Federal Resources on Access and Functional Needs in the Home

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Where and How Older Adults Live in the U.S. Continues to Change

- More older adults live in their own homes within their communities than in nursing homes.
- Many older adults living in communities have and require interdependent care-giving systems and/or arrangements.
- The older adult housing trends continue to change as “Baby Boomers” turn 65.
• Approximately 50% of the 65+ older adult population have (2) or more chronic health problems which increase their vulnerability

• Many older adults may require critical or substantial health care services

• Many require 4-8 or more prescription over-the-counter drugs and rely on others for them

• 42% of older adults have functional limitations and may need assistance
Access and Functional Needs

• **Access**: Services and resources are accessible to all individuals (i.e., healthcare services and medications, social services, housing, transportation, and information materials).

• **Function**: Restrictions or limitations an individual may have that requires assistance before, during and/or after a disaster or emergency (e.g. ventilator, wheelchair, hearing aid, braille-dependent, etc.).
CMIST Framework

- Communication
- Maintaining Health
- Independence
- Services and Support
- Transportation
Essential Building Blocks of Older Adult Disaster Preparedness Planning

• Promote Individual and Caregiver Preparedness
  – "Preparedness begins at home and extends to the community"
  – Cultivate awareness of preparedness tools (e.g. CMS checklists) to help individuals anticipate their needs and prepare and identify redundancies for assistance

• Emergency Planning and Emergency Plans
  – "Community resource assumptions can result in critical response failures"
  – Emergency planning and plans **MUST** be consistently reviewed, updated and must **include** essential redundancies (e.g. transportation, emergency power)

• Establish and Foster Community and Regional Partnerships
  – "A disaster isn’t the time to be handing out business cards--Take a whole of community and all hazards approach to planning"
  – Engage community partners and foster development of partnerships and healthcare coalitions to ensure emergency plan and response alignment and integration at all levels (e.g., facility, community, State/local agency)
• Support and Participate in Preparedness Training
  – “Knowledge on how to integrate equates to speed in a response”
  – Require staff to know the critical role they fulfill as an individual and apart of a broader response team so they are empowered and ready to respond

• Promote and Participate in Exercises at All Levels
  – “Cultivate success—through practice—to be ready on game-day”
  – Test the teams knowledge and ability to integrate during a response
  – Provides a platform for community partner feedback regarding planning gaps, best practices and other preparedness opportunities
Additional Information can be found at: www.phe.gov/ABC
HHS ASPR’s TRACIE
(Technical Resources, Assistance Center, & Information Exchange)

• ASPR TRACIE was developed as a healthcare emergency preparedness information gateway to address the need for:
  — Enhanced technical assistance
  — Comprehensive, one-stop, national knowledge center for healthcare system preparedness
  — Multiple ways to efficiently share and receive (push-pull) information between various entities, including peer-to-peer
  — Leveraging and better integrating support (force multiplier)
HHS ASPR’s TRACIE Topic Collections
Continuing to Expand

Comprehensively Developed TCs:

- Hazard Vulnerability/ Risk Assessment
- Dialysis Centers
- Long-term Care Facilities
- Hospital Surge Capacity/IBA Access and Functional Needs
- Crisis Standards of Care
- Family Reunification and Support
- Radiological and Nuclear Fatality Management
- Explosives
- Hospital Victim Decontamination
- VHF/Ebola
- Emergency Public Information and Warning/ Risk Communication
- Burn
- Disaster Ethics
- Veterinary Issues/ Topics
- Respiratory/SARS/MERS Pharmacy
- State and Federal Emergency Management/ Support and Authorities
- Pre-Hospital Victim Decontamination

Other TCs Under Development

- Pediatric Recovery
- Continuity of Operations/ Failure Plan
- Coalition Models and Functions
- Natural Disasters
- Hospital Facility Evacuation/ Sheltering
- Mental/Behavioral Health
- Workplace Violence
- Responder Safety and Health

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About Topic Collections

- Highlight key resources under specific health and medical preparedness topics.
- Edited and annotated by experts in the field.
- Include peer-reviewed as well as other public and privately developed materials, such as fact sheets, reports, articles, plans, templates, and webinars.

