Office of Developmental Programs
Emergency Preparedness Update

Individuals and Families

April 10, 2020

Topics

1. Emergency Management System Overview
2. Disability Integration
3. Emergency Preparedness
Emergency Management System Overview

National Framework
• All emergencies start and end at the local level.
  – Local Municipality (City, Township, Borough, etc.)
  – County Emergency Management Agency (EMA)
  – Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)
  – Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

FEMA
• PA is in FEMA Region III
• Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
PEMA

- PEMA is the Commonwealth liaison with FEMA Region III
- PEMA supports county emergency management agencies by coordinating and engaging the whole community including:
  - Federal and state partners
  - Volunteer organizations involved in disasters
  - Private sector business community
  - Citizens

County EMA

- County EMA is the liaison to PEMA
- Resource Requests must be processed through the County EMA
Disability Integration

- Alternate Care Sites (ACS)
  - Reduce the strain on healthcare system
  - Access and functional need support
- Disability Integration Calls
  - Ongoing information sharing process

Emergency Preparedness

- Personal Responsibility
  - Provides more control and choices
- Go-Kit
  - “One-Pager”
  - 72 hours on own
  - Sensory/Comfort items to maintain routine
- www.ready.pa.gov
- www.aidinpa.org
- www.paautism.org
  - Future resource bundle
Statewide Support & Referral Helpline

- Culturally competent
- Skilled at assisting those with ID/A
- Use principles of trauma-informed care to listen, assess needs, triage calls, and provide appropriate referral

The toll-free, round-the-clock support line is officially operational. The number to call is 1-855-284-2494. For TTY, dial 724-631-5600.

Resources


[https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx](https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx)

Final Thought

• Pandemic planning/response is unique
  – 2 separate incidents related by topic
  – Must be managed simultaneously