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Nonprofits eager for Fritz study of area's ability to handle a disaster

By Lynn Graebner

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The Bay Area's three large cities are among the six U.S. cities most vulnerable to natural disaster and it is estimated that an earthquake equivalent to the one in 1906 would cost this region about \$200 billion, says Anisya Thomas, managing director of the Fritz Institute in San Francisco.

To determine how ready this region is for a natural disaster, The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the San Francisco Foundation and PG&E Corp. have provided \$208,000 for the first phase of the Bay Area Disaster Preparedness Initiative. It is headed by Fritz, a five-year-old San Francisco-based nonprofit which works with corporate sectors and academics all over the world to develop best practices, technology and resources for providing disaster relief and humanitarian aid to those in need.
