

Featured Speaker

Kevin Holst



Kevin works at Google managing crisis response partnerships for products including Google's AI-based wildfire boundary maps and flood forecasts. Prior to Google, Kevin held leadership positions at various international non-

profits including World Central Kitchen (WCK), where he developed a passion for helping communities affected by crises. During his tenure as the Director of Development and Communications, the organization launched large-scale disaster relief efforts starting with their direct response to Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. The team activated 20,000 volunteers and became the largest meal producer on the island, delivering over 3.5 million meals in the months following the hurricane.

Google Crisis Response is a team within [Google.org](https://www.google.org/crisisresponse/) that "seeks to make critical information more accessible around natural disasters and humanitarian crises".^[1] The team has responded in the past to the [2010 Haiti earthquake](#), [2010 Pakistan floods](#), [2010–11 Queensland floods](#), February [2011 Christchurch earthquake](#), and the [2011 Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami](#) among other events,^[2] using Google resources and tools such as [Google Maps](#), [Google Earth](#), [Google Person Finder](#), and [Google Fusion Tables](#).



PALO ALTO / STANFORD

Recognition & Celebration AI (Artificial Intelligence) for Disaster Response



Thursday February 22, 2024

7:00 PM

Mitchell Park Community Center

PROGRAM ABSTRACT

Artificial Intelligence (AI) today is omnipresent, revolutionizing numerous aspects of our lives. From powering virtual assistants like Siri and Alexa to enabling self-driving cars and personalized recommendations on streaming platforms, AI permeates various industries. Advanced machine learning algorithms analyze vast datasets to make predictions, optimize processes, and even create lifelike content such as deepfake videos and generated text. Despite its transformative potential, AI also raises ethical concerns regarding privacy, bias, and job displacement. As AI continues to evolve, its impact on society will undoubtedly shape the future in profound ways.

EVENT PROGRAM

6:30 - 7:00 pm Reception

7:00 – 9:00 pm Program

- Welcome: Annette Glanckopf, Team Leader, Emergency Service Volunteer Program
- Opening Remarks: Greer Stone, Mayor, City of Palo Alto
- Community Partnership Awards: Kenneth Dueker, Director, Office of Emergency Services and Annette Glanckopf
- Keynote: Kevin Holst - Google Crisis Response Center
- Closing Comments

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARDS

The Community Partnership Award honors individuals active in preparing their communities for disaster and emergencies; those who have made individual contributions in helping others; those who have positively impacted our community.

Criteria for the awards include: Individuals or organizations that embody the characteristics of Spirit; Leadership; Creativity; Advocacy and Growth; or most Valuable.

2024 AWARD RECIPIENTS

- **Karen Pauls** TEDT, Neighborhood Team Leader
- **John Mori:** TEDT, CERT Trainer
- **Robin Holbrook** BPC
- **Matt Passell** BPC
- **Sharon Oliver** NPC, Veoci Trainer
- **Bob Ianucci** Amateur Radio Emergency Services
- **AlertCalifornia** Community Organization

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