




Emergency Preparedness for ALL!

CEDDERS Lecture Series
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Guam Natural & Man-made Disasters

- Guam has had more experience than most....
 - Typhoons, and



Have Emergency Plans on Guam Included People with Disabilities in their Plans?

- In the planning??
 - Guam planning group inclusive of people with disabilities
 - Developing accessible shelters (requirement under the ADA)
 - Developing accessible & redundant notification systems/voluntary registries
 - Training first responders
 - Evacuations/accessible transportation
 - Drills
 - Establishing voluntary Organizations Active in Disabilities (VOAD)
- Sheltering
 - food, grooming, medical attention, communication
- Recovery
 - Returning home
 - Replacing lost or destroyed AT and DME
 - Crisis counseling
 - Disaster unemployment aid
 - Emergency feeding programs
 - Disaster legal aid
- ***Emergency Preparedness for ALL!***

Emergency Preparedness for ALL first means










- A better job helping people with developmental and other disabilities learn about how to prepare themselves for what to do in the case of a man-made or natural emergency

– Start with being informed...














<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SJQr40wJ5MA>



Disaster Preparedness for People Who Have Limited Speech: Taking Responsibility for Your Safety

YES	NO	Check List for People with Limited Speech and Those Who Care About Them
		 1. Do you have a support team? Does everyone know what to do?
		 2. Do you have an evacuation plan in case you need to leave home or work in an emergency situation? Do you know:
		 a. Where you will go?
		 b. How you will get there?
		 c. Who will transport you/come with you?
		 d. What you will take with you?
		 e. What your rights are in a shelter?
		 3. Is your "Go Bag" packed? (See "Go Bag" on page 3.)
		 4. Do you have paper (laminated) communication display(s) with you <u>at all times</u> ? Do your displays include vocabulary for emergencies? Do you have written instructions about how to communicate with you <u>at all times</u> ?

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YES	NO	
		 5. Do you always carry a copy of your health information in case of an emergency?
		 Insurance card?
		 Prescriptions?
		 Other critical medical information, in a water proof bag?
		 6. Are you prepared to remain at home or work during an emergency? Do you have:
		 enough water and food stored for 7 days?
		 a radio with extra batteries?
		 flashlights with extra batteries?
		 medical supplies?
		 enough of your own medicines for 7 days?
		 a way to communicate?
		 a way to call for help?
		 7. Have you ever thought, "Never mind... this won't happen to me?" THINK AGAIN. IT CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE! BE PREPARED NOT SORRY!

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Emergency Preparedness for ALL means

Training emergency personnel about

- the need for accessible information,
- the need for accessible shelters
- including people with disabilities in planning and practice drills
- preparing advocates

This means cross-systems training




Disaster Preparedness Tips For Emergency Management Personnel

Communication Access for People with Limited Speech

YES	NO	QUESTION
		1. Do you know how to communicate with someone whose speech you cannot understand?
		2. Do you know how to get the information you need by asking "Yes/No" questions?
		3. Do you know about speech generating devices (SGDs) and how people use them?
		4. Do you know about communication boards/books/displays and how people use them?
		5. Do you have, or does your facility provide communication displays for people who are unable to be understood using their natural speech?

Disaster Preparedness Tips For Emergency Management Personnel:



People who are unable to walk independently need their wheelchairs/scooters, walkers.
 People with hearing loss need their hearing aids
 People with severe vision loss sometimes need their canes/service animals.
 People with limited speech need access to their communication tools and strategies.
 People who speak different languages need interpreters or other methods to communicate

* Note: Public law and policy mandate consideration of people with disabilities and activity limitations in emergency management planning. Go to <http://www.ada.gov/publicat.htm#U>
 (Accessed on July 15, 2008)

http://www.aac-rerc.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=150

Collect & Distribute DME & AT to those in Need: One Example from Katrina and Rita



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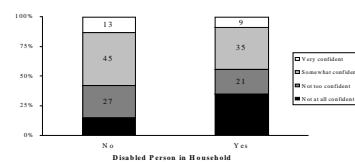
- Obtaining personal stories from survivors of emergencies, such as Pamela Kennedy

QuickTime™ and a decompressor are needed to see this picture.

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Emergency Preparedness for ALL means

Being counted in general national surveys on emergency preparedness or targeted surveys on emergency preparedness and people with disabilities.



Emergency Preparedness for ALL means

- Aggressively applying civil rights laws (ADA) to the
 - State and local emergency preparedness organizations and initiatives,
 - Red Cross and other first responders,
 - FEMA,
 - Emergency shelters
 - Hospitals

Questions for Guam

- Who is taking the lead: RE Disability?
- Is there a coordinated effort here?
- Is there training for people with disabilities?
- Is there cross-system training (people with disabilities, advocates, emergency response professionals)
- Is there a EP&R Plan with and for people with disabilities?
- Is A.T. being collected and stored in case of disaster?
- What are your next steps?





Resources

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center (RERC) on Communication Enhancement

http://www.aac-rerc.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=148&Itemid=144

ADA Guide for Local Governments

<http://www.ada.gov/emergencyprepguide.htm>

Emergency Preparedness: Addressing the Needs of Employees with Disabilities

<http://www.dol.gov/odep/pubs/fact/effective.htm>