

National Preparedness Month

Webinar Series #1: Introduction to Disability
and Access & Functional Needs



NACCHO Health & Disability Team



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Learning Objectives



- Define disability and access and functional needs populations
- Describe how these populations should be incorporated into emergency preparedness planning and response.
- Describe how local health departments can partner with disability organizations to support these communities during emergencies and disasters.
- Describe training resources available for local health department staff.

NACCHO's Health and Disability Program



- Supported by the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Promotes the **inclusion** and **engagement** of **people with disabilities** in all local health department activities including:
 - Planning;
 - Implementation; and
 - Evaluation of public health programs, products, and services.

Defining Disability

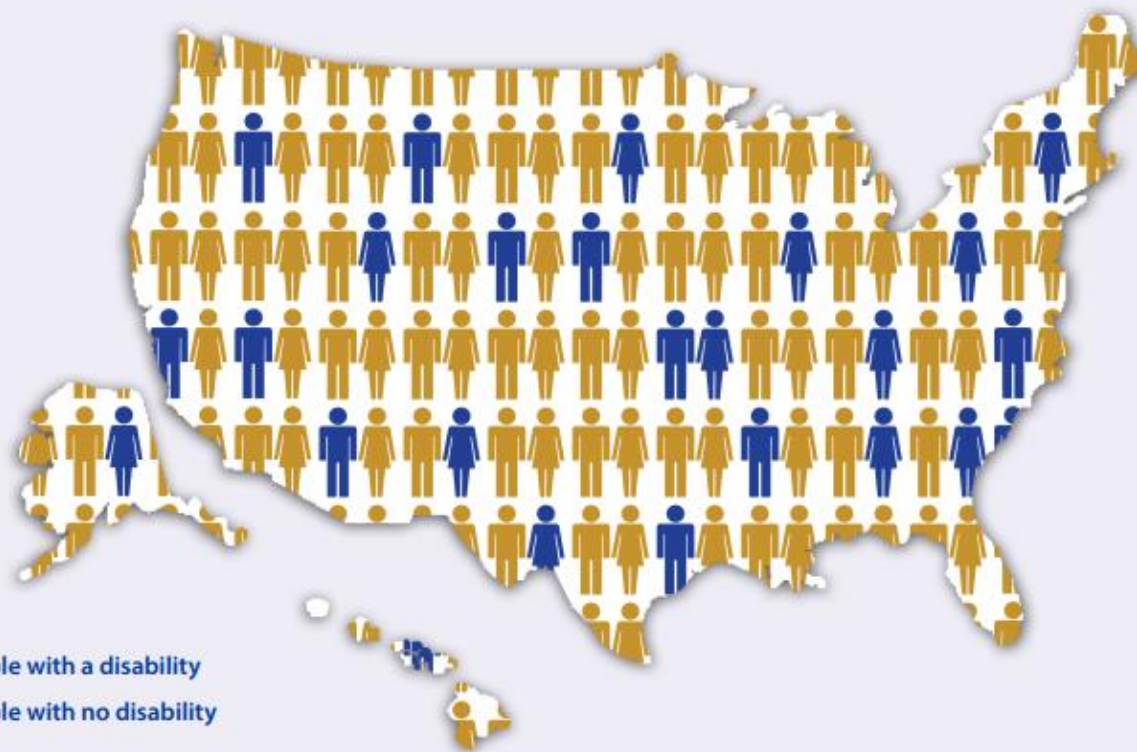




- The Americans with Disabilities Act defines a person with a disability as a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity.
- This includes:
 - people who have a record of such an impairment, even if they do not currently have a disability.
 - individuals who do not have a disability but are regarded as having a disability.
- The ADA also makes it unlawful to discriminate against a person based on that person's association with a person with a disability

Estimated Adult Disability Prevalence



Up to **1 in 4** adults in the United States have some type of disability
(27%)



 People with a disability
 People with no disability

Disability Impacts All of Us



According to the CDC, a disability is any condition of the body or mind that makes it more difficult for the person to perform certain activities and interact with the world around them.

There are many types of disabilities, such as those that are visible and non-visible.

Defining Access and Functional Needs



- An inclusive approach to describe populations that may have additional needs before, during or after an emergency.
- Many millions of Americans have access and functional needs, a term described by Department of Homeland Security as: including assistance, accommodation or modification for mobility, communication, transportation, safety, health maintenance, etc.; need for assistance, accommodation or modification due to any situation (temporary or permanent) that limits an individual's ability to take action in an emergency.

What is Inclusion?



Inclusion means to transform communities based on social justice principles in which **ALL community members:**

- Are presumed **competent**;
- Are recruited and welcomed as **valued** members of their community;
- **Fully** participate and learn with their peers; and
- Experience **reciprocal** social relationships.

