

Ryan Acker

Community Transportation Association of the Northwest

Ryan Acker has a background in sociology, social systems and social services. With more than 16 years' experience in the nonprofit and helping fields, he has worked to develop numerous policies and systemic change models designed to improve services and the lives they touch. His focus has included mobility systems, health systems, family systems and others. Currently, Ryan serves as Executive Director for Community Transportation Association of the Northwest. He has an Associate's Degree in Social Services and a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology from Colorado State University.

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Wayne Adams

GeoEngineers

Wayne Adams has been in the field of occupational health and safety and emergency preparedness for over 25 years. He has a master's degree in Occupational Health and Safety, is a Certified Safety Professional (CSP), Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) and has taught numerous classes in employee safety and emergency preparedness. He is also a member of the Army Corps of Engineers Emergency Management Committee, a member of the Tacoma Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program and has completed training in several FEMA Emergency Management courses, as well as Rapid Visual Screening of Buildings for Potential Seismic Hazards (FEMA P-154) and Post-Earthquake Safety Evaluation of Buildings (ATC-20). Wayne currently works at GeoEngineers as their Corporate Health and Safety Program Manager.

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Jessica Baggett

Washington State Department of Health, Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response

Jessica Baggett is an Emergency Preparedness Specialist for the Washington State Department of Health, Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response. Her responsibilities include statewide medical countermeasures planning, statewide CHEMPACK coordination, and collaboration with public and private partners. With experience at both local and state public health, Jessica brings a unique and fresh perspective to the medical countermeasures and pharmacy initiatives in Washington State. Jessica has a Bachelor of Science in Public Health from the University of Arizona, and is currently a University of Washington School of Public Health graduate student.

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Dan Banks

Washington State Military Department, Emergency Management Division

Daniel (Dan) Banks is Planning, Analysis, and Logistics Section Manager with the Washington State Military Department's Emergency Management Division. In this position, he manages staff responsible for coordinating emergency response planning across the state, analysis of hazards and capabilities to respond in the state, and logistical support to local response efforts. Dan also serves as a lead for the Planning Section in the Washington State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and serves as an SEOC supervisor for SEOC activations. Before coming to the Military Department, Dan was a Preparedness Supervisor with Washington State Department of Health. In his position at Department of Health, he managed the Department of Health's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, the Department's Agency Coordination Center, and the Emergency Support Function 8 (Public Health and Medical) for Washington State. Dan has over 30 years' experience in emergency response operations, planning, and exercising at the Federal, and State level. He holds a BA in Political Science and Geography from the University of Washington, and a MA in International Relations from California State University Stanislaus.

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Bill Baumann

Human Services Council

Bill Baumann is the Mobility Coordinator for Human Services Council in Vancouver, WA.

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Matthew Bernard

FEMA Region X

Matthew P. Bernard - 38 years in the emergency, environmental response, safety and planning business. Presently FEMA Region 10 NIMS Coordinator. Also type 1 ICS Safety Officer, Type III Planning Section Chief, and Certified Incident Command Systems (ICS) Trainer. 27 Years with the US Coast Guard. Safety Officer for USCG Response to Katrina/Rita in Louisiana, ESF1,10 member Hurricane Charlie, Frances, Ivan and the Nisqually earthquake USCG Regional Response Team Coordinator CANUSPAC Joint Response Team Coordinator, Incident Commander at ICP Homer, AK during Exxon Valdez oil spill. Member of USCG Pacific Area type 1 ICS Incident Management Assist Team. Environmental/Safety Coordinator for Olin Cooperation 10 Years. Safety Professional, Industrial Hygienist, Registered Environmental Manager, Certified Safety and Environmental Compliance Officer, BA in Marine Biology, Masters Work in Environmental Management U of Washington.

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Aaron Bert

Washington Army National Guard

Major Aaron Bert is the Chief of Staff for the National Guards' Homeland Response Force - FEMA Region X. The Homeland Response Force is a Chemical, Biological, Nuclear, Radiological response capability designed to support first responders during a CBRN event as well as provide All-Hazards command and control. Major Bert has 22 years experience in the military and has served four overseas deployments since 2004. He is currently on military leave from the City of the Seattle where he has worked since 2002.

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Jason Biermann

Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management

Jason M Biermann is the deputy director of the Snohomish County, Washington, Department of Emergency Management. He oversees the day-to-day operations and represents the department on a wide variety of policy and programmatic initiatives focused on diverse topics such as state catastrophic planning and climate adaptation. He joined the Snohomish County team following tenures as a county emergency management director and public health response planner in Teton County, WY, and as a firefighter for the City of Austin, TX. Jason recently completed the Naval Postgraduate School's Center for Homeland Defense and Security's master's program. He spends his free time outside chasing his incredibly adorable son, Oliver.

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Paul Brallier

HNTB Corp.

Paul A. Brallier, PE, SE SEAW Disaster Preparedness and Response Committee Paul is a structural engineer and has been teaching ATC-20 for nearly 20 years. He is a former WA-TF1 Urban Search and Rescue Team Structural Specialist and is currently a CalOES Safety Assessment Program Coordinator for Washington State.

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Mike Bramhall

CASE Forensics

Mike Bramhall is a company Principal and Structural Engineer with over 23 years of structural engineering, consulting, and forensic engineering experience. He is a licensed Structural Engineer in seven states, a licensed Professional Engineer in eleven states, a LEED Accredited Professional, and holds a Master of Science degree in Engineering and a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture. He has extensive experience in designing, analyzing and evaluating all major building types, framing systems and construction materials such as concrete, masonry, steel, aluminum, wood and fiber wrap applications. Mr. Bramhall's professional experience includes the structural analysis and design of building and non-building structures, seismic evaluation and rehabilitation of existing structures, field investigations and conditional assessments, as well as the design of repairs for structural and foundation failures, peer reviews and value engineering. Notable highlights in the Northwest include the lead structural engineer on many of the buildings on the Microsoft main campus and the striking Central Terminal at SeaTac Airport.

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Molly Brumley

C+C

Molly Brumley is a Director at C+C, a Seattle-based Public Relations and Social Marketing firm. With more than 20 years of experience, Molly's expertise ranges from media relations and community involvement to creating award winning behavior change campaigns. Molly's diverse clients reflect her passion for environmental, safety and social issues. She has delivered strategic public relations counsel to a variety of organizations including Puget Sound Energy, King County 911, The United States Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR program, King County Solid Waste, City of Seattle—and many others. Her work has earned her four national Silver Anvil Awards from the Public Relations Society of America.

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Ted Buehner

National Weather Service

Ted Buehner is the Warning Coordination Meteorologist for the National Weather Service (NWS) in Seattle, a key customer liaison position. He works toward enhancing the “end-to-end” forecast and warning system and decision support services by more closely tying the agency’s mission of protecting lives and property, and enhancing the region’s economy, with its customers and partners, such as the emergency management community, the media, and the marine community. Ted has been with the NWS since 1977, this position being his third tour of duty in Seattle. Ted also served one year in Boise as a forecaster, six years in Portland as a Lead Forecaster, and two years at the NWS Western Region Headquarters in Salt Lake City as the Western U.S. marine, public, and aviation program manager. Ted has a Bachelors of Science degree in Atmospheric Sciences from Oregon State University. Go Beavs!

