

EQUITY IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Masami Nishishiba is Department Chair and Associate Professor of Public Administration at the Mark O. Hatfield School of Government, Portland State University.

She is also Associate Director for the Center for Public Service, and co-directs “Initiative for Community Disaster Resilience”. With her background in communication studies and public administration, she focuses her research on diversity, equity and inclusion issues in the public and nonprofit sector. She organizes an international field trip to Japan every June, for students and practitioners who are interested in learning from the Japan’s experience in preparing and recovering from earthquake and tsunami.



Justin Ross, Community Capacity Specialist at the Multnomah County Office of Emergency Management.

Justin is developing multiple projects and strengthening partnerships to increase the disaster resilience of our communities. His main projects include: Managing Preparedness Advocates that present disaster materials in languages other than English; Developing a Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD); administering Federal grants; managing volunteers and interns. Prior to arriving at Multnomah County Justin served as a Disability Integration Advisor for FEMA, and as the Emergency Management Coordinator for the Oregon Office on Disability and Health. He also worked as a Radiological Emergency Planner in Eastern Washington. Justin holds a Bachelor of Science in Emergency Services Administration from Utah Valley University.



Cynthia Valdivia, Senior Bilingual Communication and Education Specialist and Medical Reserve Corps Unit Coordinator, Washington County

Cynthia is a bilingual communication and education specialist for Washington County Public Health. She is also the coordinator for Washington County Medical Reserve Corps, a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) instructor, and the director for Listos, which provides preparedness training in Spanish. She is a public information officer and has worked in public health for 46 years with extensive preparedness training. Cynthia studied public health at UNAM in Mexico. Cynthia is one of nine certified PFA trainers in Oregon. Since her certification, she has been facilitating courses in the Portland metropolitan area and will soon begin teaching PFA in Spanish.



Da'Von Wilson-Angel, Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) Program Specialist, Portland Bureau of Emergency Management.

Da'Von joined the PBEM team January 2018 as a NET Program Specialist. He is responsible for organizing basic NET classes for new volunteer recruits, conducting community outreach events, and representing PBEM at community NET meetings. He also serves as a Duty Officer for PBEM. Da'Von has worked in a wide range of jobs, including education, community outreach, and mental health. He received his Bachelor's in Sociology from California State University Long Beach.