



CECT L!brary

Reader's Digest

Greetings, cadre!

October is Health Literacy Month, so we have gathered some articles for you to peruse on how to promote health literacy in general, for specific groups, and in times of disasters or other emergencies. Knowing how to find, understand, and use health information is integral to our ability to make informed choices about our life, particularly if there is an incoming or ongoing public health emergency.

As behavioral health providers, we need to meet people where they are and provide information in a way that is digestible and actionable in their current life. In times of crisis, our ability to take in information can be impacted, so we need to set that foundation before disaster can strike.

Keep up the good work,

Crisis Emotional Care Team

Latest Additions

Ronoh, S., Gaillard, J. C., & Marlowe, J. (2015). Children with disabilities and disaster risk reduction: A review. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Science*, 6, 38-48. DOI: [10.1007/s13753-015-0042-9](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13753-015-0042-9)

A meta review of the current research on disaster risk reduction plans and their inclusion (or lack thereof) of children with disabilities. The authors break down the barriers that exist for children with disabilities and their families in engaging in DRR, whether societal or medical, and provide solutions for parents and professionals to better teach children with disabilities about DRR, including increasing their health literacy and empowering them to take control of their care in times of crisis.

Tambling, R. R., D'Aniello, C., & Russell, B. S. (2023). Mental health literacy: A critical target for narrowing racial disparities in behavioral health. *International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction*, 21(3), 1867-1881. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11469-021-00694-w>

This study looked at mental health literacy, mental health, and insurance literacy among a diverse sample of American adults to hopefully pinpoint ways to increase mental health literacy among different populations. The researchers found that there was a general low rate of mental health literacy and insurance literacy, with interesting implications of prevalence among more common mental health conditions such as anxiety and depression. Overall, research like this may provide a starting point for researchers and clinicians in addressing mental health literacy before, during, and after disasters.

Whitney, W., Keselman, A., & Humphreys, B. (2017). Libraries and librarians: Key partners for progress in health literacy research and practice. *Information Services & Use*, 37(1), 85-100. DOI: [10.3233/ISU-170821](https://doi.org/10.3233/ISU-170821)

Bringing in a different angle on health literacy, this article provides a brief history of libraries and librarians as personal and public health information resources. The authors include information on the creation of the National Library of Medicine prior to the easy-access of the Internet and after. They outline how the NLM and other agencies worked to make public libraries and library systems useful for getting public health information to the general public through health information centers, training initiatives for library staff and volunteers, and accessible physical and digital documents/resources within each library's system. When we talk about public health and disaster behavioral health, the role of libraries and librarians is often left out of the conversation. As public and behavioral health workers, we should think about how we can work libraries into our conversations.

Paywalled Articles

Brown, L. M., Haun, J. N., & Peterson, L. (2014). A proposed disaster literacy model. *Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness*, 8(3), 267-275.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/dmp.2014.4>

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Calgaro, E., Craig, N., Craig, L., Dominey-Howes, D., & Allen, J. (2021). Silent no more: Identifying and breaking through the barriers that d/Deaf people face in responding to hazards and disasters. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, 57, 102156.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdr.2021.102156>

Open Access Reads

Çalışkan, C., & Üner, S. (2023). Measurement of Disaster Literacy in Turkish Society: Disaster Literacy Scale (DLS) Design and Development Process. *Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness*, 17, e211.
<https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/communityliteracy/vol4/iss2/5/>

Finn, S., & O'Fallon, L. (2017). The emergence of environmental health literacy—from its roots to its future potential. *Environmental health perspectives*, 125(4), 495-501.
<https://doi.org/10.1289/ehp.140933>

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Goto, A. (2020). Communicating health information with the public:

Sørensen, K. (2022). Lack of alignment in emergency response by systems and the public: a Dutch disaster health literacy case study. *Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness*, 16(1), 25-28.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/dmp.2020.226>

Lessons learned post disaster. *Journal of Global Health Science*, 2(1).
<https://doi.org/10.35500/jghs.2020.2.e6>

International Reads

Seifi, B., Ghanizadeh, G., & Seyedin, H. (2018). Disaster health literacy of middle-aged women. *Journal of Menopausal Medicine*, 24(3), 150-154.
<https://doi.org/10.6118/jmm.2018.24.3.150>

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