



Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities



Emergency Preparedness Program

- Collaborating with local communities, the city of Philadelphia, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and national organizations to provide information and services to help improve the safety of people

Mission of Emergency Preparedness Program

- To develop and execute research, create programs, disseminate information, and deliver services and training to, with and for people with disabilities about being prepared for emergencies in the home, work, and community

Definitions

- The term “Emergency Management Planning and Preparedness” can cover a wide variety of topics: emergency, risk, disaster, and hazard management, civil defense and protection

“Emergency” is defined as: an exceptional event that exceeds the capacity of normal resources and organization to cope. All emergencies are by definition dangerous, which means that the potential loss of life is involved

Four Levels of Emergencies

- Routine Dispatch Problem—the most minor of emergencies, involving first responders
- Incident—any emergency a jurisdiction can handle without a needing to call in outside help
- Disaster—also called a catastrophe, an incident involving substantial destruction and mass casualty
- National (International) Disaster—a disaster of substantial magnitude and seriousness. (Alexander 2002)