

TITLE: Disaster Resilience Learning Collaborative

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STUDENT SUBMISSION: Yes

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Practitioners, Public Health, POC organizers

ABSTRACT: The massive wildfires that hit Oregon in September 2020 had a tremendous impact on the health and well-being of communities across the state. The Disaster Resilience Learning Collaborative (DRLC) was created to find and bring together Latinx and tribal nations of the Pacific Northwest (PNW) specific community-based organizations (CBO) to help those disproportionately impacted by disasters, especially. Based on culturally grounded, trauma informed, and healing centered principles combined with the social resilience framework, this pilot program sought to assess the feasibility and relevancy of a statewide collaborative to unite Latinx and tribal nations leadership in disaster work. Results of interviews, surveys, and participant observation notes revealed participants felt the content and structure of the pilot was culturally relevant to their work and communities. Collective learning grew shared understandings of resilience embedded in culture, community, and ancestral traditions. Critical feedback offers a model and specific ways in which government, philanthropy, and culturally specific CBOs can foster mutual learning and action.

OBJECTIVE(S): Discuss the emerging Disaster Resilience Learning framework and its implications for public health professionals working to advance health equity and climate justice. Names climate health as a public health problem and how community-based organizations have a huge part in climate disaster work. Emphasizes the importance of relationships, trust, and racial equity in disaster leadership.
