

A decorative graphic consisting of two overlapping circles. The larger circle is light blue and the smaller one is a darker blue. A solid dark blue dot is positioned at the center of the smaller circle. The text is overlaid on these circles.

Emergencies are Equal Access Events: Relevant information on Inclusion of People with disabilities

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Moreover, I overheard people in the lorry talking that it was because of people with disabilities like the blind, the earthquake happened. I am blind but definitely I didn't cause the earthquake" the caller said in a shaky voice. I think he was fighting his tears as he was saying this. "I would like to kindly inform all that earthquake is a natural calamity and nobody is responsible for it.

- Amrith Bdr Subba
May 7, 2015



It is time children, people with disabilities, or any other segment of our communities who have traditionally been underserved to be more fully and consistently integrated into preparedness and planning efforts at every level of government.

- Craig Fugate
FEMA Administrator

Introduction

Who falls into the Functional and Access Needs Category (FANC)?

Groups that could be classified as ones with Functional and Access Needs include:

- Individuals from diverse cultures, races, and nations of origin
- Individuals who don't read/write English, have limited English proficiency, or are non-English speaking individuals.
- Individuals who have disabilities.
- Older adults (with/without disabilities)
- Children (with/without disabilities OR with/without parents/guardians)
- Individuals who have economical needs
- Individuals with limited transportation
- Women who are pregnant
- Others?

Introduction part 2

FANC includes people with disabilities. Who falls into this category?

People with disabilities could include those with one or more of the following:

- Physical disabilities (ex: amputation, muscular dystrophy, spinal injury);
- Sensory (i.e., blind, deaf);
- Behavioral/mental health (e.g., depression, SED, anxiety);
- Developmental and/or intellectual, (e.g., autism, cerebral palsy, FASD);
- Cognitive (ex: TBI, strokes, dementia);
- Substance/alcohol abuse/addiction (i.e., drug (prescription/illegal) addiction, alcoholism)
- Chronic/Acute illnesses (ex: chronic pain, cancer, MS), and/or;
- Hidden (chronic fatigue, diabetes, epilepsy).

Introduction part 3

Access and Functional Needs

Individuals with access and functional needs, including people with/without disabilities, can be accommodated with **actions, services, and equipment, and modifications**, including physical/architectural, programmatic, and communications.

Some individuals with functional/access needs also **have legal protections, but others do not.**

ALL folks with functional/access needs have conditions, values, local practices, or other situations **limiting** their **awareness** of programs, goods, or services (before and during emergencies).

Participation of the whole community requires EQUAL ACCESS to preparedness activities as well as during emergency situations.



Participation of the whole community requires EQUAL ACCESS to preparedness activities as well as during emergency situations.

The Preparation Requirement is Two Fold....

People with disabilities

People have a responsibility to BE
PREPARED

But the NEED to learn more
about the threat.

HOW do we get this message to
them? HOW do we help them
prepare?

Emergency Management (EM)

EM has a responsibility to help
individuals understand issue.

EM needs to PREPARE for the
INCLUSION of folks with
disabilities

HOW do we accommodate and
ensure ACCESS (architectural and
programmatic) for ALL?



**WE'RE IN.
ARE YOU?**

People with disabilities

Be Prepared

- **Secure your space**
 - LEARN what are hazards
 - SECURE moveable items
 - CREATE safe space
 - LABEL equipment/medications
- **If you use paid supports**
 - Make sure THEY have a plan
 - Make sure they know YOUR plan (including emergency contacts)
 - Have backup person (maybe a friend/family member)
- **Have Disaster Supplies Ready (Go Kit)**
 - Have 7 day supply of all required medications
 - Radio (hand crank or batteries)
 - Communication items
 - Food & Water
 - ID & other paperwork
 - Clothes
 - Cash
 - Flashlights
 - Hygiene supplies