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Cate Burgess

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Cate Burgess is a Preparedness Field Assignee with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), stationed at the Washington State Department of Health (DOH). She currently works as the grant manager for the ASPR HPP Ebola grant. This grant is aimed at increasing the capacity of the healthcare system across Washington State to treat patients with Ebola and other highly infectious diseases. Prior to being grant manager, Cate co-led DOH exercise planning for Cascadia Rising. Cate also participated in the state's and CDC's planning and response efforts to prepare for Ebola. Before working at DOH, Cate completed the Public Health Associate Program, a two-year training program with the CDC. In this program, Cate worked for a year in Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention and a year in Emergency Preparedness at Public Health—Seattle & King County. Cate earned her Master's degree in biochemistry from Montana State University in 2012.

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Richard Burke

Eastside Fire & Rescue

Deputy Chief Richard Burke currently serves with Eastside Fire & Rescue. EF&R provides Fire and Emergency Medical services to the communities of Issaquah, Sammamish, North Bend, Carnation and greater east King County. Prior to joining EF&R D.C. Burke was a member of the Bellevue Fire Department for 23 years. During that time he served as a Firefighter, Firefighter Paramedic, Lieutenant, Public Information Officer and Medical Services Officer. During Deputy Chief Burke's tenure as PIO for Bellevue Fire, he served as the incident Public Information Officer for the 530 Landslide in Oso Washington. This tragic incident was one of the largest natural disasters in our states history with the loss of 43 community members. DC Burke developed and coordinated the Bellevue Fire Department Honor Guard, Washington State's oldest and largest Fire Service Guard units. Prior to joining the fire service DC Burke served in the United States Marine Corps and operated in Kuwait during Operation Desert Storm.

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Steve Campbell

SCS Northwest Consulting Services, LLC

Steve Campbell served for 27 years in law enforcement, beginning in 1971 as a Police Cadet with the South Pasadena, California Police Department, and later that year with the Glendale, California Police Department, where he was assigned to the Property Room. Steve entered the Los Angeles County Sheriffs' Academy in March 1973 for the City of Glendale as a police officer, and served with the Glendale, California Police Department for 23 years in numerous assignments in all four divisions as a patrol officer, sergeant, and lieutenant. He served in the California Police Officers' Association (CPOA), where he chaired the Use of Force Subcommittee after the Rodney King incident in 1991. Steve was later selected as the Chair of the Standards and Ethics Committee for CPOA. In 1997, Steve was sworn in as Chief of Police for the City of Port Hueneme, in Ventura County, California. On January 31, 2000, Alaska Flight 261 crashed in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Ventura County, killing all 88 passengers and crewmembers. Family members responded to Los Angeles for meetings and updates, and eventually came to Port Hueneme's pier to view the crash site. Steve met with many relatives and co-workers of the passengers and crew. He also worked with other law enforcement agencies, the NTSB, other county and state emergency response partners, and the Alaska Airlines Emergency Response Team. Upon retirement 8 months after the crash of Alaska Flight 261, Steve relocated to the Seattle area with his family. He was asked to facilitate between the families of those killed on board Alaska Airlines Flight 261 and Alaska Airlines. This was the first time an outside facilitator was brought in to work full-time with family members and a commercial air carrier after a disaster. Steve worked with the Families of Alaska Flight 261 for 3 years, and later wrote a book on difficult situations in air disasters among the involved parties, and guidelines to building a monument in memory of those killed in an air disaster. He continues to support the Alaska 261 family members, and promote commercial aviation actions to help future air disaster victims and their families. He is currently working with the NTSB on how law enforcement can assist in family assistance in commercial transportation disasters, and how family members and the related transportation carrier can better work together in supporting family members. Steve's baccalaureate degree is in Organizational Development from the University of San Francisco, and he completed graduate studies at the University of Southern California, UCLA Anderson Business School and the University of Virginia. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, Class 189.

Erin Cawley-Morse

C+C

Erin Cawley-Morse is an award-winning expert in event and experiential marketing. Whether she's persuading people to change a light bulb or to change their commute, as a Director at C+C, at C+C, a Seattle-based Public Relations and Social Marketing firm, Erin is expert at helping clients find the best way to tell their stories and move people to action. Over the last 13 years, Erin has managed campaigns for clients ranging from local utilities to multinational corporations. Erin manages a wide range of successful outreach campaigns for clients from local governments to Fortune 500 companies, including King County, Seattle Public Utilities, Puget Sound Energy, Google, Quadrant Homes, and Tehaleh.

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Darrell Corbin

Consultant

Darrell Corbin is a nationally recognized consultant on process improvement, strategic planning and project management. He has conducted hundreds of quality audits, capability assessments and project/organizational appraisals using tools such as Carnegie Mellon's Capability Maturity Models, ISO 9000 (Quality Management Standard) and AS9100 (Aerospace Quality Management System). Recommendations resulted in significant cost savings, meeting critical milestones and successful certification. He has published 24 articles and has been an invited speaker (often as keynote) at more than 75 conferences and other professional events. Hundreds of clients have rated his work Excellent. He is also active in emergency preparedness: CERT (City of Auburn) volunteer, Siena (HOA) Disaster/Block Watch Team (founder, chair), workshop instructor and fair consultant.

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Mark Correia

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Dawn Cortez

Washington State Attorney Generals Office

Dawn C. Cortez is currently an Assistant Attorney General in the Government Operations Division and represents a variety of client agencies. She has represented the Emergency Management Division of the Washington State Military Department for several years. Dawn has been a government attorney for 25 years. She started her career as a Deputy Prosecutor with Spokane County and prosecuted primarily criminal cases in crimes committed against vulnerable adults and children. After joining the Attorney General's Office (AGO) she represented DSHS, litigated civil commitments of sexually violent predators and defended the state against habeas corpus petitions. She also served as the Director of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit for nearly 7 years. She is a 1989 graduate of Gonzaga Law School.

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Kristi Cruz

WA State Coalition for Language Access

Kristi Cruz is a staff attorney at the Northwest Justice Project on the CLEAR*ASL statewide intake and referral line. Ms. Cruz was certified as an American Sign Language Interpreter in 1996 and became a member of the Washington Bar in 2009. She was the inaugural Seattle University School of Law Leadership for Justice Fellow (2009) for her work at the Northwest Justice Project on a language access project. In 2010, Ms. Cruz was a co-reporter for the American Bar Association's Standards for Language Access in Courts project which created national standards for the effective delivery of interpreter and translation services in courts. Ms. Cruz is involved in state and national efforts to reduce language barriers for LEP and deaf individuals as they access education, healthcare, legal, and governmental services. She is actively involved with the Washington State Coalition for Language Access (WASCLA), serving as a co-chair of the Board of Directors, and is a member of the Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts Interpreter Commission.

