How to engage an architect in disaster assistance

Hazardous events cause billions of dollars in damage each year. As professionals and volunteers, architects can use their unique and vital skills to improve preparedness and enhance response efforts. When able to work alongside state and local authorities, architects can conduct habitability assessments of homes and businesses, plan for hazardous events, and promote building code adoption and enforcement.

For decades, The American Institute of Architects (AIA) has maintained a robust nationwide Disaster Assistance Program with thousands of architects trained to keep communities safer and less vulnerable—before and after a disaster. AIA Architects promote and serve the public interest in their personal and professional activities.

AIA’s Disaster Assistance Handbook details some of the ways architects can collaborate with emergency managers, building departments, and state and local officials to keep our communities safe. Architects engage in volunteer response and recovery efforts (no fee associated), and professional services to regain functionality more effectively and efficiently. Access the Disaster Assistance Handbook at aia.org/DisasterAssistanceHandbook.

Learn more about how architects provide disaster assistance, reduce risk and create resilient communities at aia.org/resilience.

AIA Code of Ethics, Cannon II