

Meta-Leadership Summit for Preparedness

SUCCESS STORY

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Meta-Leadership Results in Ongoing Private/Public Partnership Summit

Contributor: Julie Davenport

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Julie Davenport is no stranger to community-based emergency response planning. As a veteran in the field for close to 30 years, and in her position as Assistant Vice President and Regional Emergency Manager in Southern California for Wells Fargo, she has seen her fair share of initiatives designed to cultivate community resilience and public-private partnership. Although some initiatives miss the mark, Davenport commends the Meta-Leadership Summit for Preparedness Initiative, which hosted a Summit and follow-up activity in Los Angeles in February and July 2011 respectively, for providing participants with "light bulb" moments and urging a call to action. As Davenport noted, "the speakers and the messaging encouraged participants to stop just meeting and to get something done." Following the Summit, action is what Davenport took, working with partners from SoCalfirst and the LA Emergency Preparedness Foundation (LAEPF) to put together the first Private/Public Partnership Summit.

Taking Action Steps After the Summit

The Private/Public Partnership Summit occurred on September 19, 2011, and was designed to build strong partnerships between business, government, and non-profit organizations in the context of emergency preparedness and community resiliency. The Greater Los Angeles Summit reached over one hundred leaders and raised awareness of and access to existing systems such as BICEPP (The Business and Industry Council for Emergency Planning and Preparedness), ENLA (Emergency Network Los Angeles) and the LA City Emergency Operations Center BOC (Business Operations Center). Following the September 19th Summit, Davenport followed up with participants to keep them engaged in the process and encourage increased involvement of "all sectors" in the BOC and other systems currently in place. Due to its success, Davenport plans to host a second annual Public/Private Partnership meeting in 2012.

Personal Benefits of the Meta-Leadership Summit

Davenport continues to stay involved in both Wells Fargo-related and community-wide preparedness and response activities, including the California Shake Out in October 2011. Davenport noted that Wells Fargo was very involved in the Shakeout- engaging employees in building drills, exercising website capabilities and communication alerts – along with the larger California community; reportedly over 8 million residents took part. From Wells Fargo, to Meta-Leadership, to community-wide activities, Davenport's mission is to continue collaborating with community partners to ensure preparedness remains at the forefront of people's minds.

The Meta-Leadership Summit for Preparedness empowered business, government and nonprofit leaders to act together in times of crisis. The five-year initiative connected 5,000 business, government and nonprofit leaders in 36 communities. For resources and more information about Meta-Leadership visit the [CDC Foundation Meta-Leadership Website](#).



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