Office of Disability Integration and Coordination

Mission Statement

Provide guidance, tools, methods and strategies to integrate and coordinate emergency management inclusive of children and adults with access and functional needs, in accordance with Federal civil rights laws and regulations.
“It is time children, people with disabilities or any other segment of our communities who have traditionally been underserved, to be more fully and consistently integrated into preparedness and planning efforts at every level of government.”

“My experience tells me if we wait and plan for people with disabilities after we write the basic plan, we fail.”

Craig Fugate
FEMA Administrator
ODIC Role

Responsible for ensuring that the access and functional needs and requirements of individuals with disabilities are being properly included and addressed in all aspects of emergency preparedness and disaster response, recovery, and mitigation.

Steady State:
- Advisor to the Administrator/Regional Administrator, senior leadership, and across the federal family

Deployment:
- Advisor to the Federal Coordinating Officer and Joint Field Office Command and General Staff
Our Disability Integration Team

- 8 FT HQ Staff - Office of Disability Integration and Coordination
- 10 FT Regional Disability Integration Specialists
- 2 FT IMAT Disability Integration Advisors
- *5 FT Disability Integration Advisors (CORE Cadre)
- *50 Reservist Disability Integration Advisors
  - 5 Lead Disability Integration Advisors
  - 30 Disability Integration Advisors
  - 15 Sign Language Interpreters
- Disaster Specific Local Hires
- Federal partners
Federal Laws Prohibiting Discrimination in Emergency Programs on the Basis of Disability

- Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
- Stafford Act of 1988
- Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006
- Fair Housing Act Amendments of 1988
- Architectural Barriers Act of 1968
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (EHA) of 1975
- Telecommunications Act of 1996
- Twenty-first Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010
The Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act and other laws apply in:

- Preparation
- Exercises
- Notification
- Evacuation and transportation
- Sheltering
- First aid and medical services
- Temporary lodging and housing
- Transition back to the community
- Clean up
- Other emergency- and disaster-related programs, services, and activities
Access and Functional Needs

- Children and adults with physical, mobility, sensory, intellectual, developmental, cognitive or mental health disabilities
- Older Adults
- People with chronic or temporary health conditions
- Women in late stages of pregnancy
- People needing bariatric equipment
- People with Limited English Proficiency, low literacy or additional communication needs
- People with very low incomes
- People without access to transportation
- People experiencing homelessness
- Others
Access and Functional Needs vs. Acute Medical Needs

- Most people with disabilities do not have acute medical care needs, and maintain their health, safety and independence in their home and community on a daily basis.

- Planning to meet the access and functional needs of disaster survivors with and without disabilities in general population settings can significantly reduce the use of very limited acute care resources and optimize outcomes for people to return to their pre-disaster level of independence.
General Population Shelters

- People with all types of disabilities will show up at shelters.
- It is government’s responsibility to shelter them.
- Local government is the first level of response for disasters.
Key concepts about sheltering people with access and functional needs

• Children and adults with disabilities can be successfully accommodated in shelters with their family and neighbors if given the proper support.

• Meeting the needs of children and adults with disabilities requires planning and coordination.

• The whole community can plan together to meet the needs of all disaster survivors
Functional Needs Support Services (FNSS) Guidance

- Planning
- Finding subject matter experts
- Selecting potential shelter sites
- Accessible toilets and bathing facilities
- Personal assistance service needs
- Medical Care
- Durable Medical Equipment and Consumable Medical Supplies
- Legal obligations
- Service and assistance animals
FEMA PERSONAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES CONTRACTS

Augment the ability of States, tribes, and Territories to help individuals with access and functional needs maintain their health, safety, and independence in congregate facilities after a Presidential declaration.
- **Types of services provided:**

  The PAS contract provides two levels of support to help individuals with access and functional needs maintain their independence in congregate facilities:

  - Basic personal care, such as grooming, eating, bathing, toileting, dressing and undressing, walking, transferring, and maintaining health and safety.

  - Higher level of care, including changing dressings on wounds (such as pressure point sores), administering medications / injections (such as insulin), catheterization, and respiratory care (to include mechanical ventilation) when allowed by the State or Territory.
When communities integrate the access and functional needs of children and adults with and without disabilities in all phases of community-wide emergency management, they strengthen their ability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.
Helpful Links:
- Office of Disability Integration and Coordination  www.fema.gov/about/odic
- Personal Assistance Services Contract FAQ http://www.pascenter.org/publications/publication_home.php?id=1324&focus=
- Planning for the Whole Community http://terrorism.spcollege.edu/Broadcasts/LRBroadcast0611.aspx
- First Responder Guide  http://terrorism.spcollege.edu/SPAWARAFN/index.html
- Disaster Resources for People with Disabilities and Others with Access and Functional Needs  http://www.jik.com/disaster.html
- PAS Center Emergency Preparedness http://www.pascenter.org/emergency/index.php#promise
Helpful Links:

- DOJ [www.ada.gov](http://www.ada.gov)
- Project Civic Access [http://www.ada.gov/civicac.htm](http://www.ada.gov/civicac.htm)
- PCA Tool Kit:
  - Chapter 3- General Effective Communication Requirements Under Title II of the ADA [http://www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/chap3toolkit.htm](http://www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/chap3toolkit.htm)
  - Chapter 7- Emergency Management Under Title II of the ADA [http://www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/toolkitmain.htm#pcatoolkitch7](http://www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/toolkitmain.htm#pcatoolkitch7)
- ADA Checklist for Emergency Shelters [http://www.ada.gov/shleterck.htm](http://www.ada.gov/shleterck.htm)
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