Including People with Disabilities in Emergency Planning & Preparedness

NH Disability & Public Health Project (DPH)

Institute on Disability/UCED
Goal of the Training

• Share information
• Assist (technical assistance)
Today’s Topics

• About DPH
• Disability in NH
• Communication
• C-MIST
• Recruiting for EP exercises
• Inclusiveness of LEOPs
• Shelter assessment results
• Improving shelter accessibility
• Trainings for first responders
• Training to create customized kits & plans
ABOUT DPH
Disability & Public Health Project (DPH)
Goals of DPH

- Emergency Preparedness
- Health Promotion
- Access to Health Care
DISABILITY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE
What is Disability?

• Philosophical / theoretical approach
• Practical approach
WHO Definition

Individual          Disability          Environment

Complex interaction between person & environment

Adapted from Drum, 2009
C-MIST Framework

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<td>I</td>
<td>Independence</td>
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<td>Supervision</td>
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<td>Transportation</td>
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Communication

• How do you best understand and respond to information?
• Do you use assistive devices or interpreters for communication?
Medical Needs

• Do you use assistive equipment for daily activities such as bathing or eating?
• Do you require medical equipment that runs on electricity?
COMMUNICATION
Respectful Language

• Whole person, not just part
• Use language that does not carry assumptions
• Say what you know
• Focus on strengths, what a person can do

http://dredf.org/healthcare-stories/
Respectful Language

• Language evolves
  – Handicapped vs accessible parking
• It’s OK to make a mistake
• When in doubt, ask
Accessible Public Information
Accessible Public Information

• Design for diversity
• Easy to read or understand
• Alternative formats
Another Census activity is the Survey of Income and Program Participation or SIPP. The SIPP is a longitudinal survey with monthly interviews of a multistage-stratified sample of the U.S. civilian non-institutionalized population. The purpose of SIPP is to collect income, labor force information, program participation and eligibility data, and general demographic characteristics to measure the effectiveness of existing federal, state, and local programs; to estimate future costs and coverage for government programs, such as food stamps; and to provide improved statistics on the distribution of income in the country. Under the SIPP, disability is defined as meeting one or more of the following criteria: 1) using a wheelchair, cane, crutch or walker; 2) having difficulty performing functional activities; 3) having difficulties performing activities of daily living.

Prevalence Rates of Disability
Prevalence rates drawn from these surveys generate varying population estimates owing to the use of varying definitions of disability and differences in design and data collection methods. Table 1 provides prevalence rates obtained from the five national surveys among males and females. Because of the higher rates of disability among older populations, the table is limited to prevalence rates among males and females with disabilities under the age of 65. Data are drawn from different years because most of the surveys are not conducted annually and age ranges in the table differ slightly based on availability of data. The Census data are from 2000, the ACS from 2003, the SIPP from 2002, the NHE-S-D from 1994, and the BRFSS from 2003. Given the limitations in the data, comparisons among the prevalence rates should be made conservatively.

Accessing Care
Here are some tips to prepare for a successful mammogram.

Before the Mammogram
Describe any accommodations you may need, so the healthcare staff can be prepared to help you. Will you need assistance with:

- Completing forms?
- Undressing from the waist up?
- Holding still in a position?
- Sitting up without support?
- Lifting your arms?
EMERGENCY KIT SHOPPING LIST:

- Bottled Water
- Non-Perishable Foods
- NOAA Radio
- Flashlight & Batteries
- Personal Hygiene
- First Aid Kit
- Whistle
- Manual Can Opener
- Copies of Important Documents
- Blanket/Towel
- Change of Clothes
- Durable Waterproof Container
- Generator
- Prescription Medication
- Food for Your Pet
“Get Ready” Fact Sheets

- American Public Health Association (APHA)
- [http://www.getreadyforflu.org/disabilities.htm](http://www.getreadyforflu.org/disabilities.htm)
Web Accessibility

Emergency Preparedness

Be Informed

Learning what to do in different situations and customizing emergency plans to your needs will help you remain safe, healthy, and independent.

