After the events of 9/11/2001 the United States experienced a rush of self-examination concerning the nation's preparation for mass casualties. The majority of consensus committees and publications focused primarily on adult mass casualty management. Nuclear, biologic, and chemical attacks received a large amount of attention. However, natural disasters have continued to provide the vast majority of opportunities for study, research, and improvement. In an effort to focus on the care of children, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Surgeons, and the National Commission on Children and Disasters have all contributed to the current state of preparations for disasters and mass casualties in the pediatric population. Current topics to improve pediatric care during disasters includes emphasizing family reunification, appropriate maintenance of equipment and supplies suitable for children at individual hospitals, and the long term consequences of the disaster environment including treating the consequences of post-traumatic stress disorder in affected children. Regular drills for practicing our response to disasters and mass casualties for all hospitals in the nation are encouraged, and in some cases required. Regional and national authorities have requested that every disaster drill include children as 20% of the simulated casualties. As we progress, hospitals in a wide geographic region are practicing drills together. On April 28, 2011 11 states in the central part of the USA participated in an earthquake drill involving millions of participants. This is called a tier 1, National Level Exercise (NLE). The next NLE is scheduled for February 7, 2012. A nation's response to disaster is a never ending cycle of education and preparation.