HELP OTHERS IMPROVE THEIR DISASTER READINESS

Almost everyone makes better plans when they work with someone else. You can work with another person to improve their readiness for disasters. The Disaster Readiness Planner and this Guide can be used in two ways to do that.

First, you can study the Guide yourself to learn how to use the Planner to plan with someone else. The Planner provides a step by step path you can follow with your planning partner. (Since the person you plan with is the focus of the planning, we call them “the planner,” and since you are cooperating with them, we call you the co-planner.)

The Guide is used the second way when an expert in emergency management uses it to train another person to plan. Trainings are usually given to family members, office workers, or residents of an organization. The Guide is both a self-teaching tool and a training tool.

Both co-planners and planners have active roles in the readiness planning process. The Disaster Readiness Planner provides a framework for you to work together. Your work includes doing things together, getting and sharing information, and practicing readiness routines regularly.

TO BEGIN

Open the Disaster Readiness Planner to display all three inside pages. Point out where the path starts and how it runs up and down across the pages through the entire planning process. Then start at the beginning. For each step on the path, this Guide suggests things to talk about and questions to ask. It also recommends a few actions to take. As part of the planning process, you should adapt these points to the circumstances and needs of the person you are planning with.

Don’t try to do everything in one planning session. Take it one or two steps at a time. Multiple sessions help create disaster awareness, and reinforce good readiness routines.
Topics to Include in Planning with Planners Who Are:

Blind or Low Vision

People who are blind or have low vision use various types of communication technology to maintain auditory awareness.

✓ Know the disaster policy and readiness level of the child’s school or daycare.

✓ Have child supplies in kit, such as pens, pencils, erasers, highlighters, water bottles, and a first aid kit.

✓ Predict with children what to do if the power is out and if there is no water.

Blind or Deaf

People who are blind or deaf have very limited ways to hear or see, which can limit their ability to learn about their surroundings.

✓ Know the disaster policy and readiness level of the child’s school or daycare.

✓ Have child supplies in kit, such as pens, pencils, erasers, highlighters, water bottles, and a first aid kit.

✓ Predict with children what to do if the power is out and if there is no water.

Use Mobility Aids

Some people who are aging and many others use wheelchairs, canes, prosthetics, canes, and other types of mobility aids. Ask the planner about their ability to move quickly and travel distances.

✓ Identify two or more ways they can travel if they have to move.

✓ Practice using the minimum, most practical equipment available.

✓ Identify areas of resource assistance in high-risk apartment buildings and offices.

Use Assistance to Live at Home

Many people depend on long-term care assistants, personal care assistants, home health aides, trained support persons or family members to live in their home or apartment.

✓ If your planner relies on such supports, coordinate planning and practice with them.

✓ Involve support persons in planning. Check that they have ready access to emergency plans.

✓ Sped out arrangements with family members and aides in advance so who will do what?