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00:00:07,080 --> 00:00:12,930

In recognition of African-American History
Month, NASA salutes the contributions of African-Americans

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00:00:12,930 --> 00:00:15,680

to the cause of space exploration.

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00:00:15,680 --> 00:00:21,930

My name is Darrius Lewis ... I am an Emergency
Preparedness Officer and the NASA Headquarters

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Continuity Of Operations Program Manager.

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I say that I found my niche in safety, but
it actually found me. I was fortunate enough

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00:00:29,630 --> 00:00:35,950

to have a mentor at North Carolina A & T and
he had a passion and a drive for safety and

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00:00:35,950 --> 00:00:41,839

that translated over to me as well and I took
it on with the same vigor that he did.

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The differences between safety and emergency
preparedness -- they work hand in hand under

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the same umbrella -- but two totally different
worlds. Safety is looking at the health and

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00:00:54,680 --> 00:01:01,010

well being here of our NASA family here at
Headquarters within the building -- and it's

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00:01:01,010 --> 00:01:04,610

pretty much contained within the building.
Emergency Preparedness is also concerned about

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00:01:04,610 --> 00:01:09,760

the health and well being of our personnel,
but it's more so on the strategic side, strategic

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planning.

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00:01:10,760 --> 00:01:16,710

We develop plans and we put those plans and
practices into place. We train our personnel

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00:01:16,710 --> 00:01:21,780

on their roles and responsibilities to make
sure that when something does happen it's

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00:01:21,780 --> 00:01:24,250

second nature as far as our response.

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00:01:24,250 --> 00:01:30,700

Diversity is key to the success within Emergency
Preparedness. It's good to have differing

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vantage points, different views and opinions.
You want someone that if something comes up

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00:01:36,780 --> 00:01:42,980

and they disagree with it they can not only
provide that different viewpoint, but can

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00:01:42,980 --> 00:01:49,560

support it. So, having diversity, which our
team has on it is great for the program and

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00:01:49,560 --> 00:01:52,010

it helps the program thrive.

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00:01:52,010 --> 00:01:58,840

I absolutely love NASA. Knowing that you have management support and they believe in you

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00:01:58,840 --> 00:02:03,450

and they give you every opportunity for success and they set you up for success, how can one