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# Overview: Severe Weather & Emergency Sheltering

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*Jonna Papaefthimiou, State Resilience Officer*

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# Shelters save lives



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Severe weather causes more deaths than all other natural hazards combined.



# Need for emergency shelters is increasing



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# Emergency sheltering is a patchwork



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- Surge capacity at existing shelters
- Pop-up shelters in churches/CBOs
- Shelters in public building
- Staffing with a mix of paid providers, trained volunteers, mutual aid, public employees reassigned from other roles, and spontaneous volunteers.
- Some support from ODHS-OREM



# Local shelter standards vary widely



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- Community capacity
- Community expectations
- Incident needs
- Agency budget
- Seasonality



# Shelter workers are awesome



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**WANT  
TO HELP  
OUT  
IN  
SEVERE  
WEATHER?**

**TRAIN TO VOLUNTEER IN A  
WARMING SHELTER!**

[multco.us/volunteer-emergency-shelter](https://multco.us/volunteer-emergency-shelter)



- People do great work with the resources they have
- Shelters are often understaffed
- Staff are often inexperienced



# Emergency shelters create opportunity



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