



## **Community Resilience Initiative - Inclusive Emergency Management 101**

### **Participant Fact Sheet**

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**Inclusive Emergency Management Means:** People with disabilities are involved in all stages of disaster and emergency planning, mitigation, response, and recovery.

#### **How to get active in emergency management in your community:**

- Ask your CIL how you can participate in emergency preparedness
- Make emergency preparedness part of your daily life - have a plan! Talk to your family, support system, and CIL about your plan!
- Join meetings! Make your needs known!

#### **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance:**

##### **How to apply for FEMA Individual Assistance Services**

When a disaster or emergency is declared, and if FEMA's Individual Assistance program is launched, individuals or households may be eligible for Individual Assistance from FEMA.

There is a limited timeframe to apply for assistance, so do not wait to apply! Not sure if you are in an area declared for disaster assistance? Visit [disasterassistance.gov](https://www.disasterassistance.gov) and enter your address to find out if your area is declared for Individual Assistance.

<https://www.fema.gov/individual-disaster-assistance>

**Applying for FEMA Individual Assistance:** <https://www.disasterassistance.gov/>;

By phone 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY **1-800-462-7585**; In person at Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) and in the community.

#### **Beware of Question 24:**

- Make sure to mark that you have a disability and/or require reasonable accommodations; otherwise, your disability-related needs won't be addressed!

**Disability Rights Are Civil Rights!**  
**Civil Rights Are *NEVER* Suspended During Disasters!**  
**Nothing About Us Without Us!**

[www.disasterstrategies.org](https://www.disasterstrategies.org)

112 N. 8th Street, Suite 600  
Philadelphia PA 19107

**Disaster Hotline** (800) 626-4959

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### **Disaster Civil Rights FAQs**

#### **Are my civil rights as a person with a disability ever suspended or put on hold because of a disaster?**

NO. Civil rights are not suspended during disasters!

#### **What are my rights as a disabled person during and after disasters?**

All the protections that you have under the ADA, the Rehabilitation Act and other disability rights laws apply during disasters. You have the same rights as the general population to notifications, evacuation, and sheltering before, during, and after disasters.

#### **What are some examples of what rights I have?**

You have a right to:

- Not be discriminated against or excluded during notification, evacuation, sheltering, and recovery
- Equal access to disaster services
- Services provided in physically accessible location
- Equally effective communication, which can be provided by using sign language interpreters, Video Relay Interpretation, material in multiple formats
- Have service animals in shelters
- Have emotional support animals in shelters as a reasonable accommodation.  
[Click Here](#) or visit [www.HUD.gov](http://www.HUD.gov) to learn more.
- Keep your durable medical equipment and mobility devices with you

#### **What can I do if I think my rights have been violated?**

File a civil rights complaint:

- Ask your local Center for Independent Living (CIL) or Disability Rights Washington [<https://www.disabilityrightswa.org/contact-us/>]  
Voice: (800) 562-2702 or (206) 324-1521 & TTY dial: 711
- The Partnership Disaster Hotline (800) 626-4959 or [info@disasterstrategies.org](mailto:info@disasterstrategies.org) can help too!

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