

Family Reunion Post-Disaster

This playbook provides a structured approach to locate and reunite with family members who may have gone missing during a natural disaster. It outlines effective strategies to re-establish contact and ensure the well-being of all affected family members.

Step 1: **Safety First**

Ensure that you and your immediate surroundings are safe before attempting to locate missing family members. Listen to local authorities or emergency services for updates and instructions.

Step 2: **Immediate Check**

Check immediate shelters or areas near the disaster where family members may have sought refuge. This includes local shelters, community centers, or places of worship.

Step 3: **Contact List**

Attempt to contact family members through all available means, such as phone calls, text messages, emails, and social media. Use a list of pre-established contacts in case primary communication methods fail.

Step 4: **Inform Authorities**

Report missing family members to the local authorities and disaster relief organizations. Provide detailed descriptions and any pertinent information that may help in locating them.

Step 5: Use Apps and Registries

Utilize dedicated apps and online registries designed for disaster response to report and find missing persons, such as the Red Cross's Safe and Well website.

Step 6: Community Support

Reach out to the local community, including neighbors, community groups, and social networks, to spread the word and seek assistance in locating missing family members.

Step 7: Regular Updates

Keep regular communication with authorities and organizations involved in the search. Update them with any new information and stay informed about the status of missing family members.

Step 8: Mental Health

Take care of your mental health and the mental health of found family members. Consider seeking support through counseling or support groups.

General Notes

Emergency Kit

Maintain an emergency kit with medical supplies, food, water, and other essentials in case of a natural disaster, and include a list of emergency contacts and important personal information.

Pre-Disaster Preparation

Have a family disaster plan in place that includes meeting points and communication strategies, and make sure all family members are informed and understand the plan.

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