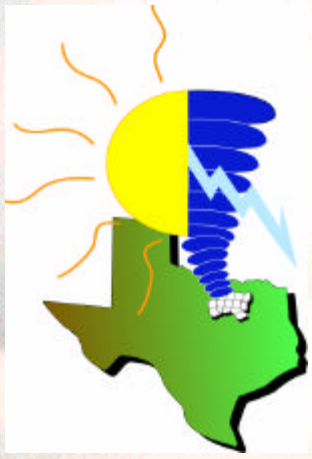


*North Central Texas Area Agency on Aging*



Emergency and Disaster Preparedness  
Project for the Elderly and Disabled



# Getting Started.....





# Define Role

**2<sup>nd</sup> Responder VS 1<sup>st</sup> Responder**

**Service Provider**

Type of Services to be provided

**Service Coordinator**

Case Management

**Service Educator**

Provide education and training to responders / agencies/participants

# Check For Duplication of Service





# Identify Players

- **Aging**
  - (professionals & participants)
- **Disability Groups**
  - (professionals & participants)
- **Emergency Professionals**
  - (Police, Fire, DPS, County Judge, Red Cross)



# Review Resources



- \* **Manpower**  
**Staffing**
- \* **Financial**
- \* **Facilities**
- \* **Equipment**
- \* **Support**

**Internal / External**



# Review Service Area



**Take note of possible issue that may take place, tornadoes, fires, floods, nuclear hazards, rail disasters, roadway incidents.**



# Develop a Plan



Put it in writing,

Have it reviewed,

Put it to the test (table-top exercise),

Share it with others





# Networking

(no man is an island)

**Establish Letter of Cooperation,**

**Identify Role to Outside Sources,**

**Identify how to Access Services**





# Be Recognized

- \* **Develop Materials,**
- \* **Contact Media,**
- \* **Conduct Presentations to Target Groups  
and Community**



# Don't Put Your Plan on a Shelf, It is an Evolving Project

## Continue to review and update:

- \* Resources,
- \* Target Groups,
- \* Threats,
- \* Community Affiliates,
- \* Community Education



# The Presentation





# History & Purpose

- **October 2000, aging services providers in the 14 counties of North Central Texas were prompted to take action based upon the Fort Worth Tornado of 2000 and the massive Parker County grass fires of 1999.**
- **A “Call to Action” was sounded by the North Central Texas Area Agency on Aging, bringing together service providers from all levels of aging and disability programs.**
- **From the first meeting, committees were formed to review regional and local levels of preparedness and begin the basis of a Regional Aging/Disability Preparedness Plan.**



# Action

- Service providers began conducting self-studies of agency resources and capacities
- A review of potential Disaster and Emergency events was conducted to determine and plan for an agency's ability to respond.
- The North Central Texas AAA and providers developed an outreach and awareness plan to link and complement existing local emergency services. This was accomplished through the development of cooperative agreements.
- A group of agencies began a community education program aimed at seniors and disabled persons to educate and train them on how to prepare and respond in the event of a disaster or emergency.



# How It Works for You

## ➤ When Disaster Strikes:

- **When a disaster event occurs, remain calm. Do not call 911 for information. During a major event the 911 system may be overloaded with callers requesting information. Leave the 911 system open for callers with emergency assistance needs.**





# How It Works for You....

- **Disaster Teams**

- **Local emergency response teams (first responders) set up triage teams in the affected area to assess and address the extent of the incident. Once the event has been assessed, secondary responders become involved. At this point, aging and disability service providers (secondary responders) assist with the disaster / emergency operations.**



# How It Works for You....

- **Shelters/Assistance Centers**

- The local chapter of the American Red Cross and local city/county/regional emergency response coordinators establish shelters and assistance centers where mobile elderly and disabled persons come to seek temporary shelter and assistance. Aging and disability service providers offer case management to help meet needs beyond emergency sheltering.

- **Triage Teams**

- Triage teams consisting of aging and disability service providers visit the area(s) affected by the event in an effort to reach those persons who are not mobile or able to reach the shelters/assistance centers.