Importance of Inclusion



- Past examples demonstrate that emergency responses have not always effectively served the needs of people with disabilities
- COVID-19 further highlighted these existing inequalities
 - Greater risk of **contracting, developing more serious illness, and dying** from COVID-19
 - People living in congregate settings were more likely to contract the virus
- Preparedness planning and response requires a *whole community approach*



Incorporating Disability and Access and Functional Needs into Emergency Preparedness & Response

Incorporation Policies and Procedures



- No separate policies for people with disabilities (baked in, not layered on)
- Don't plan for us without us
- Procedures must follow policy (no "should")
- Can't quantify your inclusion (can't plan for 80%)
- Process for implementation

CMIST Framework



Communication

Independence

Transportation



**Maintaining
Health**

**Support &
Safety**

Communication



- Individuals who may have limitations that interfere with the receipt of and response to information require information be provided in an appropriate and accessible format.
- Individuals who may speak American Sign Language, individuals who have limited or no English proficiency, use braille or use other auxiliary aids and devices to communicate or navigate their environment.

Maintaining Health



- Individuals who may require Personal Assistance Services (or personal care assistance) in maintaining their activities of daily living such as eating, dressing, grooming, transferring, and toileting.
- Individuals who rely on critical medications, durable medical equipment, and electricity for life-maintaining equipment.
- Also includes breastfeeding parents and infant/childcare

Independence



- Individuals who maintain independence with mobility devices, assistive technology, vision and communication aids, and service animals.
- This also includes independent physical access to any locations providing services or support.

Support, Safety & Self-determination



- Ensuring equal access to all programs and services made available to the public.
- Self-determination, means an individual retains their ability and opportunity to make choices and decisions, take risks, self-direct and exercise control over services and supports that are offered to them.

Transportation



- Individuals with transportation needs because of age, disability, temporary injury, poverty, addiction, legal restriction, or those who do not have access to a vehicle.
- This requires coordination to ensure access to mass transit, accessible vehicles such as para-transit, or vehicles used under agreement with partners such as schools or hospitals.



Partnering to Support Disability & Access and Functional Needs Communities

Disability Organization Definitions



- Disability-led organizations
 - Designed and operated by individuals with disabilities
 - Example: Centers for Independent Living
- Disability service organizations
 - Examples: advocacy and education organizations, rehabilitation services, durable medical services, development disabilities programs.

Opportunities to Partner



- Partnering on vaccination opportunities with disability-led organizations and disability service organizations
- Active participation in preparedness planning meetings
- Reviewing/providing feedback on preparedness plans
- Participating in drills and exercises

Field Example: Three Rivers Health District



Carla Minor-Blake

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Field Example: Public Health Seattle & King County



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Trainings & Resources

Data Resources



- PLACES: Local Data for Better Health
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/places/index.html>

- Social Vulnerability Index
 - <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html>

- HHS emPOWER Program
 - <https://empowerprogram.hhs.gov/>

Partnership Resources



- Association of University Centers on Disabilities
 - University Centers of Excellence on Developmental Disabilities
<https://www.aucd.org/directory/directory.cfm?program=UCEDD>
 - Emergency Preparedness resources:
<https://www.aucd.org/template/page.cfm?id=544>
- NACDD (National Association for 56 Councils on Developmental Disabilities)
 - <https://nacdd.org/>
- Centers for Independent Living
 - <http://www.ilru.org/projects/cil-net/cil-center-and-association-directory>
- FEMA Office of Disability Integration and Coordination
 - <https://www.fema.gov/disability>

Partnerships Guide for CILs and SLHDS



Explore how to form effective and reciprocal partnerships with CILs to support the health and wellbeing of people with disabilities.

https://www.naccho.org/uploads/downloadable-resources/CDC_Foundation_Partnership_Guide_2023-508.pdf

**Partnership Guide
for Centers for
Independent
Living and
State and
Local Health
Departments**



Considerations and resources to promote collaboration between centers for independent living and state and local health departments to better support the health and wellbeing of people with disabilities.



Whole Community Emergency Planning Training

- **Mission:** Disability organizations develop relationships with local emergency managers and public health planners to increase disability inclusion in emergency preparedness
- **Primary audience:** Disability organizations
- **Secondary audiences:** emergency managers, public health professionals, healthcare professionals, CERT, MRC and other volunteer responders, ASTHO & NACCHO disability specialists, FEMA RDIS, ASPR healthcare coalitions (HCCs) and others
- **Building local partnerships and capacity**

Training: <https://nationalcenterdph.org/our-focus-areas/emergency-preparedness/prepared4all/online-training/>



Resources



- Online Emergency Preparedness Catalog: Including People with Disabilities <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/emergencypreparedness.html>
- ASPR Access and Functional Needs <https://asprtracie.hhs.gov/technical-resources/62/populations-with-access-and-functional-needs/0>
- FEMA Disability Toolkit <https://www.ready.gov/disability>
- ADA National Network Webinar Series, Emergency Management and Preparedness-Inclusion training <http://adapresentations.org/archive.php>
- “The Development of Emergency Planning for People with Disabilities Through ADA Litigation.” <https://www.adapacific.org/assets/documents/emergency-preparedness-litigation-legal-brief-2-2018.pdf>

Please enter your questions into the
Chat box

Thank You!



Reminder

Webinar Series #2: Disability Inclusive Disaster Planning

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

2:00-3:00 pm ET

This webinar series is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award to the CDC Foundation totaling \$1,900,000 with 100 percent funded by CDC/HHS.