



**NATIONAL PEDIATRIC  
DISASTER COALITION  
ANNUAL REPORT 2025**

***Building resilient collaborations so every child is  
protected before, during, and after disasters***

National Pediatric Disaster Coalition Inc.  
A 501(c)(3) Private Foundation  
[www.npdcoalition.org](http://www.npdcoalition.org)

## **A Message from Leadership**

2025 has been a year of change for the National Pediatric Disaster Coalition (NPDC). Since the passing of our founder, Dr. Michael Frogel, in 2024, the volunteer grassroots organization has become a 501 (c) (3) non-profit Private Foundation. None of this could have been accomplished without the support and contributions of time, expert consultation, and collaboration of our executive members and Executive Committee Leadership led by Dr. George Foltin and the NPDC Advisory Committee Members.

Since 2015, NPDC executive and liaison advisory members and leadership have been part of every national pediatric disaster initiative behind the scenes, strengthening partnerships, expanding education, and elevating pediatric considerations within healthcare coalitions, emergency management, and policy conversations. Volunteering both time and expertise year after year.

During 2025, NPDC efforts supported engagement and connection with subject-matter experts on best practices in infant feeding during emergencies, addressing gaps in pediatric and NICU hospital evacuations, and addressing the needs of children with complex medical needs. NPDC's superpower has been our ability to successfully network across stakeholders and disciplines, facilitating collaborations that reinforce the essential role of ensuring the needs of children are addressed in community emergency plans and operations.

While the future presents challenges for our multidisciplinary collaborators due to changes in national emergency management policy and funding, NPDC remains committed to overcoming barriers by connecting those with real-world lived experience collaborations that support pediatric capability at the local, regional, state, and federal levels.

Thank you to all our amazing executive and liaison advisory committee members, collaborators, supporters, and most of all to the frontline professionals who champion children in disaster preparedness. Together, we are building a more resilient future for children.

Patricia Frost RN, PHN, MS, PNP  
President and Executive Director



## **WHAT WE DO**

Whereas children comprise approximately one quarter of the US population the mission of NPDC is to advance community preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery for infants and children and their families in disasters.

## **WHY WE DO IT**

Children remain overlooked in emergency management policy and practice. Of the over 80 recommendations made by the National Commission on Children and Disasters, the majority have not been fulfilled.

## **HOW WE DO IT**

We connect diverse individuals, families, communities, and disciplines to evidence-based best practices from the pediatric emergency management and disaster science communities.

## **WHO WE SERVE**

Children and families  
Healthcare and EMS providers and systems  
Emergency management agencies  
Healthcare coalitions  
Schools and childcare providers  
Public-Private disaster stakeholders



## **The NPDC Story**

The National Pediatric Disaster Coalition (NPDC) was established in 2015 following the first National Pediatric Disaster Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona, hosted by Arizona's Coyote Crisis Collaborative. Recognizing the urgent need for a nationwide healthcare coalition focused on children in disasters, the conference planning committee—comprising experts from pediatric disaster coalitions, academic centers, EMS agencies, pediatric nursing, and emergency management—formed NPDC to advance pediatric disaster preparedness and response.

In its early years, the NPDC formalized its mission, goals, and organizational charter, laying the foundation for collaboration, resource-sharing, and advocacy. By 2016, it had established a website and listserv and continued to grow. By 2020, NPDC began to incorporate subject matter experts from pharmacy, DMAT, CBRNE, decontamination, and pediatric trauma. Today, NPDC members serve as informal ambassadors, connecting diverse organizations, sharing expertise, and strengthening the pediatric disaster preparedness community.