**WE'RE IN.
ARE YOU?**

People with disabilities

Be Prepared

- **Remember your animals!**
 - Service Animals are NOT pets
 - Have Go Kit for Service Animal
 - Pets need Go Kit too
- **Know what to do DURING shake**
 - Lock! Cover! Hold On!
Vs Drop! Cover! Hold On!
 - Practice! Practice w/paid supports
 - Know what YOU Need to do in an emergency.
- **After Quake:**
 - Check for injuries.
 - Prepare for aftershocks
 - Look for hazards/Evacuate if needed
 - Have plan for what to do now
 - Have Plan
 - Have go kit/skip kit
 - Know where shelters are
 - Have a Communication Plan
 - Texting (external battery)
 - Pen/paper



Emergency Management

Preparing for ALL

- **Alaska is Diverse!**
 - 97 different languages at ASD
 - 23.8% of Alaska's population over 18 experience a disability
 - 81% report multiple disabilities
- **And unprepared!**
 - 31.6% have a "go kit"
 - 92% feel vulnerable to a disaster
 - 57% live independently
 - Barriers include: lack of time, apathy, financial resources & lack of knowledge
- **Inclusion Means:**
 - Utilize universal designed material to ensure ALL can use locations/supplies
 - Ensure planning teams are diverse and include:
 - People with disabilities
 - Family members
 - Care providers
 - Everyone feels welcomed



Emergency Management

Preparing for ALL

Include Civil Rights, Access, and CMIST in planning, response, and recovery.

- **Nondiscrimination:** Everyone should have equal access to the goods, programs, activities, and services available.
- **Integration/Inclusion:** Everyone, regardless of gender, race, religion, ability, etc., have the right to participate in, and receive benefits of, emergency programs, services, and activities provided by governments, private businesses, and nonprofit agencies.
- **No Charge:** No one should be charged a fee to cover the cost of measures necessary to ensure equal access.

