

DELAWARE
April 2007 Quarterly Report

I. General Information

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State: Delaware

FEMA Region: Region III

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II. State Delegation Meetings/Teleconferences

Date: February 9, 2007

Outcome: The focus of this meeting was to further discuss the area of notification and warning and to begin the discussion on transportation and evacuation of individuals with functional needs. The following was discussed:

Public Outreach

- The Division of Public Health partnered with the Delaware State Police to activate the DPH call center and have individuals with functional needs call to sign up for the 911 Registry. The event, scheduled for March 30, 2007, was marketed successfully through local newspapers, radio stations, television, and flyers.
- The 911 registry will continue to be marketed by having DHSS incorporate the form into the DHSS intake process.
- A speakers' bureau is being developed to provide disaster training for individuals with disabilities at local community-based organizations.
- DelDOT has the capacity to communicate warnings to the public through website and radio station. The agency would like to enhance this capacity.

Technology

- A statewide database is being developed to share with the Delaware Emergency Notification System (DENS).
- DENS can be used for notifying individuals in an emergency but more discussions need to be around notifying people in non-emergencies due to costs involved with making the calls.
- Individuals that use TTY systems will be incorporated into DENS testing by targeting areas that have known TTY users.

Transportation

- Evacuation of people and pets are in the developing stages. County evacuation plans are being finalized. The missing component is special needs populations. DelDOT must know where these people are and what they need so they can manage limited resources appropriately in an emergency.
- United We Ride, Logisticare, and Paratransit can provide the information as to where people are and what they need.

- Resources need to be addressed and possibly stockpiled. DelDOT has analyzed the usability of most of the state's and community's transportation resources.
- DelDOT is working on getting a few response-type vehicles that would be used only in emergencies.
- A Transportation Subcommittee will meet and update the group at the next meeting.

III. Emergency Planning Highlights

Activity (e.g., training, conference, drill):

- Coordinating with agencies that can assist with transportation and evacuation of individuals with disabilities.

Outcome: Subcommittee meeting held and results will be reported at the April 30th meeting.

- Coordinating with agencies that can assist with the notification and warning of individuals with disabilities.

Outcome: A fiscal analysis will be done to determine cost of systems.

- DPH call center hosted an exercise that registered people in the State 911 Registry.

Outcome: 314 people were registered

IV. Emergency Preparedness Highlights

Activity (e.g., training, conference, drill):

- Developing preparedness brochures in other mediums, specifically Braille, on-tape, and large print, so that the brochures will be more accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Outcome: Braille brochure is available and ready for distribution.

- Working with leaders in the disability community to provide Citizens Corps training specifically for individuals with functional needs.

Outcome: Meeting held to determine needs of population so that materials can begin to be developed.

V. Emergency Response Highlights

Activity (e.g., training, conference, drill):

- Exploring the development of a Disability Awareness Training for the Medical Reserve Corps.

Outcome: Currently in exploration.

VI. Emergency Recovery Highlights

Activity (e.g., training, conference, drill): None

- DHSS disaster coordinators are working on how to use their client registers as a type of registry.
Outcome: Details being developed.

VII. Next Steps

Significant Planned Activities:

The next meeting is scheduled for April 30, 2007, which will further discuss transportation and evacuation.

Products under Development: See above.

VIII. Other

Nothing at this time.