



201 Park Washington Court  
Falls Church, VA 22046-4527



Contact: Dawn Shiley-Danzeisen  
IAEM Communications Director  
[Shiley@iaem.com](mailto:Shiley@iaem.com)  
Direct: 703-489-0698

## News Release

### IAEM Applauds Rep. Corrine Brown's Efforts to Promote Preparedness, Response, and Recovery for Children

**June 20, 2007 (Falls Church, Va.)** – The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) applauds the efforts of Rep. Corrine Brown in addressing the needs of children in disasters. Kathleen Henning, president of IAEM Region 3 and former Emergency Coordinator for Montgomery County, Maryland, participated in the *Briefing and Roundtable Discussion on Preparedness, Response and Recovery for Children* organized by the Congresswoman. Other panelists included: Lou Ellen Romig, MD, American Academy of Pediatrics; Ruben Almaguer, deputy director, Florida Division of Emergency Management; J.R. Thomas, director, Domestic Emergency Unit, Save the Children; and Trevor Rigger, director of Mass Care, American Red Cross.

Ms. Henning cited several examples of collaborations that focus on children such as those with the Home Safety Council, Citizen Corps Councils, and local public health but noted that "the strongest and most important partnerships that are fostered and nurtured in the best prepared communities are those that involve Emergency Management and schools." She highlighted the strong pre-existing relationships that helped the community respond to the DC Sniper event and encouraged non-profit organizations to work more closely with their Emergency Managers to further the needs of children during disasters.

"From the extensive experiences of our membership, we have found that the most effective way to protect the most vulnerable elements of our society is to integrate their needs into the overall planning effort in order not to isolate them from their community," concluded Henning. "Emergency Managers uniquely are positioned to effect this kind of community-wide, comprehensive integration that is vital if we are to make sure critical 'safety nets' are in place to serve and protect our children when disaster strikes. IAEM and its members are committed to working with schools, social service agencies, children's advocates, and NGOs to develop and support this much needed integration."

For a copy of IAEM's testimony, visit [www.iaem.com/pressroom](http://www.iaem.com/pressroom).

*The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) is a non-profit organization consisting of nearly 3,800 emergency management professionals from local, state and the federal governments, military, private industry, and volunteer organizations. IAEM has consistently promoted the goals of saving lives and protecting property during emergencies and disasters since its founding in 1952 as the U.S. Civil Defense Council.*