Are You Ready?

Consumer Voice Conference
November, 2014
“At this time I’d like to ask you to remain calm, fasten your seat belt and flap your arms just as fast as you can.”
Family Safety Plan

Prepare for 72 hours

- Food & Water
- Flashlight & Batteries
- Weather Radio
- Medicines
- Pet – Food & Water
- Baby – Diapers
- Regional Items
Family Safety Plan

Store in each vehicle:

- Duct Tape
- First Aid Kit
- Water
- Phone Charger
- Paper & Pen
- Flashlight
- Kitty Liter
- Cash
Family Safety Plan

Communications:

• Paper copies – names & phone numbers
• Identify points of contact for family
• Princess Phone
• Extra cell phone charger
Family Safety Plan

• Smartphones automatically receive WEAs
• Download free or low cost Apps
  – Weather alerts
  – GPS locators
  – Translators including text to speech
Family Safety Plan for Caregivers
Family Safety Plan for Caregivers

Know the Childcare or LTC Facility Plan:
• Recommended emergency kit
• Notification Process
• Keep your phone #s current with facility
• Evacuation Shelter
• Shelter-in-Place guidelines
• Share the plan with the care recipient
Work Safety Plan

Tips

• Safety Bag - water, snacks, flashlight, whistle, comfortable shoes
• “Know the Plan – Work the Plan”
• Buddy system
• Agency should have two alternate work sites
Helping Others
Helping Others

Aging Network staff are
• Essential members of the local, regional, state emergency mngt teams
• Home Care & Long Term Care experts
• Vital 2\textsuperscript{nd} responders
Helping Others Who Can Help Themselves

- Receive free emergency phone alerts
- Know local EMA plan
- Know Safe Shelter locations
- Volunteer - local EMA advisory groups
- Prepare for heat, cold, flooding, flu season
Helping Others

Tips:

• Keep paper copies of consumers’ names, address, phone #s, care facilities, day centers, providers

• First responders will keep a priority checklist for those with disabilities
Helping Others At Home

- Help develop a safety plan – include immediate circle of support
- Extra frozen or shelf staple meals
- Think of Extras – medicines, batteries for medical equipment and power chairs
Helping Others “At Risk”

High Priority Consumers

• No support system other than you
• Significant and multiple disabilities
• Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
• Known to APS
• Homeless
Helping Others Who Live in LTCFs

Know the plan

Question the plan
The nursing home was just over 200 yards from West Fertilizer Co., which had about 150 tons of highly explosive ammonium nitrate onsite.

Yet the facility had no Plan for this type of explosion.
“As he walked through the hallways of the nursing home, Stewart killed seven residents, two of them in their wheelchairs, while the staff tried to bring the patients to safety. One nurse, Jerry Avant, was also shot and killed when he tried to stop the gunman.”

Stewart was finally stopped in the hallway by Officer Ed Garner, who had been visiting his mother Tessie.
According to Ashtabula police, a fire erupted that resulted in the death of one person and five people injured where individuals had set up a methamphetamine lab.

Nurses and staff members removed the home’s 38 residents from the building and onto a screened-in front porch.
Anderson Guest House
Anderson, MO

A fire raced through a group home for the mentally ill and disabled, killing nine residents and one staff member. Eighteen other people were hospitalized, some in critical condition.

“It always bugged me that the windows were so small; if you had a fire and the windows were the only way out, most of them could not have gotten out that way.” (family member)
After the Emergency
Your Work Will Be Consistent
But Different

“Ladies and gentlemen, as you may have noticed, we are now making our initial decent.”
Your Work Will Be Consistent But Different

Example – Extreme Heat

• Frequent checks on consumers
• Transportation to cooled centers
• Delivery of fans and extra water
Your Work Will Be Consistent But Different

Example – Disasters

- Temporary suspension of regular activities
- Work deployment to Shelters and Disaster Recovery Centers
- Tracking of evacuees, relocations, expenses
Your Work Will Be Consistent But Different

Unique Advocacy Cases

• Animal Care
• Exploitation
• Replacement of DME, medicines, dentures
• Multiple relocation providers seeking payment
Emergency Preparedness

Before the emergency

✓ Prepare yourself
✓ Plan for your family
✓ Know the work-place plan
✓ Help consumers prepare a safety plan and emergency kit
✓ Assist providers in thinking through emergency plans
Emergency Preparedness

During the Emergency

✓ Allow 1\textsuperscript{st} responders to provide first aide and secure the scene

✓ If a disaster is declared, offer LTC expertise to EMA

✓ Check on consumers most at-risk first

✓ Check on all other consumers
Emergency Preparedness

After the Emergency

✓ Pace yourself. Recovery time for large disasters is long.

✓ Visit consumers in shelters and relocation facilities

✓ Keep detailed records of consumers assisted, evacuations, relocations, work hours
Resources

www.ltcombudsman.org/issues/emergency-preparedness
Resources

FEMA Office of Disability and Integration Coordination (ODIC)
www.fema.gov/office-disability-integration-coordination

Centers for Disease Control
http://emergency.cdc.gov