

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Leighton Jones, ALM, CEM

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Leighton is the Director of Emergency Response and New Initiatives for Direct Relief, based in Santa Barbara, California.

Prior to joining Direct Relief Leighton led the Emergency Preparedness Research, Evaluation & Practice (EPREP) Program at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in Boston, which serves as Harvard's Center for public health and healthcare preparedness.

Leighton's background is in non-profit administration and emergency management having previously worked as the Chief Program Officer for the American Red Cross of Massachusetts and in various leadership positions for The American Red Cross and The Salvation Army in New York. He has deployed in response to numerous disasters across the United States including hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, fires, and aviation disasters. Leighton also served at Ground Zero in Manhattan immediately following the September 11th attacks and led the Red Cross response to the 2013 Boston Marathon Bombings.

Leighton is a graduate of the University of Plymouth (UK) and Harvard University. He is a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) with the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM).

