

## Disaster Readiness Resources

The following information and resources were developed in response to the Victorian bushfires in 2009. They are designed to assist communities and the organisations working with them respond to emergency situations.

### **Community recovery after the February 2009 Victorian bushfires: a rapid review**

The review was completed rapidly immediately after the fires and focused on community-based, strengths-focussed recovery. It provides an overview of the supports that were available to people directly exposed to the Victorian bushfires and uses this evidence to develop a support and recovery model which emphasises the need for a strong, proactive community role and the value of utilising social capital. It was commissioned by Public Health in the Victorian Department of Health.

### **Psychosocial Support: A framework for emergencies**

The framework drew on the evidence from the rapid literature review, Community recovery after the February 2009 Victorian bushfires. It is designed for planners and service providers and offers advice on the principles and considerations that underpin a bushfire psychosocial recovery process. It provides an overview of the immediate and medium-term strategies required over a two year period to move from recovery to reintegration and mainstreaming interventions. The emphasis is on trauma consequently relevance of the information is not confined to bushfire disasters. It was produced by the Victorian Department of Health.

### **Renew: a psychosocial response to bushfires**

This is a two page overview of the psychosocial recovery framework produced by the Victorian Department of Health.

### **Fire Recovery Unit Website**

The Unit was established in 2011 after the closure of the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority. Its role is to assist the ongoing recovery of communities impacted by the 2009 Victorian bushfires.

It contains research exploring the medium to long term impacts of the Victorian 2009 bushfires on individuals and communities. It also includes resources which provide an excellent guide to the type of information, resources and services NSW communities would need after a disaster.

### **Trauma Factsheets**

The need to resource affected communities in terms of mental health first aid was identified as critical in Victoria, and a range of fact sheets were developed for the Victorian Department of Health.

- [Trauma - reaction and recovery](#)

- [Trauma - helping family or friends](#)
- [Trauma and children – newborns to two years](#)
- [Trauma and children – tips for parents](#)
- [Trauma and children – two to five years](#)
- [Trauma and primary school aged children](#)
- [Trauma and families](#)
- [Trauma and teenagers – common reactions](#)
- [When someone you know has had a traumatic experience](#)

NB The above websites were accessible on 4 November 2015.

If the links do not work search on the title of the document or go directly to the organisation's website.