CMIST

FIVE FUNCTIONAL AREAS TO ADDRESS IN PLANNING

Communication

Maintaining Health

Independence

Safety, support, and self-determination

Transportation

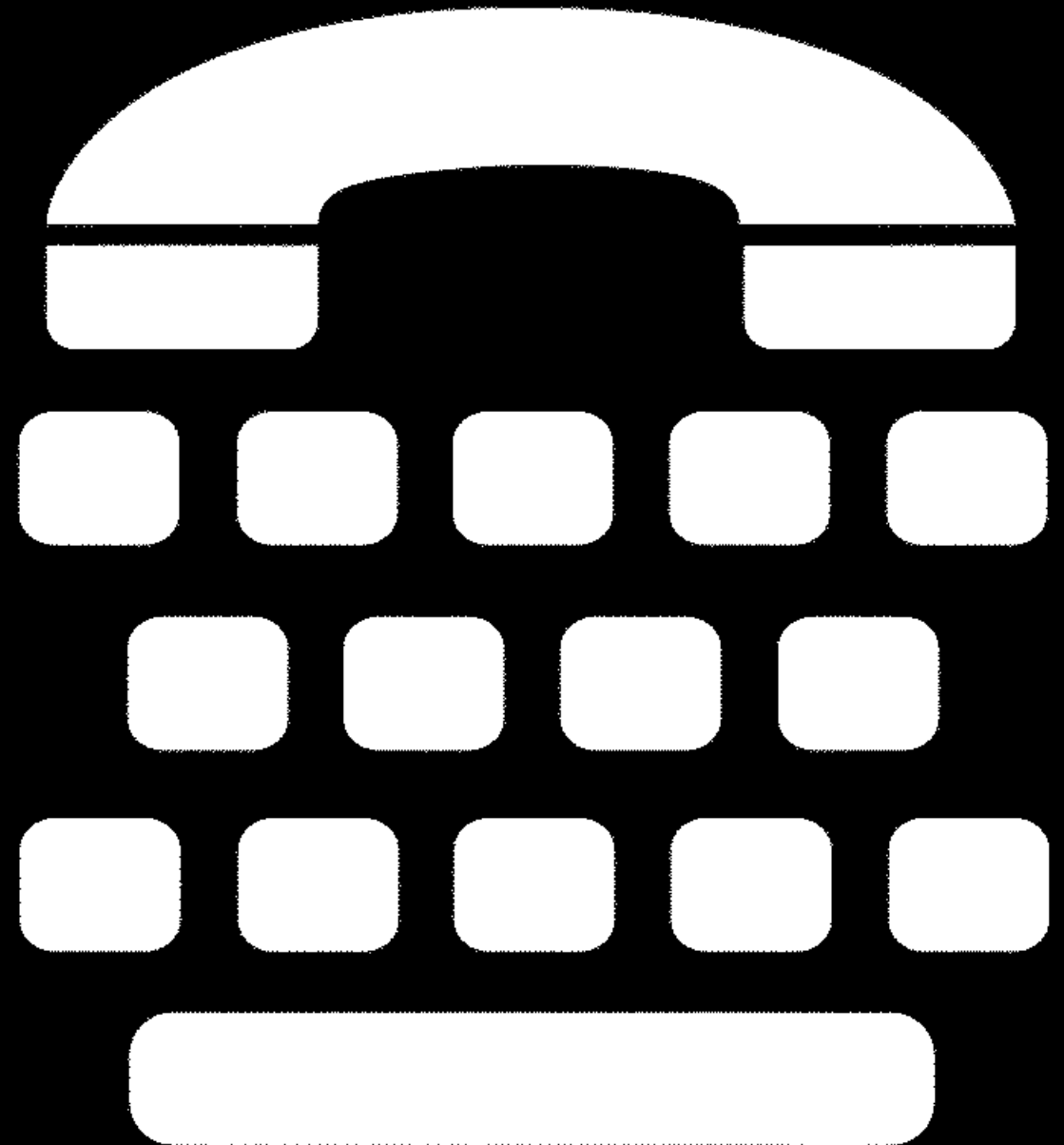
CMIST

FIVE FUNCTIONAL AREAS TO ADDRESS IN PLANNING

If you can ensure that Nondiscrimination, Equal Access, Inclusion/integration, and No one is charged in the five functional areas, then everyone should be able to benefit during an emergency and no one will be left out.

Communication

- Who do we need to consider when preparing messages?
- How many different ways do we need to use to send the message?





Independence

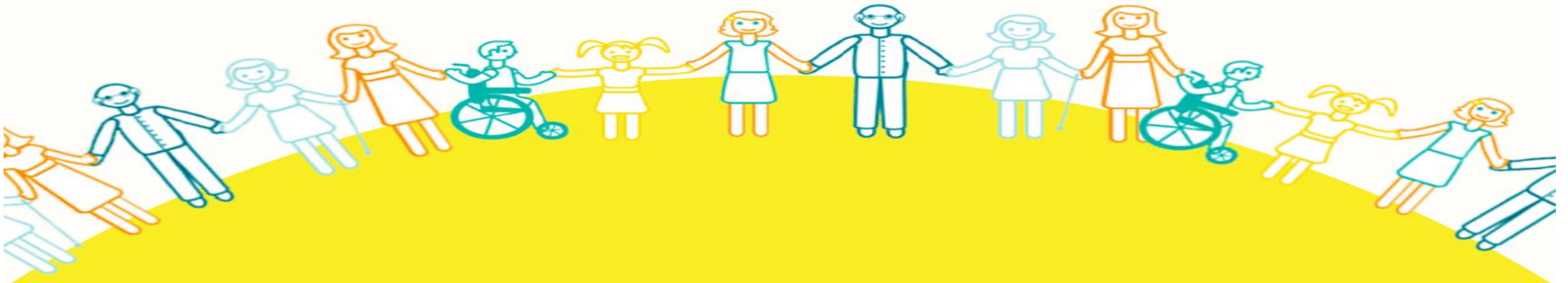
- Need to ensure that ALL individuals will have the same access to information and decision making. Regardless of preconceived ideas.
- How will that be done?
- How will it be conveyed?

Maintaining Health

- How will we ensure all individuals have access to the items needed to maintain health (physical, spiritual, and emotional)?
- How will that be communicated?
- How will individuality and independence be handed?

Safety, support, and self-determination

- Who needs supervision?
- How will this be determined?
- What are the rights of the individual?
- How can a persons' rights be valued while also ensuring the individual and the community are safe?





Transportation

- Who should be considered when designing routes and placing shelters?
- How will individuals get to the shelter?
- What transportation services will be needed?



Questions?

Thank you!

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