



THE PARTNERSHIP
FOR INCLUSIVE DISASTER STRATEGIES

Delaware Community Resilience Initiative

Module 1

Inclusive Emergency Management 101:

Information to Access Emergency Management Tables to Best Advocate for Consumers

www.disasterstrategies.org

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Welcome and About Us

Ground Rules

- Maintain confidentiality
- Ask questions
- Have fun!!!



Disclaimer

Material presented does not constitute legal advice and is for informational purposes only. If you are seeking legal advice, please contact a qualified attorney.

This Presentation is an Overview

This presentation is an introduction to emergency management.

Overview of the Modules

Four 90-minute trainings:

- **Emergency Management Basics**
- Emergency Management During a Pandemic
- Continuing IL Work During a Pandemic
- The Hard Truth Staff Need to Know to Prepare



What is Community Resilience?

The ability to bounce back!

- **Requires full commitment to:**

- Universal design
- Equal access
- Accommodations and modifications as needed

For whole community inclusion



Community Resilience is Only Possible

When it includes:

- People with disabilities
- Others with access and functional needs
- All community stakeholders and other marginalized communities
- When planning, response, and recovery are accessible to all



Today's Goals

Building your confidence in your understanding of:

- How to get a seat at Emergency Management tables
- How to advocate for disability rights to local, county, tribal, state, federal emergency management officials



Today's Goals, cont.

Building your confidence in your understanding of:

- Long standing systemic barriers to equal access to disaster-related programs and services
- Civil rights obligations during disasters, including public health emergencies
- Good and promising practices



Inclusive Emergency Management

Involves people with disabilities:

- In all stages of planning and provision of disaster-related programs
- Before, during, and after disasters





Questions?



Key Concepts and Terms

Definition of “Disaster”

- “An event that results in large numbers of deaths and injuries;
- causes extensive damage or destruction of facilities that provide and sustain human needs;
- produces an overwhelming demand on state and local response resources and mechanisms;



Definition of “Disaster,” cont.

- causes a severe long-term effect on general economic activity;
- and severely affects state, local, and private sector capabilities to begin and sustain response activities.”

Source:

<https://www.fema.gov/pdf/plan/glo.pdf>



Classification of Emergencies and Disasters

Emergency managers further classify emergencies and disasters by size and the type and number of issues that need to be addressed.

- Minor Emergencies
- Limited and Potential Emergencies
- Major Disasters



Minor Emergencies

Includes:

- Residential fires
- Localized chemical spills
- Storm damage (e.g. wind, hail, ice)



Limited and Potential Emergencies

Usually small scale, localized incidents which are resolved quickly using local resources.

Includes:

- Localized flooding
- Straight-line wind
- Hurricane warning
- Drought



Major Disasters

Includes:

- Wildfires
- Large-scale flooding
- Hurricane
- Earthquake





Declarations



**Governors or Tribal Chief Executives
request a disaster declaration from the
President.**

Emergency Declarations

Will “supplement State and local or Indian tribal government efforts in providing emergency services, such as protection of

- Lives
- Property
- Public health, and safety

OR

to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the United States.”



Emergency Declaration:

Types of Available Assistance

- Only assistance to the state
 - No assistance to individuals
- Provides for evacuation
- Federal assistance to come in



Major Disaster Declaration

**Requested by Governor, or Tribal Chief Executive
declared by the President**

Must find:

- “Damage of such severity that it is beyond the combined capabilities of state and local governments to respond.”
- A major disaster declaration provides a wide range of federal assistance programs for individuals and public infrastructure, including funds for both emergency and permanent work.



Assistance Available when a Major Disaster is Declared

- Not all programs activated in all disasters
- Assistance is based on what is requested by the Governor or Chief Tribal Executive and identified needs





Questions?



FEMA Services and Programs

FEMA Services and Programs

- Public Assistance (PA)
- Individual Assistance (IA)



Public Assistance

FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG)

Through the PA Program, FEMA provides supplemental Federal grant assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the restoration of disaster-damaged, publicly owned facilities and specific facilities of certain PNP organizations.