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### **Pediatric Disaster Preparedness**

- Elevated pediatric considerations in perinatal, healthcare evacuation planning, and decontamination.
- Advanced dialogue on pediatric surge capacity.
- Promoted integration of children into prolonged casualty care discussions.
- ***Result: Increased national awareness of gaps in pediatric system disaster preparedness.***

### **Education & Training**

- Contributed expertise to interdisciplinary webinars and presentations.
- Engaged EMS, hospital leaders, mental health, and coalition partners in the Pediatric Disaster Center of Excellence and Pediatric Pandemic Network collaboratives and workgroups
- Developed practical pediatric-focused disaster content
- ***Result: Expanded cross-sector collaboration to support pediatric disaster-readiness educational content.***

# POLICY & PARTNERSHIPS



## Policy & Advocacy

- Promoted cross-sector child-centered planning frameworks, establishing support for a pediatric disaster education concept of operations.
- Provided situation awareness across stakeholders on cross-sector policy and legislative discussions impacting the needs of children in disaster.
- Supported the integration of children into emergency operations planning.

## Partnerships

- Strengthened collaboration across pediatric disaster centers of excellence and healthcare coalitions.
- Connected stakeholders with pediatric subject matter experts nationwide.
- Expanded interdisciplinary disaster partnerships.

## Impact

- Broader systems integration of pediatric priorities.



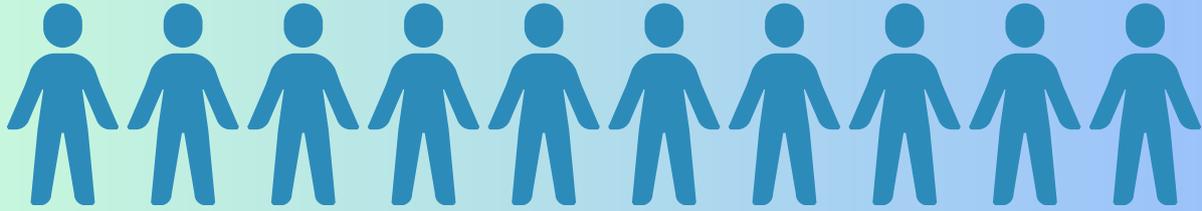
## Improving Awareness and Networking

Disasters expose systemic weaknesses, especially for newborns. In 2025, NPDC became aware of the extraordinary efforts of the **SAFE Infant Feeding Team**. In the wake of Hurricane Helene and widespread flooding across Western North Carolina in 2024, a group of lactation and infant feeding specialists responded to families with infants and young children facing unprecedented barriers to safe feeding. That lived experience set them on a path that led to a series of online training webinars, during which they shared lessons learned.

Those efforts identified numerous gaps in the CDC Infant and Child Feeding in Emergencies Toolkit, which relied on the assumptions that clean water, adequate shelter, and electricity would be accessible to families in crisis.

In 2025, NPDC invited the Safe Team to serve as one of our liaison advisors and brought them to the NPDC information-sharing community's attention. The virtual training program raised the awareness of the operational logistics of Infant and Child Feeding in Emergencies for communities throughout the US.

The Safe Team is just one of the many groups with which NPDC collaborates to bring essential training and skills to the pediatric disaster community, thereby facilitating ongoing public-private learning communities of practice.



