



## Partners in Prevention

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### **San Francisco Summit Highlights Businesses and Emergency Management**

During April, FLASH VP of Outreach Barbara Harrison spoke at the inaugural Epicenter 2017 Summit hosted by the San Francisco Emergency Management Foundation. With estimates that 75 percent of organizations without a disaster recovery plan will fail within three years of a major disaster, Harrison focused on the impact to businesses from disasters and the need for engagement between emergency management and the business community as partners in response and recovery.

Harrison showcased the FEMA Ready Business QuakeSmart and companion toolkits that contain free, easy-to-use information for small, medium, and large businesses and organizations. The new toolkits help improve business continuity, preparedness, and mitigation planning, and are now available online at [flash.org/readybusiness](http://flash.org/readybusiness).

The need for planning and mitigation is a priority for the city of San Francisco and the state of California. "Business insurance coverage for earthquakes is nearly non-existent in California, despite the state carrying two-thirds of the national risk," said Brian Strong, City and County of San Francisco Chief Resilience Officer.

The summit sought to develop a common understanding of the concepts and assumptions in the Bay Area Earthquake Plan, build and maintain relationships to enhance long-term response and recovery, and leverage best practices and new relationships to develop a blueprint for recovery across several sectors including government, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector.