



## AIA Delaware forms Disaster Assistance Committee

### Get involved!

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#### **AIA Disaster Assistance Program**

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) Disaster Assistance Program equips architects with the knowledge and skills to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from a disaster. As a result, architects' disaster response processes, protocol, and training are aligned with federal frameworks.

#### **Safety Assessment Program (SAP)**

The AIA has adopted and adapted California's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Safety Assessment Program (SAP) as the official AIA all-hazards post-disaster training.

The program is managed by Cal OES with cooperation from professional organizations, including the AIA. It utilizes volunteers and mutual aid resources to provide professional architects, engineers, and certified building inspectors to assist local governments in safety evaluations of their built environment in the aftermath of a disaster. SAP is the training standard of the AIA Disaster Assistance Program, which provides leadership, advocacy, and training to architects interested in volunteering their professional skills in times of crisis.

#### **Become a Trained Volunteer**

If you are interested in becoming a Trained Volunteer in the AIA Disaster Assistance Program, please contact AIA Delaware by calling (302) 525-2799 or emailing [director@aidelaware.org](mailto:director@aidelaware.org).

#### **AIA Delaware Disaster Assistance Committee**

AIA Delaware has formed a Disaster Assistance Committee to help the general public and its members in times of natural or man-made disasters within Delaware or across the United States.

Following large-scale disasters – such as tornadoes and earthquakes and hurricanes – there is a need to assist local and national agencies in the assessment of buildings for safe occupancy and continued use. Critical facilities (emergency operations centers, hospitals, shelters, etc.) are key to community recovery and must be inspected for safety following a disaster. Likewise, individuals and business owners who rely on community support and temporary facilities will want to return to home, school, or work to try and return to normalcy, will need to know if their buildings are safe to occupy. Local jurisdictions may not have the resources to evaluate a large number of buildings damaged in a short period of time to accomplish the goal of re-habitation.

The AIA Delaware Disaster Assistance Committee shall support and provide resources for the Delaware Department of Emergency Management (DEMA) after a disaster. Trained volunteers shall act as second responder performing rapid property assessments to damaged homes and businesses.