**Over 8000 social media followers  
800 Listserv Members  
40 Collaborating Liaison Advisors**



**157 Social Media #PrepTheKids  
Gold Stars Awarded**

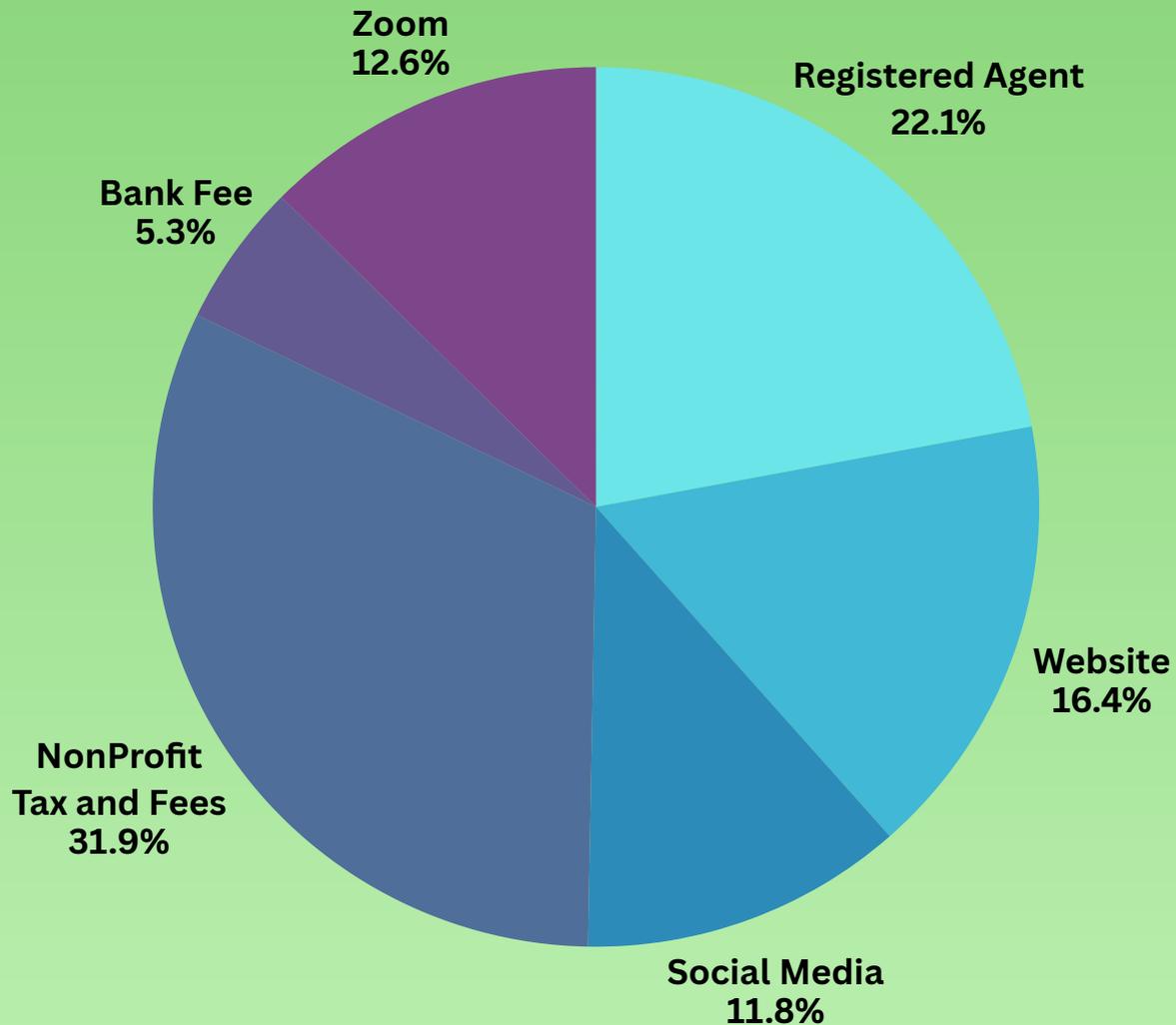


**Over 2.9 million open-access content  
shares focused on meeting the needs of  
children in disasters across 6 platforms**



**100% of NPDC's executive advisory  
committee members participate as faculty  
and subject-matter experts on regional,  
national, and international pediatric disaster  
workgroups and steering committees.**

**June- December 2025  
FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT  
Total Expenses \$1,962.00**



**NPDC was recognized as a 501(c)(3) Private Foundation in June of 2025.**

**NPDC is funded by the generous support of the NPDC Board of Directors**

# LOOKING AHEAD 2026

- Develop 5 year strategic plan.
- Fully develop business operations.
- Support stakeholders in sharing lived experiences, lessons learned and operational strategies for surge and evacuation challenges.
- Expand information sharing through collaborative educational outreach, leveraging the experience of a global community.
- Support open-access educational content that connects novices to experts and grows the NPDC information-sharing community.
- Support opportunities to inform stakeholders about policies that align with a prioritization of children.



# Thank You

Your support advances pediatric disaster resilience nationwide.

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National Pediatric Disaster Coalition

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