**Abstract**

In August of 2005, Hurricane Katrina impacted over 15 million people. Devastation through population displacement, poor preparation, and water contamination directly affected a significant portion of these people’s physical and mental health. Through an in-depth evaluation of the social responses, we have developed a more adequate plan. We achieved this through an informational brochure, a post-distribution survey, and letters to companies to increase education and address regulations and policies; reducing health concerns for future hurricanes.

**Problems**

- Mold developed from standing water
- Generators brought inside produced a build up of carbon monoxide gas
- West Nile Virus increased due to the wet environment
- Over 11 million gallons of oil contaminated water due to poor regulations
- Lack of mental health resources

**Health Effects**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Incidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mold</td>
<td>19.1% of recorded illnesses due to skin or wound infection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infections</td>
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<tr>
<td>Respiratory illnesses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carbon Monoxide Poisoning</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Nile Virus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Contamination</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Sewage</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Oil Spills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental Illness</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Depression</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Anxiety</td>
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<td>22.5% of recorded illnesses due to acute respiratory infection</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Anticipated Results**

- Increase: Education among affected population
- Decrease: Incidents of stated health problems
- Oil spills
- No Effect: Immediate destruction
- Weather damages
- Drowning incidents

**Maximizing Pamphlet Efficiency**

In order to increase the number of individuals reading the pamphlet there needs to be:
- Repetitive encouragement from officials
- An incentive such as a coupon or certificate included
- Annually updated information
- A timely distribution
- Translate into multiple languages

**Methods**

Informational pamphlet
- Post-distribution survey
- Drafted letters to oil companies and FEMA
- Addressing regulations and policies
- Responsibility of responders

**References**