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Marcus Deyerin

King County Office of Emergency Management

Developing and maintaining partnerships, drafting or updating crisis response plans, conducting trainings and disaster exercises, providing public preparedness education...this is the work I do every day. But when our community is directly affected by a significant emergency or disaster incident, you'll find me serving as Public Information Officer for the Northwest Washington Incident Management Team, as a member of the Department of Health and Human Services Incident Response Coordination Team, or an EOC manager, agency liaison, or technical advisor. Whatever the role, from wildfires and bridge collapses, to marina fires and landslides, I bring an "all-hazards" perspective and background of experience to whatever team I'm leading or supporting, and a commitment to work collaboratively to get the job done.

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Mike Donlin

Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, School Safety Center

Mike Donlin is the Program Supervisor for the School Safety Center of the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Olympia, WA. He has taught at all levels and in different locations around the country and the world. Mike was with Seattle Public Schools for 30 years as a classroom teacher and program administrator, overseeing a variety of programs from ELL to technology, community technology, and bullying and harassment prevention and intervention. He is a Board Member of the International Bullying Prevention Association (IBPA), and currently serves as Treasurer for that organization. As a consultant, he presents regularly in local, regional, national and international settings. Mike received his bachelor's degree in secondary education from the University of Scranton, PA, and a master's degree in Linguistics from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and is a former Peace Corps Volunteer.

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Christie Dunn

The Soup Ladies

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Nicole Errett

Northwest Healthcare Response Network

Nicole Errett, PhD, MSPH is an experienced public health and safety practitioner and researcher. Nicole has over seven years of federal, state, and local government experience in preparedness and emergency management. Currently, Nicole is the Evaluation and Assessment Manager at the Northwest Healthcare Response Network. Prior, she served as the Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and as the Director of Policy and Special Projects at the Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Emergency Management. Nicole holds a PhD in Health and Public Policy, an MSPH in Health Policy, and a BA in Public Health Studies from the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, MD. She is a Certified Emergency Manager and is Certified in Public Health.

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Suzanne Everson

Department of Health and Human Services

Suzanne Everson joined the Administration for Children and Families in December 2015 as the Regional Emergency Management Specialist (REMS) for Region 10. As REMS, she collaborates with Federal, state, and local partners to support preparedness, response, and recovery activities. Previously, she served in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for five years. She has supported Federal response efforts for multiple disasters, including the 2011 Joplin Tornado. Most recently, Suzanne has served at FEMA's headquarters level, providing technical assistance to state, tribal, and local government agencies around the United States on issues related to federal doctrine and preparedness. Prior to her emergency management career, Suzanne was a social service professional, providing direct service to homeless and at-risk youth populations. These experiences led her to recognize that collaboration between multiple stakeholders is a vital part of providing high quality service. Suzanne graduated from Fairhaven College at Western Washington University, where she studied effective strategies for collaboration between grassroots community organizations, NGOs, and government agencies.

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Erica Fischer

Degenkolb Engineers

Erica Fischer works as a Design Engineer at Degenkolb Engineers. She received her PhD from Purdue University, and her BS from Cornell University. At Purdue, she was investigating the performance of steel buildings subjected to fire loading conditions. She is very active with the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI). Erica participated in reconnaissance trips after the Haitian and Napa Valley earthquakes. She is on the steering committee of the ASCE/SEI Sustainability Committee and leads the Disaster Resilience sub-working group. Erica is a licensed Professional Engineer in the state of California.

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Wendy Freitag

Washington Homeland Security Emergency Management Center of Excellence

Wendy Freitag is proud to be a Microsoft & Washington Mutual alum, having worked at each Washington headquartered company for 4+ years in various management positions overseeing International security, crisis management and business continuity programs. In June 2007 Wendy started in a newly created position with Washington Emergency Management division heading up their corporate relations program and eventually led their External Affairs section. Currently Wendy serves as the part-time Communications/ Outreach Specialist for the Washington Homeland Security Emergency Management Center of Excellence setting up partnerships for internships and providing technical assistance to a variety of organizations. Prior to working in the private sector, Wendy served during the James Lee Witt years as a FEMA Lead Public Affairs Officer. Wendy has also held for several years a leadership role on the University of Washington Master's program in Infrastructure Planning and Management (MIPM) Advisory Board. She is married to Bob Freitag and together they enjoy a "restless in Seattle" lifestyle on a floating home.

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Matthew Gardner

Washington State Pharmacy Association

Matthew Gardner PharmD, BCPS works as a clinical pharmacist in the Emergency Department at Providence St. Peter Hospital in Olympia, WA. He also volunteers regularly as a pharmacist at the Olympia Free Clinic.

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Eric Giguere

Safety Lecturer

As I left for work on the morning of October 4th 2002, little was different in my daily routine other than the wedding ring I had now been wearing on my finger for six days. In my current position as a laborer I was tasked with installing water lines in a rural setting. Though the work was difficult it gave me a sense of accomplishment and well being as I knew I would be able to provide well for both my wife and myself. At the age of 27 I felt as though my hard work was well rewarded with an hourly wage of over twenty dollars per-hour. Things changed quickly later that afternoon. Working in a trench roughly six feet deep I crouched down near the pipe our crew had been laying. Without warning the sides of the trench collapsed, completely engulfing me with a crushing sensation. Immediately a sense of panic set in as I fully realized what had happened. Panic soon gave way to fear, as I realized the breaths I was taking were becoming more labored. Fear soon subsided as well replaced this time with a sense of warmth and well-being. As my concern with the situation lessened, I felt even more at ease; I was dying. The remainder of the five man crew on site immediately had to make difficult decisions when the trench collapsed. Our backhoe operator took the top two feet of soil off immediately, but left the rest of the digging to be performed by hand out of fear of injuring me further. Roughly ten minutes later I was uncovered, completely blue with no signs of life. As the ambulance was on it's way my coworkers began CPR as I was still somewhat buried. The ambulance crew continued CPR and eventually evacuated me by helicopter to Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, NY. There Doctors informed my wife, family, and friends who had gathered that despite their best efforts I may not live, and if I did I would likely have severe brain damage. One-by-one loved ones filed into my hospital room to pay what they thought would be their last respects. As family members comforted my wife, a delivery was being made to the now vacant accident site. The contractor I was employed by was dropping off a trench box that was not previously available to us. It was approximately 4pm, there same time I was supposed to be leaving for my honeymoon.

Maurice Goodall

Okanogan County Department of Emergency Management

During August 2015, the Okanogan County fires burned 500,000-plus acres and became the first critical challenge of Maurice Goodall's emergency management career. Join Mr. Goodall, director of the Okanogan County Department of Emergency Management since April 2015, for a presentation on lessons learned as well as effective and efficient protocols for managing emergencies. Mr. Goodall's lifework began with 7 years in the US Navy followed by 17 years in the Navy Reserve, which overlapped a 25-year career as a trooper for the Washington State Patrol. He has responded to countless emergencies and has presented on a variety of safety topics to individuals, groups, and organizations. Through his commitment to community, he served on the Okanogan Parks and Recreation Board of Directors and remains an active supporter of the Okanogan County Fairgrounds. He and his family reside on a farm in Omak, Washington.

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Alisha Griswold

King County Office of Emergency Management

Alisha Griswold is a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) who currently serves the communities around the Seattle region. As a nationally recognized trainer and disaster technologist, Ms. Griswold supports the development of federal coursework related to social media use during disasters, founded a national working group on emerging technology, and most recently contributed to the White House Disaster Innovation initiative in Washington DC. As a public servant, Alisha is a vocal proponent for inclusive preparedness strategies, evidence-based practices, and transparency in government.

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Cheryl Ann Gunderson

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Andy Haner

National Weather Service

Andy Haner is now in his 14th year as a Forecaster at the National Weather Service (NWS) in Seattle. After earning a Bachelor of Science in Meteorology from Florida State University in 1994, Andy spent his early NWS career forecasting in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and then Spokane, Washington. After his arrival in Seattle in 2003, Andy earned his certification as an Incident Meteorologist (IMET). In that part-time role, he has now served at 25 wildfire and all-hazards incidents in eight states, earning him the elite distinction of being an IMET “Ace”.

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Elizabeth Hansford

City of Redmond Office of Emergency Management

Elizabeth has been an active volunteer with the City of Redmond Office of Emergency Management for the last five years. Utilizing her background in program and project management, she works in conjunction with the city personal to run the CERT classes, build a sense of community within our CERT graduates, and build a well-trained community of volunteers ready to help the city.

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Stacia Hayes

Swedish Medical Center

Stacia started her career in construction safety before finding her true passion in healthcare safety and emergency management. She began working at Swedish Medical Center in 2004 as a safety officer and was recently promoted to Manager of Safety and Emergency Preparedness for the entire Swedish system. She prides herself in being both innovative and practical in her approach to preparing her hospitals for what ever may come. Stacia is heavily involved with the Northwest Healthcare Response Network (Coalition for Regions 5 & 6). She currently sits on the state DOH Disaster Advisory Group representing large healthcare systems, and has been on the planning committee for the Washington State Healthcare Association Disaster Conference for the last 4 years.

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Chris Heeter

What's in it for you and your area of emergency preparedness when it comes to collaborating? Your work is fast-paced, intense, constantly changing, and often urgent. Reaching across sectors introduces yet another range of different personalities and dynamics to manage. Look no further than a sled dog team to help prove positive the benefits of taking the time to connect across areas. Join speaker, author, and wilderness guide Chris Heeter for a journey into the world of dogsledding. With surprising and spot-on parallels from dogsledding equipment and hilarious stories of the range of personalities on her dog team, Chris seamlessly connects the world of dogsledding to emergency preparedness. The benefits of Wild collaboration are evident and essential in order to stay present and sharp, and to gain perspective and fresh ideas. Join Chris for this journey to the Wild side, with down to earth tools and ideas for finding each other's strengths, embracing a wide range of personalities, and reaping the benefits of a more connected system of emergency preparedness.

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Eric Holdeman

Center for Regional Disaster Resilience

Eric Holdeman is a nationally known emergency manager. He has worked in emergency management at the federal, state and local governments. Today he serves the Director, Center for Regional Disaster Resilience, which is part of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER). The focus for his work there is engaging the public and private sectors to work collaboratively on issues of common interest. He is a prolific writer authoring numerous articles for professional journals and opinion pieces for local, regional and national newspapers including the Washington Post. He is a contributing writer and Senior Fellow for Emergency Management Magazine where he writes feature articles and also has a regular column, "Disaster Zone." Eric has the United States' most popular blog on the topics of emergency management and homeland security at www.disaster-zone.com.

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Carla lafrate

Police Officer / Public Information Officer (retired)

Carla lafrate is a retired police officer and police public information officer (PIO). lafrate has multiple PIO certifications including an Advance PIO certification from the FEMA National Emergency Training Center/U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Master PIO certification, and National Incident Management Systems (NIMS) Command Staff/PIO training, Advanced ICS and Multi-Agency Coordination Systems training. During her law enforcement career she handled multiple highly publicized cases and was the lead PIO for what is still an open missing child case which gained national/international media attention. She served on the communication team as an In-field PIO for the 530 Landslide in Oso, Washington. This tragic event was one of the largest natural disasters in Washington State's history with 43 fatalities. lafrate was also a certified Crime Scene Investigator and a member of honor guard. lafrate has a degree in Psychology from the University of Washington.

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Stacey Jehlik

City of Seattle

Stacey Jehlik is the International Programs Coordinator for the City of Seattle, with additional roles in project management and process analysis and improvement. She was heavily involved in the response to the 2015 Aurora Bridge Duck-Bus Collision and assisted the Emergency Operations Center in communicating with consular officials and the families of foreign patients. She has a longstanding passion for international affairs, having spent many years as a freelance Japanese-English translator with a specialization in the field of disaster management (developed as a result of having lived in Kobe, Japan shortly after the 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake). She also co-founded the nonprofit Center for Czech Education and Culture with her husband Wayne, who serves as Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic in Seattle. She holds an M.A. in International Studies from the University of Washington.

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Stacy Kellogg

People for People's Greater Columbia 2-1-1

Stacy Kellogg is the Director of People For People's Greater Columbia 2-1-1. She has been in this position for the past four years. Prior to coming to People For People, Stacy spent 17 years at Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic where she worked with a variety of programs including youth and adult employment and training, low-income home energy assistance, AmeriCorps, and spent 7 years as the Regional Long-Term Care Ombudsman. Stacy holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Oregon and a Master of Education from Heritage University. When she isn't working or raising her two teenage sons, Hunter and Wyatt, she can be mistaken for a crazy Oregon Ducks football fan. Stacy is passionate about traveling and recently completed the Camino de Santiago, walking 160 miles from Porto, Portugal to Santiago, Spain.

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Elizabeth King

Hopelink

Elizabeth A. King, MHA, MEP Emergency Management Program Manager. She is a specialist in planning, business continuity, training, exercises, and policy development. Ms. King is a Master Exercise Practitioner, FEMA ICS Instructor, and an Instructor for the Emergency Management Institute, a CERT Instructor, and the current IAEM Region X Secretary and Treasurer. Ms. King has experience in emergency management planning, business continuity, policy development, training and exercises, coordination with elected officials, university administration, and higher education emergency management. She has extensive experience in joint information systems, social media policy, and social media for emergency management, situational awareness, and crisis communication.

Away from her regular duties, Elizabeth is an active advocate for emergency preparedness public education; an active volunteer in her community most recently through the Vashon Island Fire and Rescue Strategic Planning Committee, Vashon Island Be Prepared all volunteer emergency operation center, and the King County ECC Support Team.

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Raquel Lackey

HOPE Crisis Response Dogs

Raquel Lackey is a CPA with over 20 years of experience at the senior executive level. She is currently on the Board of HOPE Animal-Assisted Crisis Response as well as a Certified Field Traumatologist and Compassion Fatigue Educator with Green Cross Academy of Traumatology. She serves hundreds of hours each year with both of her trained crisis response dogs, Pickles & Bungee and speaks at a national level about her experiences.

