We call this resilience.**

At BRC we love and cherish our neighbors. One of our deepest core value statements is our love for one another and all who we serve. You see, Building Resilient Communities envisions a world where communities are filled with hope, overcome adverse conditions, are prepared for disasters, and recover from disruptive experiences. And it takes all of us, each in our own way, each in our own homes and neighborhoods to bring this vision to fruition.

May you cherish and love your neighbors enough to take the action necessary today to prepare for tomorrow, stay safe.
Debra

WHAT'S INSIDE

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- Partner in Preparedness
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RESOURCES

BRC Website
www.BRCUS.org

SHAKEOUT CALIFORNIA
www.shakeout.org/california

READY.GOV/Earthquakes
www.ready.gov/earthquakes

**Building
Resilient
Communities**

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Building Resilient Communities is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that relies on the support of its donors to provide service to the community. Federal Tax ID: 46-2844712



While COVID-19 has brought many uncertainties and challenges, one thing's for sure: ShakeOut is still happening this year! **We cannot afford not to!**

Each year on the third Thursday of October people all over the world pause, take stock and practice their emergency preparedness plans in case of an earthquake. The state of California includes many high-risk areas for earthquakes and has a higher probability than the rest of the country.

BRC encourages you, your community, your school, or your organization to review and update your emergency preparedness plans and supplies, and to secure your space in order to prevent damage or injury.

We are here to help!

BRC offers many resources on its website including videos. You can access them at any time at no cost. See our first page directory for **RESOURCES**. Or go to BRC's website for event more resources at your fingertips!

Interested in sharing a presentation at your next community meeting. Check out NEW! PowerPoints for leading ShakeOut Drills:
<https://www.shakeout.org/COVID-19/index.html#presentations>

In the State of California alone over 5 million persons have registered to participate in the ShakeOut Day event.
Register today!

Mission

Our mission is to provide disaster preparedness training and education programs to families, youth, businesses, community and faith-based organizations across southern California.

Leadership

Debra J. Williams
 Founder & Executive Officer

Board of Directors

John Epps, President

Michele Myers-Heard ,
 Vice President

Russell J. Williams,
 Treasurer

Vincent McCoy, Secretary

Debra J. Williams

1. Drop: Wherever you are, drop down to your hands and knees and hold onto something sturdy. If you're using a wheelchair or walker with a seat, make sure your wheels are locked and remain seated until the shaking stops.

2. Cover: Cover your head and neck with your arms. If a sturdy table or desk is nearby, crawl underneath it for shelter. If no shelter is nearby, crawl next to an interior wall (away from windows). Crawl only if you can reach better cover without going through an area with more debris. Stay on your knees or bend over to protect vital organs.

3. Hold On: If you are under a table or desk, hold on with one hand and be ready to move with it if it moves. If seated and unable to drop to the floor, bend forward, cover your head with your arms and hold on to your neck with both hands.

Time to ShakeOut!



DROP! **COVER!** **HOLD ON!**

Support Building Resilient Communities.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

amazonsmile



Board of Supervisors video on disaster preparedness https://youtu.be/_s_fgvQjn7k

Shining a Light on Preparedness!

On September 14th Building Resilient Communities CEO, Debra Williams was honored to give the invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance at the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors meeting. The Board of Supervisors unanimously and enthusiastically proclaimed September as Preparedness Month for the next five years.

Debra, along with Daniel Munoz, San Bernardino County Deputy Executive Officer Development Services, accepted this prestigious and important proclamation highlighting the importance of working together with unity and sharing resources to help communities be resilient to all types of disasters as a combined effort of government, faith, business, education, and community. Thank you for shining a light on the importance of disaster and emergency preparedness.

Meet BRC Team Member - Jaclyn Greene



When Jaclyn was asked what one word best describes the BRC team, her answer was enthusiastic - cooperation. BRC team members are deeply invested in each other and the goals of every facet of its mission. This

complementary internal support system doesn't just stop with staff. The commitment to building strong, healthy partnerships with other organizations is demonstrated in how the BRC team serves entire communities.

While volunteering during an emergency simulation at California Baptist University, Jaclyn, now a senior studying Public Health and Anthropology, discovered her desire to work in disaster preparedness and with the BRC team. As the Administrative Assistant to the CEO, she knows firsthand how to pivot quickly supporting the CEO and the entire organization through proactive communications, project, and event planning, scheduling coordination, and much more.

One thing Jaclyn emphasizes is that disaster preparedness can be challenging to work on as there are many competing issues top of mind to so many. However, this is where BRC shines by keeping preparedness a priority and reminding the public that disasters can happen at any time, anywhere.

Jaclyn sees how BRC performs its work as unique, acting as a bridge between many diverse communities including local government, faith-based communities, businesses, education, and other nonprofits. "By helping make these connections, BRC is able to help a lot of important projects and events (get) started, even if it's more of a behind the scenes role.", shared Jaclyn. A core value of importance is Service to Society.

"BRC works for the well-being of the people in the communities we serve to ensure they experience dignity and respect.", she continued, "And, instead of getting comfortable in one role, BRC constantly looks out for the unmet needs of a community and creates ways to address them."

Jaclyn, thank you for your vast array of talents that go far beyond administrative skills, but keep our BRC team force moving and on track!

CRITICAL CARE BACKUP BATTERY PROGRAM

Be prepared in the event of an unexpected power outage.

You could be eligible for a **free**, clean-energy backup battery to operate your medical device during an outage.



Emergency Power Support for Medical Devices

Southern California Edison's Critical Care Backup Battery (CCBB) Program offers eligible customers a free portable backup battery to power your medical device in the event of a power outage.

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. **Call 800-736-4777 for more information.**