Contact local emergency planning committees and emergency responders to learn what plans and services are already in place and whether these plans reflect your needs.

State

- Ready NH
- NH Weather Advisory Info
- NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- NH Community Emergency Response Teams
- NH Public Health Networks

National

- America’s PreparAthon (FEMA)
- Ready.gov
- Weather.gov
- Red Cross
Be Prepared

Disasters and emergencies can happen without warning. Planning ahead can help you and your family to remain independent, healthy, and safe. Everyone’s needs and abilities are unique. Consider what you might need before, during, and after a disaster. Learn about the different types of hazards that face your community, region, and the places you spend most of your time. Contact local emergency planning committees and emergency responders to learn what plans and services are already in place and whether these plans reflect your needs.

“It is better to look ahead and prepare than to look back and regret.”
- Jackie Joyner-Kersee

Examples to Include in Your Kit
- Water for 3 days; a gallon per person per day (and water for pets!)
- Canned food for 3 days; can opener
- Medical equipment and devices; chargers and extra batteries
- Medications, try to have a 7-day supply; copies of prescriptions

Get Involved
Get involved in neighborhood or community emergency preparedness activities. Your help will strengthen your community’s ability to be prepared. People with disabilities and functional needs provide

Build an Emergency Supply Kit
Collecting basic supplies in an Emergency Supply Kit will help keep you safe in case of an emergency. Consider the things you and your family might need in an emergency.
Web Accessibility Resources

- Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI)
  http://www.w3.org/WAI/
- Testing for access:
  www.wave.webaim.org
Inclusive Emergency Exercises
Include People with Disabilities

- Unique & creative solutions
- Test current protocols
- Uncover need for further planning and consideration

Find the Right Person

Considerations:

• Identifies as a person with a disability
• Experience as a disability advocate
• Cross-disability awareness
How & Where to Recruit

How:
• Clear role & responsibility
• Nomination form

Where:
• Disability orgs, newsletters, social media, local papers
Inclusiveness of Local Emergency Operations Plans (LEOP)

- Emergency Support Function (ESF) Format
- Checklist for Integrating People with Disabilities and Others with Access and Functional Needs into Emergency Preparedness, Planning, Response & Recovery (June Isaacson Kailes)
Checklist for Inclusion

- June Isaacson Kailes

SHELTER ACCESSIBILITY
Shelter Accessibility

• American’s with Disabilities Act (ADA) laws apply to shelters
• Routes to, from, and within the facility, as well as the usability of public facilities such as restrooms and showers
Assessments in NH

• 379 shelters as of 2012
• Americorps Vista volunteers, Summer 2011
• Developed scoring system
### Survey Items

#### Restrooms

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tr>
<td>Area where person in a wheelchair can turn around (60-inch diameter circle or T-shape turn area).</td>
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<td>Doorways at least 32&quot; wide when door is open.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doors without knob hardware.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toilet seat is 17&quot;-19&quot; high. Flush control is automatic or manual control on the open side of the toilet and no higher than 48&quot;.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toilet’s centerline is 16&quot;-18&quot; from the nearest side wall.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stall at least 60&quot; wide and 56&quot; deep (wall-mounted toilet) or 59&quot; deep for (floor mounted toilet).</td>
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Shelter Accessibility
Identify Barriers

Image courtesy of the U.S. Department of Justice
Engaging the Community

Bring community members together to identify barriers to sheltering and brainstorm solutions

Image courtesy of the U.S. Department of Justice
Quiet Room

Image courtesy of the U.S. Department of Justice
Communication Access

Image courtesy of the U.S. Department of Justice
Wayfinding

Image courtesy of the U.S. Department of Justice
CUSTOMIZED KITS & PLANS
TRAINING
Additional Resources

Functional Needs Focused Care and Shelter Checklist

CONTACTS
Contacts

Establishing partnerships with local, regional and statewide disability organizations is an effective strategy for outreach and improved communication.