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Mark Liebman

CASE Forensics

Mark Liebman, Senior Forensic Investigator, has provided forensic investigation and restoration consulting services for historic and contemporary structures for the past 22 years. His expertise includes knowledge of state-of-practice, non-destructive investigation techniques, such as ground penetrating radar, ultrasonics, infrared, vibration monitoring / analysis, and drill resistance for wood and stone. His formal training is in physics and material science, with field experience complimented by an extensive background in the laboratory. Mr. Liebman has worked with architects, engineers, owners, and owner representatives on diverse structures nationally and internationally. Recent projects include a condition assessment for reconstruction of the Ord-Weitzel and Sheridan gates at Arlington National Cemetery, preservation investigation/specification preparation at the Washington State Capitol building, and analyzing masonry degradation issues at MIT. Mr. Liebman's expertise includes stone and brick masonry construction means, methods and materials and structural and architectural metal components and sculptures. He is the author of the Department of Defense Unified Facilities Guide Specification Restoration & Cleaning of Masonry in Historic Structures. See Mark at work at Arlington National Cemetery in this Norfolk District Army Corps produced video.

Megan Lactor

C+C

Megan Lactor is an Account Executive at C+C, a Seattle-based Public Relations and Social Marketing firm. Megan has a wealth of knowledge in event planning, advertising and marketing campaigns. Her background includes supporting a dealer network of over 100 small businesses, assisting them in marketing and promotions. For a time, she ran a small business coordinating weddings which taught her to react quickly and diffuse challenges. She has assisted with planning, coordinating and executing campaigns for a variety of clients addressing important social issues, including: American Red Cross, Puget Sound Energy, Waste Management, King County Metro and Public Health.

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Paul Lower

City of Olympia Police Department

Paul Lower has been a police officer with the City of Olympia Police Department since 1998. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice and a Master of Arts degree in Psychology. During his career he has served the City as a patrol officer, detective, first-line supervisor, mid-level manager and is a member of the City's Emergency Management Committee. Shortly before the incident he was assigned as the PIO for the Police Department.

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Patty Ludden

TOTE Maritime

As Safety, Loss Prevention and Quality Director, Patty is responsible for the safe operation of our terminals and for providing injury-free offices. She ensures TOTE Maritime customers receive their cargo and equipment in the condition it was tendered and also maintains the company's ISO certifications in Quality, Environmental and Safety. She is responsible for leading internal audits and implementing corrective and preventive actions to improve our processes. Patty began her career at Totem Ocean in September of 1977. She has held a variety of positions in Pricing, Finance and Operations throughout her tenure. Patty graduated from the University of Washington's Foster School of Business with a Master Degree in 2008. She attended Leadership Training sponsored by Tacoma/Pierce County Chamber and is a member of the Propeller Club, the largest 'grassroots' maritime association in the U.S. and the world with clubs in Tacoma and 55 other U.S. ports.

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Vivian Marinelli

FEI Behavioral Health

Dr. Vivian Marinelli has provided support to individuals and families impacted by mass casualty disasters including aviation accidents, terrorist attacks and natural disasters since 1999. She works directly with the customers' emergency response teams to review existing emergency response and family assistance plans. She assists in developing and revising these plans to ensure operational feasibility and provides ongoing consultation and training on emergency planning and family assistance issues. She brings over 20 years of work in direct clinical services specializing in trauma and grief counseling to her work. She holds a Doctorate Degree in Clinical Psychology and is a Licensed Psychologist in Wisconsin.

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Mindi Mattson

City of Renton

Mindi Mattson has worked in emergency management since 2002. She has been the Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Renton since 2008 and received her CEM in 2012. She holds a masters degree in Emergency Management Leadership from Adler University where she is an adjunct instructor of emergency management.

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Brent Meldrum

Community Transportation Association of the Northwest

Mr. Meldrum's 40+ years of career experience includes duties as senior engineer, senior technology consultant and Chief Technology Officer for a company implementing new technologies. His experience as an owner and CEO of Coastal Transport LLC has led to a successful NEMT (non-emergent medical transport) transport company which continues to expand and grow. Coastal Transport's growth in Special Needs Transportation has more than doubled in size and capacity in the last two years. Mr. Meldrum is a member of CTANW and currently serves as 1st Vice President making him aware of the challenges facing the special needs transportation industry. His involvement in industry organizations leads to further enhance transportation alternatives for those who are in need. He is committed to continuously raising awareness of the special needs population. His background uniquely qualifies him to apply his experience in assessing business needs, formulating business solutions and implementing operational initiatives.

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Kurt Mills

SnoPac 911

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Matthew Modarelli

Washington State Emergency Management Division

Matt Modarelli is the Cyber Security Manager for Washington State Emergency Management Division. As such he reports to the Director, Emergency Management, under the direction of the state Homeland Security Advisor. He serves as Washington State's cybersecurity policy leader and strategist for emergency management. He conducts extensive outreach, collaboration, and integrated policy, planning, and exercise activities with the private, public, tribal, and critical infrastructure/key resource (CIKR) sectors in furtherance of statewide significant cyber incident preparedness. Matt is a retired Air Force Cyber Systems Supervisor and Federal Law Enforcement Officer. He has a Master of Science Degree in Management Information Systems and is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP).

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Tom Muehleisen

Washington State Emergency Management Division

Lieutenant Colonel Tom Muehleisen is currently serves as the Washington State Military Department's J36, Cyber Operations, coordinating with emergency management and homeland security, providing military support to civil authorities and as the Adjutant General's pointman for the National Guard's role as part of a larger statewide cybersecurity effort. LTC Muehleisen has worked for over 2 decades in IT, the last decade at the CIO level both deployed overseas in Iraq and as the CIO/G6 for the Washington Army National Guard. Prior to assuming his full-time role after redeployment in 2005, he was an independent senior management consultant in the healthcare vertical. For the last three years, he has been focused on a community-based cyber outreach program aimed at improving the readiness of Washington State. Washington State is on the cutting edge of cyber engagement and collaboration, producing ground breaking policies and synergy within government, academia and industry.

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Vidya Nair

Global Humanitarian Pharmacists Network

Vidya Nair, PharmD is an Emergency Department pharmacist at Providence St. Peter Hospital in Olympia, WA. She is the founder of Global Humanitarian Pharmacists Network.

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Deborah Needham

City of Renton

Deborah is the Emergency Management Director for the City of Renton. At Crisis Optimist Coaching & Consulting, she also serves as a facilitator, organizational consultant, and certified executive coach. She has an extensive background working with people, groups, and communities within the context of crisis and change. Deborah possesses a keen understanding of human dynamics and delights in partnering with others to explore challenging and uncertain situations. She sees possibilities and potential where others see dead ends, and is gifted with a contagious optimism that she readily transmits to others.

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Don Ogden

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service

Don Ogden completed 37 years service to the federal government, including 29 years in the United States Secret Service. He has national and international experience in presidential residential security, private investigations, building and facility security and preparedness planning, executive protection, and sensitive-event operational planning. His experiences range from planning Secret Service operations for Olympic Games to coordinating restoration of Secret Service operations following bombings of the World Trade Center (1993 and 2001) and the Murrah Federal Office building in Oklahoma City (1995). Immediately prior to his retirement from the Secret Service, Mr. Ogden was detailed to the United States Department of Homeland Security to assist in the standing up of that Department.

