

Alix Stayton is an emergency management consultant Southern California. A Midwest transplant, Alix has been in the Golden State for nearly twenty years. The winding professional road that led her to emergency management featured work as a product photographer, corporate real estate marketer, and computer programmer. After losing her programming job during a corporate merger, she decided to learn grant writing and went job-hunting in the nonprofit sector. Inexplicably, she was hired as the Assistant Director of HOPE Coalition America, a financial disaster preparedness nonprofit; having had no experience with nonprofit operations or financial preparedness, there was a steep learning curve. Hurricane Katrina struck three months later and the Detroit native found herself in the Gulf Coast for the first time, assisting with disaster recovery. Alix will be forever grateful to her mentor at HOPE, a retired Air Force Colonel, who demystified for her the disaster response process in the U.S. and shaped her understanding of nonprofit disaster relief.

Alix works on projects nationwide, providing disaster plan development, implementation support, exercise management and training, and curriculum development and coaching for trainers. She has worked with the Emergency Network of Los Angeles (ENLA), the Los Angeles Emergency Preparedness Foundation (LAEPPF), and the Homeland Security Advisory Council of Los Angeles (HSAC). Alix has provided subject matter expertise on government contracts for the State of California, the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, and Wayne County (MI). Recent clients include Global Vision Consortium, I.T. Crisis Services, USC Center for Religion and Civic Culture and the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

The five years Alix contracted as Program Manager for the Emergency Network of Los Angeles (the Los Angeles County VOAD) provided a great perspective on nonprofit disaster work in LA County...she put a LOT of miles on her car during that time...and helped her to increase her cultural competence in working with a large range of community organizations. Experience gained with ENLA has propelled her into more work at the intersection of the nonprofit, for-profit, and government sectors, helping to create whole-community preparedness, response and recovery solutions.

Ms. Stayton served previously as a National VOAD (NVOAD) member in her capacity as Director of HOPE Coalition America (HCA) at Operation HOPE Inc., and was an active member of NVOAD's Case Management committee. She then served as a NVOAD State Advisory Council member, representing the Southern California VOAD. She is a current member of Business and Industry Council for Emergency Planning and Preparedness (BICEPP), and the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM). She is an active participant in the Los Angeles Children in Disasters subcommittee. Her hobbies include sewing with Project Linus, reading police procedurals, and learning enough Spanish to understand the jokes her husband and daughter tell.