

# Disaster Response Mutual Aid Agreements



## ASPCA® Field Investigations and Response Team

### Supporting responses to natural disasters and animal cruelty across the United States

The Field Investigations and Response Team provide comprehensive services to emergency management, animal welfare organizations, law enforcement, and public health agencies.

#### What is a Mutual Aid Agreement, or MAA?

Many State and local governments and private nonprofit organizations formulate mutual aid agreements to provide emergency assistance to each other in the event of disasters or other crises. Organizations we enter into an agreement with must be an authority or agency having jurisdiction over animals in disaster for their community or state.

#### Why should I have a disaster response MAA with the ASPCA FIR Team?

Mutual aid agreements (MAAs) help clarify roles and responsibilities before an emergency event and facilitate the rapid mobilization of personnel, equipment, and supplies.

We encourage communities to start their relationship with FIR before the disaster happens, by signing a Mutual Aid Agreement (MAA). An example of resources that may be provided are;

- \* Assistance with response to natural disasters
- \* Training
- \* Disaster preparedness, and/or risk reduction
- \* Management of large-scale operations
- \* Management of emergency shelter operations
- \* Technical Rescue
- \* Response Team of trained professionals
- \* Assistance with response to large scale cruelty

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