Mr. Ogden holds a bachelors degree in business from the University of South Florida and a Masters in Public Administration from George Washington University. In addition, Mr. Ogden completed the Executive Development Program at the Center for Creative Leadership as well as a year-long fellowship at the Council for Excellence in Government. Since his retirement from federal service, Mr. Ogden has been licensed as a private investigator in the Commonwealth of Virginia; has been active in consulting on security and emergency planning; and has been leading executive level seminars in disastrous incident planning. Mr. Ogden's accomplishments have been recognized through numerous awards including the Secretary of Treasury's honor award for activities related to recovery from the effects of the Oklahoma City bombing.

Janeen R. Olson

City of Redmond Police Department

Janeen Olson is a Police Program Coordinator for the City of Redmond. She began her career in Emergency Management as a volunteer in 2006 for the City's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training which eventually evolved to a full-time position in June 2012. Janeen is committed to volunteer engagement and community preparedness. She developed and implemented the Redmond Ready Program that provides emergency preparedness information, CPR, and First Aid training to the public and City of Redmond staff. In addition to CERT, Janeen also is the program manager for the City's Amateur Radio Emergency Service and Medical Reserve Corps. She also provides outreach for public inquiries related to emergency preparedness and Map Your Neighborhood. The idea for a CERT Eastside Coalition came about because she is fond of saying, "if you are working alone, you are doing it wrong, many hands make for light work".

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Samuel Oyewole

U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board

Dr. Samuel Oyewole, Ph.D. is a Chemical Incident Investigator at the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board in Washington, DC. Previously, he was a Professor of Environmental Health and Safety Engineering in the Department of Energy and Mineral Engineering at the Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Oyewole earned his Ph.D. degree in Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University. He is a member of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM), and the Human Factors Engineering Society (HFES). Dr. Oyewole is the author of many technical papers, publications, and speeches.

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Shawn Palmer

The Leadership Coalition

Shawn Palmer is a military officer, CERT-trained disaster responder with the Red Cross, and owner of an advisory-based business in south Snohomish County. By nature and profession, he is a planner; and enjoys immensely opportunities to share common sense solutions and strategies to problem-solving.

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Ha Na Park

C+C

Ha Na Park is a Multicultural Strategist at C+C using transcreation and culturally-nuanced strategies to craft campaigns for businesses and organizations. Trilingual, Ha Na is fluent in English, Spanish and Korean and has led numerous cross-cultural, Hispanic/Latino and Asian American campaigns for non-profits, government and Fortune 100 companies. As a passionate tech-explorer, Ha Na leverages mobile apps and cutting edge concepts such as augmented reality to drive deep engagement and behavior change for her campaigns. Ha Na has won a Seattle Addy and two PSAMA Pulse Awards, including Best in Show for her work producing viral Spanish radio and TV spots.

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Ginger Passarelli

The Soup Ladies

Ginger “Mama” Passarelli, Founder of The Soup Ladies, has been preparing meals for emergency personnel and first responders for over a decade. She and her all-volunteer crew recently spent time at the Okanogan fires to ensure those working there received wonderful, home-style meals as they worked around the clock. In addition to her Soup Ladies activities, she owns and operates Mama Passarelli’s Dinner House in Black Diamond and stays busy with the catering of large and small events.

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Scott Preston

UW Emergency Management

Scott Preston is a veteran career emergency manager and Business Continuity Manager for the University of Washington. He holds certifications as a CEM and as a CBCP.

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Joana Ramos

Washington State Coalition for Language Access

Joana Ramos, MSW of Seattle is an independent health policy consultant and founding member of the Washington State Coalition for Language Access. She serves Co-Chair of WASCLA's Board of Directors and Chair of the Healthcare Committee. Her background in policy and direct practice in health and human services, and as a medical interpreter with state and national credentials, guides her advocacy work to eliminate health inequalities. Joana has directed major projects for WASCLA including a multi-year campaign to preserve Washington's Medicaid Interpreter Services program; the first statewide collaboration on language access in pharmacies; Tools for Health which created multilingual consumer resources and provider education on language access rights in healthcare; equity efforts for Affordable Care Act implementation; and curriculum development for Language Access Summits, most recently with a comprehensive emergency management focus. Joana is a graduate of Boston University and the University of Washington School of Social Work.

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Rob Reardon

Salvation Army

Major Rob Reardon is a Salvation Army officer currently who is currently overseeing the work of the Army in north King County, Seattle Washington. Rob and his wife have been officers in The Salvation army for almost two decades, serving in Phoenix AZ, Denver CO, Seattle WA and in the nation's capital, Washington, DC. During their years of service, they have been administrators of local Salvation Army corps community centers and have served in larger regional and national appointments. On several occasions, Rob has been deployed to assist with Salvation Army Emergency disaster relief efforts for major earthquakes, wildfires, Hurricane Katrina and most recently, the bus crash in north Seattle last Fall.

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Tim Reeves

Everett Police Department, Youth Services Unit

Sergeant Tim Reeves has worked for the Everett Police Department since 1995 and has been the supervisor of the Youth Services Unit since 2012. During his career Sergeant Reeves has been a patrol officer, K9 handler, SWAT team member, property crimes detective and patrol sergeant. Sergeant Reeves supervises 6 School Resource Officers and is the Everett Police Department liaison with the Everett and Mukilteo School Districts. Over the past four years Sergeant Reeves has worked in partnership with the Everett School District to develop their emergency preparedness. This has included security grant applications, district wide camera project, table top exercises and active shooter training. In 2014 Sergeant Reeves was one of the first responders to the Marysville Pilchuck High School shooting.

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Molly Ringo

Everett Public Schools

Dr. Molly Ringo is assistant superintendent for teaching and learning in Everett Public Schools. Dr. Ringo has led multiple projects to improve the district's safety and emergency preparedness through accessing and partnering with numerous community organizations and individuals. Community partners have also benefited from gaining a greater understanding of the challenges and needs of the school district in examining their own expectations and processes.

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James Rollins

Takouba Security, LLC

James manages the day-to-day operations of Takouba and its foreign subsidiaries in the UK and Singapore. He is responsible for oversight of business development, consulting, contracting and finances. James has over 28 years of experience in the private sector and the military. In the private sector, he has been a vocational instructor for ITT Tech, corporate training manager, human resources manager, and a plant manager for a medium size manufacturing company. He is trained in Lean Manufacturing and has successfully lead several improvement programs. As a military leader, he has deployed to Afghanistan and has organized, trained, and deployed various military organizations. He is a traditional officer in the Washington Army National Guard, formerly commanding the Region 10 Homeland Response Force and currently serves on special assignment to U.S. Northern Command, advising on the integration of federal military resources in disaster response. James holds a bachelor's degree from Saint Martin's University and a master's degree in Adult Education from Western Washington University and a Masters of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College. He is married with two grown children, enjoys hiking, the outdoors, and is an assistant scoutmaster with the Boy Scouts of America.

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Jodie Ryan

Microsoft Security Response Center

Jodie is a Microsoft Senior Cyber Security Incident Commander and Trusted Advisor to the Chief Information Security Officer (CISO), Legal and Corporate Affairs (LCA), and global divisions on behalf of Microsoft Security Response Center. She works with the Cyber Defense Operations Center which includes monitoring, detecting and responding to millions of security events per day that affect over 3 billion customers worldwide. She also authors and oversees tabletop exercises that are based on lessons learned and the highest risk attack scenarios. Jodie is on the Customer Advisory Board for Resilient Systems Incident Response Software.