# How It Works for You....

- **Service Coordination**
  - Services through the shelters and assistance centers are coordinated through joint service meetings with local and regional agencies. This assures that persons seeking help are provided access to every available service with the least amount of barriers or delay.
- **Follow-up**
  - Through service coordination, those persons applying for assistance are monitored to make certain that all needs have been met. Services will be available until all identified needs have been addressed.
- **Timeliness of Delivery**
  - Services are started when a person applies for help. Aging and disability service providers access all available resources to assist those in need.





# Preparation is the KEY

- **Develop a Plan**
  - **The key to surviving an event is preparation. Sit down with your family and friends and discuss what to do should disaster strike.**
  - **Make decisions on what your plan of action will be and share it with your friends, family and neighbors.**
  - **Become familiar with your plan through rehearsal and review.**



# Preparation Is the KEY...

## Home Preparedness

- At home, prepare an emergency kit that has a battery-powered radio, flashlight, drinking water, blanket, list of emergency contact phone numbers, list of prescriptions, canned food items, plans for pet care and dry clothing.
- Designate a “safe” room in your home, basement or cellar where you, your family and neighbors may gather during an event.
- Be aware of weather conditions and tune to local radio and television stations.



# Preparation Is the KEY...

- **When You're Away From Home:**



nvtech.com

- ✓ Carry identification at all times
- ✓ Have a list of medications and emergency contact numbers
- ✓ Be aware of your surroundings
- ✓ Let family, friends and caregivers know of your plans
- ✓ Identify resources that may be of assistance should an emergency occur away from home.



# Who, What, When, Where, Why, How?

The “who, what, when, where, why, and how” questions should be asked prior to an event such as:

- **Whom** do I call when a disaster / emergency happens?
- **What** should I do when a disaster / emergency occurs?
- **When** a disaster occurs, will friends and family know where to find me?
- **Where** should I go if a disaster / emergency occurs?
- **Why** should I prepare ahead of time?
- **How** can I include friends and family in my emergency plan?

Sit with your family, friends, and neighbors and include the 5 “W”s and “H” in your discussions.

# People Who are Disabled, Prior To An Event ...

- **Consider registering with local 911, utility company, and community services agency.**
- **Establish relationships with neighbors and caregivers.**
- **Designate a safe-room.**
- **Have an emergency kit that is accessible.**
- **Identify local accessible media outlets where emergency information may be obtained.**
- **Develop and test your plan. Include your caregivers.**



# People Who are Disabled, During An Event ...

- If possible, shelter in place.
- Be prepared to remain independent for 24 hours.
- Use your survival kit and implement your plan.



Photos by freelance photojournalist Colleen M. Dolan

# People Who are Disabled, After An Event ...

- Once rescue workers arrive, be prepared to provide necessary information for assistance.
- Again, review and follow your post-disaster plan.
- Post-disaster plans should include alternate housing locations, transportation and emergency contact information.

# Preparation & Communication Remain the KEY

- For the person who is disabled and the responder, it's important to be prepared and know their environment when at home and when traveling.



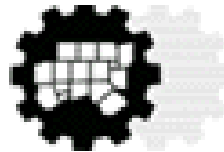
# Resources



*Together, we can save a life*



Local County  
Committees on  
Aging



**DFWinfo.com**  
north central texas council of governments

**DISASTERHELP**  
WWW.DISASTERHELP.GOV



# Resources...



**National Voluntary Organizations  
Active in Disaster**

*Cooperation, Communication,  
Coordination, Collaboration in  
Disaster Response*

For more resources call 1-800-272-3921

Mike Hensley, Aging Programs Coordinator  
[mhensley@dfwinfo.com](mailto:mhensley@dfwinfo.com)

Web Address: [www.dfwinfo/hs/aging](http://www.dfwinfo/hs/aging)



# Disability Resources

Advocacy,  
Incorporated



TEXAS

Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services



Texas Health and Human Services

Tarrant County  
Mental Health  
Association



TEXAS

Department of Family and Protective Services



TEXAS

Department of State Health Services



TEXAS

Department of Aging  
and Disability Services



LIGHTHOUSE  
INTERNATIONAL

## **Emergency & Disaster Preparedness Program for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities**

The North Central Texas Council of Governments Office of Emergency Preparedness and the North Central Texas Area Agency on Aging have developed a program to assist senior citizens and persons with disabilities to prepare for disasters and emergencies. A comprehensive network has been established with local American Red Cross chapters and service providers to help meet your needs.

