

# Are you Prepared?

Disasters strike when you least expect it. Keep you and your family safe during an emergency. Prepare beforehand by creating a kit/plan. Be sure to practice the plan with your family.

## Some facts:



- 6 in 10 Americans have not developed or practiced their emergency plan with their family
- 48% of Americans lack emergency supplies to use during a disaster

-FEMA.gov

## Make a Plan

Start by answering these three questions:

- 1. How will you receive local emergency information?**  
(TV, radio, Facebook, friends)
- 2. What is your plan if you have to leave your home quickly?**  
(Where will you go? What will you take? How will you get there?)
- 3. How will you contact family and friends?**  
(Phone numbers and email addresses)

## Create a Kit

It's important to create an emergency kit with supplies you may need during a disaster. Gather these items and check them off your list.

- Water
- Nonperishable, ready-to-eat food (infant formula)
- Medication, eyeglasses, contacts
- Hearing aids
- Flashlight with batteries
- First Aid Kit
- Change of clothing
- Pet food/water
- Personal items: toothbrush, toothpaste, soap
- Blanket
- Emergency Information: insurance policies, IDs, phone numbers
- Cash
- Battery powered radio



# Emergency Preparedness for Faith-based Organizations

During times of crisis, almost 60% of Americans first turn to a faith based leader for guidance and comfort.  
-National Disaster Interfaiths Network

Congregations and faith-based community organizations are very important to the disaster process. These organizations are typically seen as trusted entities and make up the backbone of many communities.

Is your organization ready to assist during a disaster?



**Tip**

Develop a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) for your organization. This ensures you are able to protect your members, assets, and current programs.



**Tip**

An emergency is not the time to be meeting fellow community partners for the first time. Check with local officials to see how to get involved.



**Tip**

Build on your strengths. Do you already have an effective community outreach program? Consider which populations you are able to serve best and expand upon that capability.



**Tip**

Know the hazards your community is most vulnerable to, and develop plans and exercises around those hazards.



**Tip**

Encourage all members to have a family emergency preparedness plan.

## Check on your Neighbors

Work with your neighbors to develop a peer-check in system to ensure all households are safe. Does everyone have adequate food, water, and shelter? Even the simplest task of checking on your neighbor before or during a disaster can have a great impact on life safety. This is especially important during the warmest and coldest times of the year.

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*Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities*



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