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Kevin Scarlett

Washington State Department of Health

Kevin A. Scarlett, RA, HFDP Senior Plans Reviewer - Construction Review Services RA - Registered Architect - Washington State License HFDP - ASHRAE Certified Healthcare Facility Design Professional Washington State Department of Health and Kevin is currently a CalOES Safety Assessment Program Coordinator for Washington State.

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John Schelling

Washington State Military Department, Emergency Management Division

John D. Schelling is the Earthquake, Tsunami and Volcano Programs Manager for the Washington State Military Department's Emergency Management Division. He is responsible for coordinating the seismic and associated hazard risk reduction efforts between federal, state, tribal and local partners with a goal of increasing community resilience. He staffs the Washington State Seismic Safety Committee, Chairs the State/Local Tsunami Workgroup, recently completed a 4-year term as the NOAA National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program's State Co-Chair of the Mitigation and Education Subcommittee and is currently serving as the National Emergency Management Association representative on the United States Geological Survey's Advanced National Seismic System Steering Committee. John's recent projects include the award-winning efforts to implement tsunami vertical evacuation strategies in vulnerable coastal communities through Project Safe Haven and developing a 50-year framework for minimizing earthquake losses and improving statewide recovery through the Resilient Washington State Initiative. In addition to his emergency management expertise, John has an extensive background in state and local government with an emphasis on policy analysis, land-use planning and implementation of smart growth management strategies. John received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of West Florida and Master's Degree from the University of South Florida.

Mary Schoenfeldt

Schoenfeldt and Associates

Dr. Mary Schoenfeldt, former Director of Recovery for Marysville School District, has spent her career in School Safety and Emergency Management. She works with schools, government, businesses and communities. She responded to communities such as Littleton Colorado, New Orleans, Haiti and Newtown Connecticut. She traveled to the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting and joined a Specialty Team to work with the school and community. Her most recent position is the result of a murder/suicide in a high school cafeteria. Her work has won awards from several groups, she was inducted into the HALL OF FAME of the International Network of Women in Emergency Management, was honored by The International Critical Incident Stress Foundation with a Lifetime Achievement Award and is President of the Disaster Mental Health agency, Green Cross Academy of Traumatology. Her ability to educate and encourage people to action is reflected in her books, articles and contributions to agencies such as FEMA and US Department of Education.

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Sean Scott

Heritage Publishing & Communications, Ltd

Sean Scott is the CEO of Heritage Publishing & Communications, Ltd. and author of The Red Guide to Recovery - Resource Handbook for Disaster Survivors. As a disaster restoration contractor by trade, Sean has spent over 35 years in the construction and restoration industry, primarily assisting disaster survivors rebuild their homes and businesses after fires, floods, earthquakes, and other types of disaster events. Sean witnessed first-hand the challenges people face once first responders leave the scene and what often transforms disaster survivors into disaster victims. Sean's unique perspective and experience takes the mask of mystery off of the recovery process and empowers people with the knowledge and tools they need to prepare for and recover from disaster events.

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Courtney Sellers

Washington State Pharmacy Association

Courtney R. Sellers, PharmD, BCPS works as a clinical pharmacist at Providence St. Peter Hospital in Olympia, WA and specializes in adult internal medicine, emergency medicine and antimicrobial stewardship

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Dana Stahl

University of Washington

Dana Stahl, CIH, is a Certified Industrial Hygienist and 2016 President of the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association. She is currently working at the OSHA Training Institute Education Center at the University of Washington as a business development manager and instructor. Dana has more than twenty years of experience managing occupational health and safety programs for the Port of Seattle, Sound Transit, and with manufacturing companies. While at Sound Transit, she coordinated safety certification emergency drills for the initial segment of the Link Light Rail System, facilitated development of the initial Emergency Management Plan, and worked closely with local emergency managers and emergency responders. She holds an MS in Environmental Health, Industrial Hygiene and Toxicology, from the University of Washington and a BA in Cell Biology from the University of California, Berkeley.

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Rebecca Stevenson

Rebecca Stevenson is a Broadcast Meteorologist with earned certifications from the American Meteorological Society and the National Weather Association. She has 15 years of experience within Weather Departments of multi-media newsrooms from local television to national and international. In the Pacific Northwest, years were spent at Northwest Cable News, KING 5, and as the Chief Meteorologist for 6 years at KIRO 7. The past 2 years Rebecca was on the primary team in New York City to launch Al Jazeera America. Both on-air and behind the scenes Rebecca has contributed to forecasting, warning, and verifying major weather events and other earth science phenomena.

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Mark Stewart

Washington Military Department

Mark Stewart is a communications consultant for the Washington Military Department, responsible for directing planning and operations of Emergency Support Function 15 External Affairs in the State Emergency Operations Center. He previously served as the Emergency Management Division's interim External Affairs Manager and Lead Public Information Officer, helping lead the state's public information response to the SR 530 landslide disaster in 2014, and directing the state's public information response for eight Presidentially declared disasters. He also assisted FEMA following the Northridge earthquake in 1994. Mark's other positions at EMD saw him develop the nation's first state Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan, and manage FEMA-funded mitigation grant programs. In addition, he was project manager of the Seattle Fault Earthquake Scenario, which received the National Award for Excellence in Outreach at the 2008 National Earthquake Conference. His 29 years of state service includes public information positions with the Department of Licensing and the State Workforce Board. Before that, Mark was an award-winning writer and editor with community newspapers in Oregon and Washington. He has a Journalism degree from the University of Oregon and a certificate in marketing communications from the University of Washington.

Josh Stivers

Swedish Health Services

Josh Stivers has over 15 years of police and security background. He is the current President and CEO of County Patrol Division, a private contract security company in the Greater Puget Sound area and he served as a Police Officer just south of Seattle in Normandy Park, WA. Josh earned his Master's Degree in Healthcare Administration and two undergraduate degrees in Criminal Justice and Public Administration. Josh is also the current System Security Trainer for Swedish Health Services in Seattle and he co-chairs the workplace violence committee. Josh is considered a leading expert in Active Shooter response training and is a national instructor on how to "be safe" during these types of events.

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Nancy Swan

Nancy is a former teacher and has been a writer, blogger, and public speaker for more than twenty years. She has been published in statewide newspapers in Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, and in USA Today and continues to influence government policy. She has partnered with more than two dozen major health and environment organizations, participating in webinars and discussions, educating policy makers and the public, and participating in legislation to protect children from environmental and chemical hazards. She has been interviewed on television news and on radio, and quoted as an expert in news articles. In 2010, Nancy hosted for three CDC/ATSDR Community Conversations, and she continues to serve as the host of Children's EPA Community Forums. Over the past decade, Nancy has met with school boards, mayors, and six state governors—securing more than a dozen state proclamations and resolutions to improve environmental quality in schools. Most recently, Nancy was a presenter at the 2015 Minnesota Symposium on Terrorism and Emergency Preparedness (M-STEP).

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Linda Tavlin

LJT Associated Inc.

