Disability Task Force on Emergency Management

A Model for Including Disability-Related Organizations in Statewide Emergency Planning

FUNCTIONAL NEEDS SUPPORT SERVICES TOOL KIT

State of Texas
Office of Emergency Management
Objectives of Presentation

1. Encourage full inclusion of people with disabilities into Emergency Management Practices and policy
2. Describe process and product: Functional Needs Support Services Toolkit and Disability Stakeholder Taskforce

Texas

• More Presidentially declared disasters since 1953
• Geographically diverse
• 254 counties
• 26 million people
• Border State
• Major coastline
• Hurricanes
Purpose of the Toolkit

• To Provide guidance for Emergency Management community at local and state level.
• To promote full inclusion of Texans with disabilities and those with access and functional needs in the Emergency Management process

Development of the Toolkit

• Initially, a small group of state agencies, representatives from public and private entities.
• Developed over a years’ time.
• A “living” document.
• Design for Generosity: Open Source: Give it away
• “Whole Community,” Everyone comes together to create a “Unity of Effort.”
TOOLS

• Part I: Planning tools
• Part II: Operational Tools
• Part III: Recovery Tools
• Disability Contacts Excel Spreadsheet for Texas
• FNSS Demographic Data by County
• Rapid Assessment, Shelter Placement Needs Algorithm's
• Staffing Recommendations

Available Videos

• Preparedness Video for People who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing Preparedness [http://www.cepintdi.org/]
• Northeast Texas Public Health District [http://www.accessibleemergencyinfo.com/]
• National Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Videos [https://www.fema.gov/video-materials]
• Texas Prepares: [http://www.texasprepares.org/survivingdisaster.htm#.Vt7q3_krK7A]
**FNSS Tool Kit**

Download the [Toolkit](https://www.preparingtexas.org/preparedness.aspx?page=32137bc8-eed7-42bb-ad7e-2765fd8abdb9):

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**Disability Task Force on Emergency Management**

- FNSS Committee incorporated into the Disability Task Force on Emergency Management
- Representatives include:
  - Disability related Organizations
  - State Agencies
  - Local Governments
Unique Features of the Taskforce

• Involvement of individuals with disabilities
• Diverse membership, state, local, non-profit
• Provides direct input to the state Office of Emergency Management

Key Ideas for Establishing a Statewide Disability Taskforce

• Obtain input from the disability community
• Cross-functional group
• Consider sustainment
• Remember members are volunteers – they have full time jobs
Contact Information

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