Source:

https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1590687183581-78dcfc4b4b9a7ab02914e71fae20e1b1/PAPPG_V4

Final 6-1-2020 508.pdf



Public Assistance: Infrastructure

Programs and funding including:

- Reimbursement to clear debris and rebuild roads,
- Assistance to schools, libraries / other public facilities, and nonprofits
- Restoration of power, re-open roads, bridges, tunnels
- Communications - such as public broadcasting - emergency alert systems



Individual Assistance

Services to individuals and households, including:

- Temporary housing
- Crisis counseling- survivors, social emotional connections to community
- Disaster case management - info to access emergency services
- Legal services
- Unemployment assistance



Eligibility for Individual Assistance

Individual Assistance (IA) is for individuals and households who have sustained losses due to disasters.

- “The applicant must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien
- FEMA must be able to verify the applicant's identity
- The applicant’s insurance, or other forms of disaster assistance received, cannot meet their disaster-caused needs
- The applicant’s necessary expenses and serious needs are directly caused by a declared disaster”

Source: <https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2018/12/01/4407/citizenship-status-and-eligibility-disaster-assistance>



How to Apply for FEMA IA

- Online
- By phone
- In person at Disaster Recovery Center (DRC)
- In the community



National Preparedness System

The National Planning Frameworks describe how the whole community works together to achieve the National Preparedness Goal.

- **The Goal is:** “A secure & resilient nation with the capabilities required across the whole community to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk.”

The Goal is the cornerstone for the implementation of the National Preparedness System.

- Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, & Recovery

Source: <https://www.fema.gov/national-planning-frameworks>



National Incident Management System (NIMS)

- Guides all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations (NGO), and the private sector to work together to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from incidents.
- Provides stakeholders across the whole community with the shared vocabulary, systems, and processes to successfully deliver the capabilities described in the National Preparedness System.



Mutual Aid Agreements

- Establish the terms under which one party provides resources (personnel, teams, facilities, equipment, and supplies) to another party.
- Because most jurisdictions do not maintain sufficient resource levels to handle extreme events independently, mutual aid agreements provide a means for jurisdictions to augment their resources when needed for high-demand incidents.



Mutual Aid Agreements, cont.

- Mutual aid agreements can support all mission areas; can be established before, during, or after incidents; and can be between all levels of government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the private sector.

Source:

https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1510231079545-1fab7af0e06d89d8c79c7b619e55a03/NIMS_Mutual_Aid_Guideline_20171105_508_compliant.pdf





Questions?

Emergency Support Functions (ESF)

ESFs provide the structure for coordinating Federal interagency support for a Federal response to an incident.

“describe[s] the federal coordinating structures that group resources and capabilities into functional areas most frequently needed in a national response.”

National Response Framework

- There are 15 Federal Emergency Support functions
- States may have different ESF



Emergency Support Function (ESF) #6

- Mass Care,
- Emergency Assistance,
- Housing, and
- Human Services

“Coordinates the delivery of Federal mass care, emergency assistance, housing, and human services when local, tribal, and State response and recovery needs exceed their capabilities.”



Whose responsibility is sheltering?

- Always local or county government
- Sometimes state
- Locals governments may contract with other entities
 - Red Cross
 - Salvation Army
- Sometime county manages it, and other entities like Red Cross supplement services
- Pop-up shelters



Emergency Support Function #8

- “Provides planning and coordination of Federal public health, healthcare delivery, and emergency response systems to minimize and/or prevent health emergencies from occurring;
- detect and characterize health incidents;
- provide medical care and human services to those affected;
- reduce the public health and human service effects on the community;
- and enhance community resiliency to respond to a disaster.”

Sources: https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1470149644671-642ccad05d19449d2d13b1b0952328ed/ESF_8_Public_Health_Medical_20160705_508.pdf

<https://mil.wa.gov/asset/5bac12ac9c3ed>





Questions?



Civil Rights Obligations

Americans with Disabilities Act (**ADA**)

Protects the rights of people with disabilities,
including during disasters.



Olmstead Decision



Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Section 504

Recipients and subrecipients of Federal funds have obligations under the Rehab Act to provide program and facility accessibility.

- Applies to FEMA



21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act (**CVAA**)



Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (**IDEA**)



Other Laws

- Stafford Act
- Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (PKEMRA)
- Integrated Public Alerts and Warnings Systems Act
- Fair Housing Amendments Act



**Civil rights of people with disabilities
are NEVER suspended,
including during disasters!**





Questions?