• National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health and Health Care:
  – Tools to advance and sustain culturally and linguistically appropriate health services.
  – More information located at: https://www.thinkculturalhealth.hhs.gov/content/clas.asp

• Relevant Training: https://www.thinkculturalhealth.hhs.gov/Content/ContinuingEd.asp
  – Cultural Competency Curriculum for Disaster Preparedness and Crisis Response
  – Physician's Practical Guide to Culturally Competent Care
  – Culturally Competent Nursing Care
  – Cultural Competency Program for Oral Health Professionals
ACL provides a wealth of information on:

- Older adults
- People with disabilities
- Caregivers and families
- Emergency preparedness
- Funded resource centers
- Other topics

ACL funds programs, initiatives, and networks for those with access and functional needs requirements:

- Aging Network
- Developmental Disabilities Network
Additional HHS Resources and Web Links

• **Emergency Preparedness Checklists, Resources, Guidance:**
  
  
  
  - CDC Emergency Preparedness for Older Adults Legal Information http://www.cdc.gov/aging/emergency/legal/index.htm

• **Disaster Hotline:**
  - SAMHSA Disaster Distress Hotline (1-800-985-5990 or text “Talkwithus” to 66746

• **Social Media Tools and Resources:**
  - HHS ASPR Emergency Preparedness Resources Website/Widget (www.PHE.gov)
  - HHS CDC Health Aging Emergency Preparedness (http://www.cdc.gov/aging/emergency/preparedness.htm)
The 54 million people with disabilities currently living in the United States experience numerous health disparities, yet receive fewer preventative services and have poorer health status than people without disabilities. Therefore, local health departments (LHDs) must include people with disabilities as a population when considering public health intervention strategies.

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) promotes inclusion and engagement of people with disabilities in planning, implementing, and evaluating public health programs, products, and services. With support from the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, NACCHO developed the following directory of community-based disability organizations to support and encourage LHDs to collaborate with disability organizations in their respective communities. This directory provides an overview of these organizations, the populations they serve and support, ways the organizations can complement LHD efforts, and links to websites that provide information about local affiliate chapters in various jurisdictions. NACCHO selected the organizations listed within because they were nationally recognized disability organizations, had local chapters nationwide, and provided services to persons with various types of disabilities. While this directory is not exhaustive, it illustrates how LHDs can collaborate with community-based disability organizations.

People with disabilities and community-based organizations can support and offer expertise to LHDs in numerous ways, including the following:

- Improving accessibility to buildings and other spaces for people with disabilities;
- Developing methods to screen for chronic diseases among people with disabilities;
- Increasing health literacy and accessibility of health information for people with disabilities;
- Including people with disabilities in the development of emergency preparedness plans and exercises.

Significant health disparities exist for persons with disabilities, including the following:

- Adults with disabilities are 58 percent more likely to be obese.
- Children and adolescents with disabilities are 38 percent more likely to be obese.
- Cigarette smoking is significantly higher among adults with a disability (21.4%) compared to adults without a disability (17.3%).
- Fewer women with disabilities have mammograms as recommended than women without disabilities and people with disabilities are not included in pre-disaster emergency planning.

- Developing general and worksite health promotion programs for organizations that support people with disabilities;
- Conducting environmental health scans and developing strategies to reduce environmental toxins;
- Training healthcare professionals about the particular needs of people with disabilities; and
- Creating programs for preventing diseases such as brain injuries or birth defects.

In addition to the community-based organizations listed in the following table, numerous disability organizations and service providers exist in local jurisdictions, including the following:

- Residential Habilitation Homes (e.g., group homes, supported housing);
- Day Training and Habilitation Centers (e.g., vocational training centers, job coaching);
- Advocacy Groups;
- Support Groups; and
- Activity Clubs.
Closing Summary

- Older adults/individuals with access and functional needs tend to be invisible in their communities.

- Daily care and emergency preparedness plans must consider the unique caregiver arrangements and access and functional needs of older adults/individuals.

- Successful emergency preparedness and response activities require a “whole community approach.”
Questions
Contact Information

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ASPR Tools & Resources—More to come!
• HHS emPOWER Map (emPOWER): www.phe.gov/empowermap
• HHS GeoHealth Platform (formerly MedMap): www.geohealth.hhs.gov
• HHS Technical Resources Assistance Center and Information Exchange (TRACIE) https://asprtracie.hhs.gov/
• HHS Response and Recovery Resources Compendium: http://www.phe.gov/emergency/hhscapabilities/Pages/default.aspx

ASPR on the Web

PHE.gov: www.phe.gov

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ASPR TRACIE: asprtracie.hhs.gov

HHS emPOWER Map: www.phe.gov/empowermap