

Presentation Title: From AID to EM: What Domestic Emergency Management Can Learn from International Humanitarian Response



Rachel Sayre was appointed to serve as the Director of the Emergency Management Department for the City of Minneapolis after thirteen years at the U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID), including a decade of leading the US Government's response to humanitarian disasters in the Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance. Director Sayre led USAID humanitarian aid responses in dozens of countries, including war and disaster zones in Ukraine, Syria, Iraq, and Haiti. In addition, she was the Senior Advisor to USAID's Administrator in 2014-2015, where one of her many accomplishments included overseeing efforts combatting the international Ebola epidemic.

About the Presentation

The humanitarian response system--used to manage the international emergency response to large-scale natural disasters, conflicts, and other crises worldwide--has been refined, tested, and adapted over any decades, largely separate from the domestic response landscape. By reviewing how the humanitarian response system is structured, best practices and lessons learned, we can evolve our own domestic response systems and practices, ultimately better preparing for and responding to emergencies for the communities we serve.