

April 17, 2007

## Fritz Institute disaster program gets \$1M from Hewlett Foundation

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**The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation** has kicked in \$1 million to help start the Bay Area Preparedness Initiative, a program created by San Francisco's **Fritz Institute** in cooperation with the city.

Believed to be the first cross-sector disaster preparedness initiative of its kind, it is expected to become a national model. Fritz will bring together city officials, business folk and nonprofit leaders to identify gaps in disaster preparedness and ways to remedy them.

First up is a research effort to gauge the vulnerability of the city's most at-risk residents, as well as how prepared service agencies are to help them in a disaster. Fritz Institute will work on the study with the city, United Way Bay Area and American Red Cross Bay Area.

**PG&E, San Francisco Foundation** and **Walter and Elise Haas Fund** are also major supporters of the initiative.

Fritz Institute has also created a humanitarian logistics certification program. The program already has enrolled 250 people from 30 countries eager to learn how better to serve disaster victims.

The program started in September 2006 and trains relief workers in best practices of supply chain logistics. It was developed in collaboration with Britain's Chartered Institute for Logistics and Transport.

Founded by transport magnate Lynn Fritz, Fritz Institute works around the world to improve preparedness and effectiveness of disaster relief efforts.