Inclusive Disaster Resilience During a Pandemic

www.disasterstrategies.org
Who We Are

The Partnership is the only U.S. disability-led organization with a focused mission on equal access, disability rights, and full inclusion of disabled people, older adults, and people with access and functional needs before, during, and after disasters and emergencies.
Objectives

1. Empowering community-wide disability inclusive emergency and disaster preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery.

2. Understanding the disproportionate impact people with disabilities face during and after disasters, and disability rights to advocate for, protect, maintain, and advance in systems emergency management advocacy.

3. Understanding, exploring, and discussing good and promising practices for inclusive emergency preparedness to work towards and advocate for in your community.

4. Understanding and advocating for the Real Emergency Access for Aging and Disability Inclusion (REAADI) for Disasters Act and Disaster Relief Medicaid Act (DRMA) in your community and nationwide.
Disabled people are 2 to 4 times more likely to die or be injured in a disaster or emergency than non-disabled people.

After a natural disaster, white people accumulate more wealth while residents of color accumulate less wealth.
Disproportionate Impacts

- Lack of access (communication, physical)
- Lack of access to resources before, during, and after disaster
- Socioeconomic status
- People with disabilities and access requirements are often an afterthought
Civil rights are not waived during disasters or emergencies!
The Right To Be Rescued

Watch the full documentary: https://rootedinrights.org/therighttoberescued/
The Reality

- False expectations of “registries” and “special needs shelters”
- Institutionalization during disaster/emergencies
CILs and SILCs Roles In Disasters

CILs Core Services are vital during disaster response!

You are responders because you provide:

● Info and Referral for disabled people during disasters/emergencies in your communities

● Peer Support during times of crisis

● Education and advocacy!
Early Advocacy Result

CILs were recognized as essential services and workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.
Good & Promising Practices

CIL response during the pandemic:
● Local information and resource hubs
● Mask and sanitation distribution
● Food banks
● COVID-19 at-home test distribution
● COVID-19 vaccine sites
● Adapting Nursing Home Transition - Emergency Relocation
Partnership Support To CILs

● Disability & Disaster Hotline
● Daily COVID-19 Disability Rights Call
● Technical Assistance
● Community Resilience Initiative
  ○ Gap Analysis and Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP)
  ○ Trainings
  ○ Conference
Advocacy

● Invite yourself to Emergency Management and Public Health tables

● Invite them to your tables

● State or local Access and Functional Needs Coordinator
Systems Advocacy

● Real Emergency Access for Aging and Disability Inclusion (REAADI) Act:
  ○ S. 2658
  ○ H.R. 4938

● Disaster Relief Medicaid Act (DRMA):
  ○ S. 2646
  ○ H.R. 4937

Learn more at reaadi.com!
Questions?
Get Involved with The Partnership!

- **Weekly National Stakeholder Calls**: Every Tuesday at 3 pm ET

- **Daily COVID-19 Disability Rights Calls**: Each and every day at 6 pm ET

- Contact us to learn more about the **Services We Offer**
Thank You!

Shaylin Sluzalis and Germán Parodi

directors@disasterstrategies.org
(570) 777-0268 & (215) 971-0660

Melissa Marshall, J.D.
m.marshall@disasterstrategies.org
(860) 916-6786

Priya Penner
priya@disasterstrategies.org
(585) 270-1816