



# Welcome to Disasterville

May 2009

## FLOODS ARE THE MOST COMMON DISASTER

Floods happen in every U.S. state and territory. Natural processes, such as hurricanes, weather systems, and snowmelt, can cause floods. Failure of levees and dams and inadequate drainage in urban areas can also result in flooding. On average, floods kill about 140 people each year and cause \$6 billion in property damage (USGS).

Not all floods are the same. Some floods develop slowly, sometimes over a period of days. But flash floods can develop quickly, sometimes in just a few minutes and without any visible signs of rain. Flash floods often have a dangerous wall of roaring water that carries rocks, mud, and other debris and can sweep away most things in its path. Overland flooding occurs outside a defined river or stream, such as when a levee is breached, but still can be destructive. Flooding can also occur when a dam breaks, producing effects similar to flash floods (FEMA).

Get all the flood facts at: <http://www.fema.gov/areyouready/flood.shtm>

## IN CASE YOU MISSED THE KCER SUMMIT

The KCER Summit meeting was hosted April 8, 2009 in Baltimore, Maryland. The KCER Summit Report will be completed and distributed in May. If you would like to include your disaster story or experience, send it to us at [sburris@nw7.esrd.net](mailto:sburris@nw7.esrd.net)

### SPOTLIGHT: **CALLING ALL ESRD NETWORK DATA MANAGERS**

The KCER Patient/Provider Tracking Response Team assists CMS and ESRD Networks to locate closed dialysis facilities in disasters, and assists Networks in collecting data on evacuated patients, through both SIMS and CrownWEB. Shane Perry of ESRD Network 4 leads this team. We are currently encouraging all ESRD Network Data Managers to join the Team's listserv to stay educated on new tools, resources, and information. The Team also encourages providers to participate in the listserv and conference calls.

### SPOTLIGHT: **KCER BLOG**

What's new on [www.kcercoalition.blogspot.com](http://www.kcercoalition.blogspot.com)

- ❖ Meeting announcements
- ❖ FDA alerts
- ❖ Safety information
- ❖ Disaster information

Got an idea for a blog article? Submit your short article to us for publication in the KCER blog! Email your work to [sburris@nw7.esrd.net](mailto:sburris@nw7.esrd.net).

I AM A DIALYSIS PATIENT.  
VITAL INFORMATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel-Free #: \_\_\_\_\_

Network: \_\_\_\_\_

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KCER is a member of the National Preparedness Month Coalition.

For more information, visit [www.kcercoalition.com](http://www.kcercoalition.com), call 813-865-3267 or email [sburris@nw7.esrd.net](mailto:sburris@nw7.esrd.net).