

Sea Grant FY23 Special Projects Competition: Disaster Preparedness for Coastal Communities

Project Descriptions

Capacity Building for Health Equity in Communications During Disasters for Rural and Underserved Coastal Latino Communities in NC

North Carolina Sea Grant

\$155,761

PI: Frank Lopez, Extension Director

This disaster preparedness project will build stronger connections between Spanish-speaking populations and their respective health departments through capacity building workshops, community events, and designing needs assessments and evaluation metrics. Further, NC Sea Grant will partner with various local volunteer disaster organizations to strengthen communications amongst groups and their constituents through building social media capacity and conducting a literature review on best practices for communication with hard-to-reach populations during a climate emergency. This project will focus on rural and Latino communities, who are oftentimes left behind, but will not exclude other populations and geographic areas.

Co-developing ensemble flood forecast products to improve communication and preparedness across diverse populations

New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium

\$159,980

PI Peter Rowe, Executive Director

This project leverages the The Stevens Flood Advisory System (SFAS) and its large user base to study ensemble forecast communication and to co-produce an improved forecast website and set of decision-support tools. The primary objectives are: (1) gather end-user feedback and input on the SFAS forecast website, (2) to create an improved forecast website and set of options for viewing flood metrics, and (3) to expand the user base, including different geographic areas and UU populations. The project will comprise three primary cycles of learning and product development.

Improving the Odds through Innovation and Education: Addressing Disaster Preparedness on the Oregon Coast through Caches, Quests, and Community Engagement

Oregon Sea Grant

\$159,261

Lead PI: Tracy Crews, Marine Education Manager, Oregon Sea Grant/Oregon State University

Through this project, Oregon Sea Grant seeks to create and implement activities that empower communities to envision positive outcomes, encourage increased community and personal preparedness, and facilitate collective efficacy in Oregon's coastal communities around earthquakes and tsunamis. The project will support the development of new and improved community caches, and will create and implement effective education tools aimed at reaching the most vulnerable populations.

Kids Teaching Flood Resilience: Step Up! Get Ready! Respond!

South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium

\$159,934

Lead PI: Amanda Guthrie, SCSGC Climate & Resilience Specialist

This project will thoughtfully expand and situate the Kids Teaching Flood Resilience modules under five thematic domains: (1) Get Weather Smart, (2) Get Place-Wise, (3) Get Storm Surge Smart, (4) Get Prep Ready, and (5) Get Water Safe. A multidisciplinary and diverse team of Thought Leaders (i.e., teachers, scientists, engineers, emergency management specialists, higher education scholars, and artists) will contribute to and inform module development to ensure the modules are culturally responsive and scientifically informed. Additionally, a cohort of middle school teachers will help guide the development of the modules, and they will field test newly developed Kids Teaching Flood Resilience modules in their classrooms.