

Tragic Flash Flooding

A catastrophic flood has hit your legislative district.

- In just a few hours, your district has endured the equivalent of four months' worth of rain.
- The River in the area surged dramatically: rising approximately 26 feet in 45 minutes cresting as high as 30 - 39 ft.
- The water surged quickly leaving residents with almost no time to react.
- This was the deadliest inland flood in your state in 50 years.
- At least 200 people died in your district and some are still missing.
- Among the dead were children and counselors at summer camps and RV camps.
- Victims ranged in age from 8 to 85 years old.
- First responders have been deployed to the area.
- The State has requested disaster declaration from the federal government.
- Local officials declared a water supply emergency after flood damage crippled its water treatment plant.
- Community organizations transformed into relief hubs, distributing food, clothing, and essentials including animal rescue efforts.
- Families of victims have filed lawsuits.
- You introduce legislation to address flood preparedness and recovery, focusing on issues like warning systems, emergency communications, and funding for relief and natural disaster preparation.

Questions for Table Discussion

1. **Who** are the stakeholders in your network of influence?
2. What is your **current relationship** with each stakeholder?
3. What are the **1-3 key messages** for your stakeholders?