Equal Access to Emergency and Disaster-Related Programs and Services

Equal Access to Disaster-Related Programs and Services

Disaster-related programs and services:

**Must not discriminate against
people with disabilities**



Equal Access to Disaster-Related Programs and Services

Programs and services must be physically accessible, including:

- Shelters
- Disaster Recovery Centers
- Transportation
- Exercises
- Planning meetings



Equal Access to Disaster-Related Programs and Services

Programs and services must provide equally effective communication, including using;

- Sign-language including tactile interpreters
- Video Relay Interpreting (VRI)
- Electronic material that is Section 508 compliant
- Large Print
- Plain language and pictograms



Equal Access to Disaster-Related Programs and Services

Notification

- Notifications **should** be ASL interpreted and **must** be captioned
- Alternatives to door knocks must be used
- Maps must be accessible



Equal Access to Disaster-Related Programs and Services

Evacuation

- Building evacuation
- Geographic area evacuation



Equal Access to Disaster-Related Programs and Services

Sheltering

There must be physical accessibility and equally effective communication throughout.

- Includes ADA compliant path of travel, toilets and shower, cots, registration and all spaces
- Equally effective communication must be provided
 - Remote/on-site Interpreters, print material in multiple formats, signage alternatives, announcements



Equal Access to Disaster-Related Programs and Services

Sheltering

- Quiet areas
- Service animals must be allowed
- Personal assistants must be allowed
- Personal assistance services must be provided
- Dietary accommodations must be provided
- No segregation or separation



Disaster-related programs and services must be provided in the most integrated setting most appropriate to the needs of the person with a disability.





Questions?



Institutionalization During and After Disasters

Institutional Bias

It is the unconscious or conscious belief that people with disabilities belong, or are are better off, in institutions including nursing homes.

- Ageism is often, but not always, a factor.



Institutionalization During and After Disasters

Waivers are an example of institutional bias.

- In recent disasters, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) have issued blanket waivers of the 3-day hospital stay before a person is transferred to a long-term care facility.
- Nursing facility pre-admission screening also waived.



Institutionalization During and After Disasters

Under waivers people can be placed in nursing facilities

- From their homes if they don't have a PCA and call 911
- From emergency departments
- From hospital rooms if it will benefit another patient



Institutionalization During and After Disasters

Consequences

- People get lost
- People get sick
- People lose their jobs, homes and independence
- People die



National Council on Disability Report

Preserving Our Freedom: Ending Institutionalization of People with Disabilities During and after Disaster



Charity in Disasters

Civil rights obligations are delegated to volunteers

- VALS - Voluntary Agency Liaison Specialists
- VOADs - Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters
- COADs - Community Organizations Active in Disasters
- Durable medical equipment (DME), consumable medical supplies and other disaster resources are referred for donations and charitable solutions



Individual and Household Disaster Recovery

- Permanent housing
- Your household's recovery
- Resuming daily routine (work, school, transportation, childcare, groceries, health maintenance, etc.)



Community Recovery

- Rebuilding the community - Universal Design
- Jobs
- Housing
- Transportation



Community Recovery

- Education and childcare
- Elevation
- Mitigation
- Disaster resilience



Hazard Mitigation Assistance

Assistance to State, Tribal, and local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations for actions taken to prevent or reduce long term risk to life and property from natural hazards.

- Eligible private non profits (PNP)
- Other Community Services

Source: https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1590687183581-78dcfc4b4b9a7ab02914e71fae20e1b1/PAPPG_V4_Final_6-1-2020_508.pdf



Having a Seat at the Emergency Management Table

- Get involved at the planning stage
 - Exercises
 - Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
- Make sure there are seats at local county and state emergency operations centers (EOCs)



Having a Seat at the Emergency Management Table

- Invite yourselves
- Embed yourselves
- Maintain and nurture relationships
- Invite Emergency Management staff to your events
- Nothing About Us Without Us





Good and Promising Practices

Promising Practices

- Invite yourself to the table(s) and invite others to your table(s)!
- Conferences and educational events run by the disability community and community stakeholders
- Bake-in Universal Design, modifications and accommodations





Questions?



Thank you!

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