

MARYLAND
January 2007 Quarterly Report

I. General Information

Report Period: _____ *Date Submitted:* _____

State: MD *FEMA Region:* III

Person Submitting Report:

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Other individuals in State Delegation:

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- Name: JoAnne Knapp, Director, Emergency Preparedness Policy
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- Name: Jacqueline Stone, Director, Resource Network
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II. State Delegation Meetings/Teleconferences

Our committee meets quarterly.

Outcome: See below

III. Emergency Planning Highlights

See below

IV. Emergency Preparedness Highlights

See below

V. Emergency Response Highlights

See below

VI. Emergency Recovery Highlights

See below

Department of Disabilities submitted:

Emergency Preparedness Initiatives* ♦ *Emergency Preparedness for All

BACKGROUND

More than 1,000,000 people in Maryland have disabilities or other special needs that limit their ability to hear warnings, care for themselves alone, understand notification, or evacuate quickly and safely. When Maryland's Department of Disabilities was established in 2004 as the first cabinet level department in the nation the enabling legislation required addressing emergency preparedness.

2004-2005 Accomplishments

- Established Statewide Advisory Committee on Emergency Preparedness
- Held seven Regional Conferences
 - Reached more than 1,000 stakeholders
 - Identified concerns, shared information, made contacts
 - Oriented to action – produced individual and organizational improvements
 - Led to establishing Jurisdictional Planning Groups (JPGs) in Baltimore and PG Counties, Hagerstown, Anne Arundel/Annapolis
- Represented people with disabilities in MEMA, DHMH, and other agency emergency planning public presentations
- Obtained funding for Emergency Planner position bring staff to 2 full time.
- Participated in exercises

2006 Accomplishments

- Now establishing more JPGs: Carroll, Harford, Southern Maryland (3 counties), Frederick, more
- Train-the-trainer project with Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- Workshops reached 30+ residential DDA Providers, State Residential Centers, Nursing homes, Assisted Living Facilities, etc
- Action-oriented planning template: Readiness Guide
- Tabletop exercises in each of four regions
- DDA project HRSA-funded for 2007 and expanded to day program providers
- Migrant worker, Low English Proficiency Project (LEP) project launched

- State employee building Evacuation/Shelter In Place Project
 - Led the development of a statewide emergency communication model developed with Johns Hopkins University
 - Participated in state evacuation planning with MEMA, MDOT, DHMH and DETF
 - Created preparedness PSA for use statewide
 - State Residential Center Functional Exercise (1st ever, nationally) on Lower Eastern Shore. SRC regional partner agencies participated
 - Statewide conference held with 325 attendees provided with 12 breakout sessions
 - To show range of activities going on, and how related systematically
- Involve participants in specific preparedness activities for organizations, families, and individuals

Kennedy Krieger Submitted:

Planning Activities: Met with other State Delegates in September. Formed a working group to review the current state of the state as related to emergency preparedness. Addressed the needed input from aging and the disability community. The Work Group will invite Human Services and Transportation to the table for further discussion on sheltering and transportation (evacuation).

Outreach Activities: This UCEDD is currently compiling educational materials to be disseminated to the families and clients served.

Training Activities: Collaborated with the Maryland Department of Disabilities to present a training session on emergency preparedness for the Kennedy Krieger Adolescent Transition Series. Lecture occurred on September 20, 2006.

Other Activities: The working group will provide input to the Red Cross related to recommended standard equipment for shelters to accommodate persons with disabilities and special needs. Share resources between each organization.

Outcomes achieved or expected by September 30, 2006: Workshop (9/20/06-completed)

Products: UCEDD has ordered educational materials for providers and families and continuing to evaluation other products that may be useful.

The Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism and Citizen Corps submitted:

An interactive DVD was created to be distributed to citizens to teach them how to be prepared for disaster. Fully ADA compliant.

VII. Next Steps

Region III FEMA planner will be invited to join our delegation.

Will be investigating House Bill 770 to see how it will impact people with disabilities, the elderly and care givers.

Also Bernadette Green Fleming from DHMH will be invited to talk about her program and how we can integrate EM into their visits and consultations.

VIII. Other:

There is a wealth of information available related to emergency preparedness to the point of information overload and redundancy. Family, consumers, providers need the essential information and a process to incorporate into their daily routines.