Linda Tavlin has been a communication consultant since April 1989. She is a communication specialist in helping the aviation industry communicate its message with expertise in issues including safety, accident investigation, flight standards, manufacturing, security, air traffic and environment, both foreign and domestic. Her knowledge expands beyond the United States and she has worked training carriers, manufacturers, regulators and accident investigators, corporate aviation, government flight departments and her expertise has been sought by foreign carriers who have experienced the tragedy of an airline crash including Saudi Arabian Airlines 747 crash in New Delhi in November of 1996, Swissair prior to their tragedy in September 1998 and Air France prior to their Concorde tragedy of July 2000. She has conducted courses at the Federal Aviation Administration's Aeronautical Academy and teaches in the accident investigation program at the University of Southern California, Cranfield University in England, and has taught in the aviation emergency response program at the University of California, Davis, as well as lectured at the NTSB Academy and FAA Academy in Oklahoma City. Prior to becoming a consultant, Ms. Tavlin was the Director of press and communications for the largest agency at the United States Department of Labor. With more than 4,000 employees, she designed, developed and conducted communication projects that helped her agency communicate its message to its customers. Preceding government service Ms. Tavlin produced and hosted a cable television talk show in Southern California in addition to being in the financial and real estate industry. She graduated from the University of California at Irvine with a bachelor's degree in social science.

Ronnie Taylor

Texas A&M University, National Emergency Response & Rescue Training Center (NERRTC)

Mr. Taylor has more than thirty-two years of documented success in complex and sensitive organizations. He has done extensive work in international settings and with diverse cultures, living or working in thirty-one different countries. He possesses comprehensive experience in organizational development, planning, training, budgeting, mediation, conflict resolution, safety, risk management and team building. Mr. Taylor is currently a Training Manager for the Executive Programs with the National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center (NERRTC), a division of the Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) within the Texas A&M University System. He has responsibilities for development, scheduling, presentation and/or facilitation of three unique executive level Department of Homeland Security (DHS) sponsored seminars and workshops. These include Crisis Leadership and Decision Making for Elected Officials, Senior Officials Workshop for All-Hazards Preparedness, and the Enhanced Sports and Special Events Incident Management Course dealing with domestic preparedness for public and private officials throughout the United States and its territories. He also serves as an instructor for the National Emergency Management Executive Academy at FEMA's Emergency Management Institute. Prior to joining NERRTC, Mr. Taylor spent more than twenty five years in the United States Army. He served as an AH-64 Apache and OH-58 Kiowa pilot-in-command. He has commanded units at numerous levels, served on major command staffs, and in multiple (allied and coalition) multi-national commands. His diverse assignments cultivated wide-ranging experience in strategic, operational, and tactical planning and operations. Mr. Taylor holds a Master of Arts degree in Management from the American Military University and a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Texas A&M University. He has earned a Training and Development Professional Certification from Texas A&M University. He is a graduate of the NATO Defense College Senior Officer Course.

Ty Vannieuwenhoven

Department of Health and Human Services, National Disaster Medical System

Dr. Ty Vannieuwenhoven is the Chief Veterinary Officer for the National Disaster Medical System of the US Department of Health and Human Services. As ESF 8 veterinary program manager he coordinates the activities of the National Veterinary Response Team and its other veterinary medical and veterinary public health activities. Dr. Vannieuwenhoven is a native of Wisconsin and received his Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from the University Of Wisconsin School Of Veterinary Medicine, a Master's in Public Health from Harvard University, and a Master's in Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College.

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Charles Wallace

Grays Harbor County Emergency Management

Chuck Wallace is the of Deputy Director of Emergency Management for Grays Harbor County, WA. He is a 32 year veteran of the fire service, retiring from the Philadelphia Fire Department in 2007 and currently the Fire Chief at Grays Harbor County Fire Protection District #11. He also serves as an elected Fire Commissioner for Grays Harbor County Fire Protection District #11. He was a member of the first graduating class of FEMA's Emergency Management Executive Academy held at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD. He is the current Vice Chairperson for the Washington State Homeland Security Region 3 Committee and a member of the Washington State, Region 3 Healthcare Coalition Executive Board. Chuck holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the Evergreen State College.

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Jill Watson

City of Seattle

Jill Watson coordinates Emergency Support Function 6 (ESF #6) Mass Care, Housing and Human Services for the City of Seattle. She is an Emergency Management Coordinator in the Seattle Human Services Department and has over ten years of experience in the field. During activations for the Seattle Emergency Operations Center, Jill is responsible for the coordination of the Health and Human Services Branch. Jill also leads a city-wide ESF-6 group of governmental and non-governmental partners. In addition responding to Seattle's EOC activations, Jill's experience includes responding as ESF 6 Coordinator in the Snohomish County Emergency Operations Center for the SR530 Mudslide, developing disaster preparedness activities for non-profit agencies and managing disaster responses for Feeding America's Western Washington affiliate, Food Lifeline. She also served as one of 10 members of Feeding America's National Disaster Response Task Force.

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Kevin Wickersham

Washington State Department of Health, Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response

Kevin Wickersham is an Emergency Preparedness Specialist for the Washington State Department of Health (DOH), Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response. He serves as the statewide capability lead for Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions, leads Emergency Medical Services (EMS) preparedness efforts at DOH, and manages the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Ebola grant. Kevin serves locally on the Homeland Security Region 3 Type 3 Incident Management Team. Kevin recently moved from Massachusetts where he worked in emergency management in healthcare and higher education and served on a regional type 3 incident management team. He carries years of EMS experience as a provider, field training officer, and instructor/coordinator. Kevin holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Psychology from Boston College and a Master of Science in Healthcare Emergency Management from the Boston University School of Medicine.

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Cathy Woods

Cascade High School

Cathy has been a secondary principal in the Everett, Puyallup and Kent school districts.

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Gregory Wright

Olympia Fire Department

Gregory Wright, Deputy Fire Chief, has been with the Olympia Fire Department since 1985. Chief Wright promoted to his current position in 1997. Emergency Management was one of his first assignments and continues to be a large focus of his work for the city. Chief Wright is the Emergency Management Coordinator for the City, the PIO for the Fire Department and a PIO on the Homeland Security Region 3 Incident Management Team. Chief Wright has a B.S. from Whitworth College (University) and attended paramedic training at Central Washington University. Additionally he has a mini MBA in Emergency Medical Services from the University of St. Thomas and a Project Management Certificate from South Puget Sound Community College.

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Ward Yohe

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Ward Yohe is a volunteer NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory Solar System Ambassador. He enjoys sharing the NASA vision with others; loves hiking, camping, backpacking, biking, snowshoeing, and kayaking with his wife Sharon and other friends; and considers Washington's Salish Sea region to be one of the most fantastic spots on Planet Earth. He grew up in Big Run, Pennsylvania and graduated from high school in nearby Punxsutawney in 1989. Ward then attended US Naval Nuclear Electronics, Power, and Prototype Schools and served as a nuclear reactor operator on the USS Truxtun (CGN 35), home ported in Bremerton, WA from 1991-95. Ward now works in Operations & Maintenance for the University of Washington Medical Center in Seattle and commutes daily to work via ferry from Bremerton, his home of 23+ years. His NASA outreach focus is to groups of any size and age range, primarily on the Kitsap and Olympic Peninsulas.

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