



## Statement of Qualifications

### Global Vision Consortium Core Value:

Inclusion of people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs (PWD/AFN), in the planning of and in all emergency response activity must be part of the fabric of how emergency management and first response agencies proceed. More than 20 percent of people have a disability and more than 50 percent have other access and functional needs. Planning for the access and functional needs community, people with disabilities, young children, and seniors is not a separate program but must be at the base of all emergency management activity.

### What is our experience related to this potential project?

- GVC consultants are emergency managers with significant experience working within government structures as well as non-governmental organizations and groups. The principals and associates are senior people in their field. Either individually or as a team we have led emergency management organizations, facilitated coalition building initiatives, developed comprehensive emergency management programs, drafted operational and recovery plans and responded to many local, state and national emergencies and disasters.
- We have helped agencies and organizations analyze, review and improve their current plans, policies and processes. To facilitate this our project teams are built to include consultants with the key knowledge, skills and abilities needed to ensure the success of the project.
- We have been involved in facilitating the development of private/public partnerships within and outside the emergency management arena. Examples include the development of Cascadia Region Earthquake Workgroup, the Alzheimer's Center of Oregon, and the California Multicultural Health Program. We have developed coalitions necessary to develop emergency plans that require real time coordination and cooperation of health officials throughout California. One of our associated was a founding member of the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) Commission. Another works closely with a health care advocacy coalition.
- GVC and our consultants have developed, facilitated and evaluated many tabletop, functional and field exercises. Many of these exercises have had scenario elements to ensure that exercise participants addressed the needs of people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs with PWD/AFN people acting as survivors or emergency events. Examples include:
  - Quakex 97 Medical in Oregon was awarded FEMA's Exemplary Practices in Emergency Management Exercises in 1998. This exercise dealt with the needs of diverse communities after a major state wide earthquake in Oregon. This exercises included elements that required the demonstration of capability in providing service to all members of the community including PWD/AFN participants. Sub-exercises had PWD/AFN people acting as disaster survivors needing to be included in the post event response activities. This exercise involved private, local, state and federal groups over a three day period.
  - Over the last ten years we have developed exercises for a number of communities around the country including Suffolk County, NY, New York



Hospitals and several counties in California. Each of these exercises had elements to ensure that the organization included PWD/AFN residents.

- Pandemic Flu Exercises: Our consultants have developed and conducted exercises that have included activation of Points of Distribution (POD) sites, and Alternate Care Sites. These exercises have always had elements that require demonstration of capability in providing service to all members of the community including PWD/AFN residents.
- GVC and our consultants ensure that the emergency plan provides for the needs of the whole community. An example is the Program Guide for the new Specialized California Medical Assistance Team program. The following is from the Program Concept of Operations:

"Equal access to MFH or ACS is a primary objective of this and all the EMS Authority disaster response programs. The EMS Authority is committed to ensuring equal access for all populations to MFH or ACS services during an emergency response. Patients will include persons with physical and mental disabilities and other special needs; persons with limited English proficiency, persons who use service animals, those who require durable medical equipment and/or patients who have prescription medication requirements."

Our real world application of these principles have included, but not limited to:

- Development of the Return to Continental US (CONUS) Civilian/Military Medical Plan for the first Gulf war,
- Development of the Cascadia Region Earthquake Workgroup (CREW),
- Evacuation of persons from New Orleans ahead of Hurricane Gustav,
- Shelter and housing for persons impacted by Hurricane Ike in the greater Galveston, TX. area,
- Development of program guides for several California Disaster Medical programs,
- Developed Emergency Operations Plans, conducted training and exercises for Center for Elders Independence (CEI), California
- Development of the California Multicultural Health Program,
- Development of the Alzheimer's Center of Oregon,
- Continued volunteer support of several non-profit education or advocacy coalitions.