Building religious literacy and competency is an ongoing process, with a wealth of self-directed study resources as well as classroom training available. A good starting point is taking a religious literacy self-assessment quiz and then proceeding to self-study with a focus on the religious traditions you work with. Smartphone apps are available for use in the field when scheduling meetings and for locating culturally-appropriate food vendors.

### Starting Points:

#### Apps

- Religious Holiday Calendar
- Holidays 2014-2015
- General Religion Info
- Religions
- Religion-Specific
- Find Gurdwara
- Kosher Restaurants
- Kosher Near Me
- Zabihah: Halal Restaurants & Mosques
- Veg Travel Guide for Vegans & Vegetarians by HappyCow

### Assess Your Own Level of Religious Literacy

- U.S. Religious Knowledge Quiz

### NATIONAL DISASTER INTERFAITHS NETWORK AND USC CRCC RESOURCES

Available for download from: [http://www.n-din.org](http://www.n-din.org) and [http://crcc.usc.edu/resources/publications](http://crcc.usc.edu/resources/publications)

#### Tip Sheets

The Disaster Tip Sheets for U.S. Religious Leaders have been developed to assist religious leaders in any community. Appropriate for any faith tradition, they address all-hazards planning and cover topics from across the entire disaster lifecycle, such as how they and/or their house of worship can respond to crises, including how to coordinate volunteers, manage donations, provide mass care, attend to spiritual and mental health needs, and continue their many services post-disaster.

The Disaster Tip Sheets for Faith Community Partners are provided to inform religious literacy, cultural competency and reasonable religious accommodation mandates for U.S. Mass Care providers, and to assist staff and volunteers in competently meeting the needs of several major religious groups during sheltering.

#### Field Guide

Working with U.S. Faith Communities During Crises, Disasters and Public Health Emergencies. A Field Guide for Engagement, Partnership and Religious Competency is a detailed guide for engaging and building sustainable and competent partnerships with faith communities throughout the entire disaster lifecycle. The Field Guide provides suggestions, best practices, and guidance on how to approach the faith communities, religious leaders, and faith-based non-profits that make up this landscape to build durable, institutional relationships, and develop sustainable, faith-based emergency preparedness and response programs.

#### Primer

Religious Literacy Primer: For Crises, Disasters, and Public Health Emergencies is a quick-reference document which provides information on basic religious literacy for 24 of the largest religious communities in the United States. It is geared toward enabling emergency managers, public health officials, first responders, volunteers, voluntary agencies, and anyone involved in disaster response and recovery to understand how faith communities and emergency management intersect. The Primer provides guidance for physical interaction/etiquette, drawings of religious symbols, information on holidays, dietary restrictions, and provision of post-disaster mass care including shelter, medical treatment, and mental health care.
WEB RESOURCES FOR RELIGIOUS LITERACY AND COMPETENCY

**Pew Research, Religion and Public Life Project**
*Research and extensive U.S. religious landscape survey data.*
http://religions.pewforum.org/reports

**Religious Congregations & Membership Study**
*Data files on hundreds of religion surveys and provides the ability to map U.S. congregation data for individual cities, states, and zipcodes.*
http://www.thearda.com/rcms2010/

**Gallup Poll Topics and Trends**
*Provides survey data and reports on a number of religion trends in the United States.*
http://www.gallup.com/poll/1690/Religion.aspx

**Hartford Institute for Religion Research**
*Comprehensive list of online religion data resources.*
http://hirr.hartsem.edu/sociology/research_datasets.html

**The Tanenbaum Center**
*Resources including etiquette guides for addressing religious leaders and entering houses of worship.*
http://www.tanenbaum.org

**University of Southern California Center for Religion and Civic Culture**
*Research/publications on religious trends in the U.S.*
http://crcc.usc.edu

REPORTS


**Guide to Developing High-Quality Emergency Operations Plans for Houses of Worship**
http://m.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/developing_eops_for_houses_of_worship_final.pdf


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Abingdon Press; 13th edition, 2010

HarperOne; 1995

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**Smith, Huston.** *The World's Religions: Our Great Wisdom Traditions.*
HarperOne; 50th anniversary edition, 2009

This document provides information and links to third party sites for your reference. FEMA does not endorse any non-government website, company, or application. All information provided here comes directly from the entities sponsoring each program. Adapted with permission from materials created by the National Disaster Interfaiths Network and the USC Center for Religion and Civic Culture. Supported by DHS award 2010-ST-061-RE001 to the National Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events (CREATE) at USC.