For more information about the Emergency & Disaster Preparedness Program for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities, call:

1-800-272-3921 or  
Metro (817) 695-9195

**Office Hours:**  
Monday—Friday  
8 a.m.—5 p.m.

Funded in part by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services

**Area Agency on Aging of North Central Texas**  
616 Six Flags Drive  
Centerpoint Two  
P. O. Box 5888  
Arlington, Tx 76005-5888

Phone: 800-272-3921  
Metro: 817-695-9195  
Fax: 817-695-9274  
Email: [mhensley@nctcog.org](mailto:mhensley@nctcog.org)  
[www.nctcog.org/hs/aging](http://www.nctcog.org/hs/aging)



North Central Texas  
Area Agency on Aging



**Emergency & Disaster Preparedness Program for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities**



## Being Prepared:

Being prepared is an exercise that many of us have done all through our lives. Preparing ahead of time for an emergency or a disruption of service is something that we all can do with a minimum of expense and time. The information shared on the following page details some common sense activities and supplies that should always be available for you to access in times of emergency.

Please take the opportunity to review the list of supplies and activities to see how prepared you may be for an emergency. You may use this checklist as a guide to assist you with the development of an emergency kit.

### Are You Prepared?

- 3-5 day supply of drinking/cleaning water (one gallon per person per day)
  - 3-5 day supply of canned goods & dry food goods (peanut butter, canned juices, crackers, cereals and a can opener)
  - First aid kit
  - Battery operated flashlight & radio, extra batteries, utility knife
  - Toilet paper, soap, personal hygiene items
  - Garbage bags, plastic sheeting, duct tape
  - 3-5 day supply of needed medications
  - Change of clothing
  - Blanket
  - Pet supplies
- 
- Develop a personal plan and it share with your family, caregivers and neighbors.
  - Make a list of emergency phone numbers and phone numbers of family and support persons.
  - Have copies of personal papers accessible (insurance, medical cards, social security cards, etc.)

Should you need assistance in developing your plan or like further information, please call 1-800-272-3921.

**NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS  
COUNCIL OF  
GOVERNMENTS  
AREA AGENCY ON  
AGING**

**SENIOR EMERGENCY /  
DISASTER PROJECT**

**The following persons/agencies  
should be contacted in the event  
of an emergency / disaster that  
may affect senior citizens  
residing in the counties affected.**



**The following persons/agencies  
should be contacted in the event of  
an emergency/disaster that may  
affect senior citizens and the  
disabled residing in the counties  
affected.**

**North Central Texas Area Agency on Aging  
Regional Disaster Coordinator:**

**Mike Hensley 1-800-272-3921, 817-695-9195**

**Mhensley@nctcog.org**

**COLLIN:**

1<sup>st</sup>

-  
2<sup>nd</sup>

Name Phone: work  
home

**DENTON:**

1<sup>st</sup>

-  
2<sup>nd</sup>

Name Phone: work  
home

**ELLIS:**

1<sup>st</sup>

-  
2<sup>nd</sup>

Name: Phone: work  
home

**ERATH:**

1<sup>st</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup>

Name Phone: work  
home

**HOOD:**

1<sup>st</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup>

Name Phone: work  
home

**HUNT:**

1<sup>st</sup>

Name: Phone: work  
home

**JOHNSON:**

1<sup>st</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup>

Name Phone: work  
home

**KAUFMAN:**

1<sup>st</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup>

Name Phone: work  
home

**NAVARRO:**

1<sup>st</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup>

Name Phone: work  
home

**PALO PINTO:**

1<sup>st</sup>

-  
2<sup>nd</sup>

Name Phone: work  
home

**PARKER:**

2<sup>nd</sup>

1<sup>st</sup>

Name Phone: work  
home

**ROCKWALL:**

2<sup>nd</sup>

1<sup>st</sup>

Name Phone: work  
home

**SOMERVELL:**

2<sup>nd</sup>

Name Phone: work  
home

**WISE:**

1<sup>st</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup> Name Phone: work  
home

