



Preparing for Preparedness

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Intentions for training

- Create awareness around the history of Homeland Security & Emergency Services
- Exposure to Erie County's Disaster Response
- Education around the tenets of preparedness
- Offer a framework to think about the role of the professional service provider within preparedness
- What to expect when expecting...reactions, responses and such

Homeland Security & Emergency Services

September 11, 2001

11 days preceding the attacks a Director is appointed

1996 Signing of the Mental Health parity act

2003 added to the agencies part of

November 2002

Homeland Security Act by Congress combining 22 Federal agencies

1963 Community Mental Health Act signed

1990 Americans with Disabilities Act

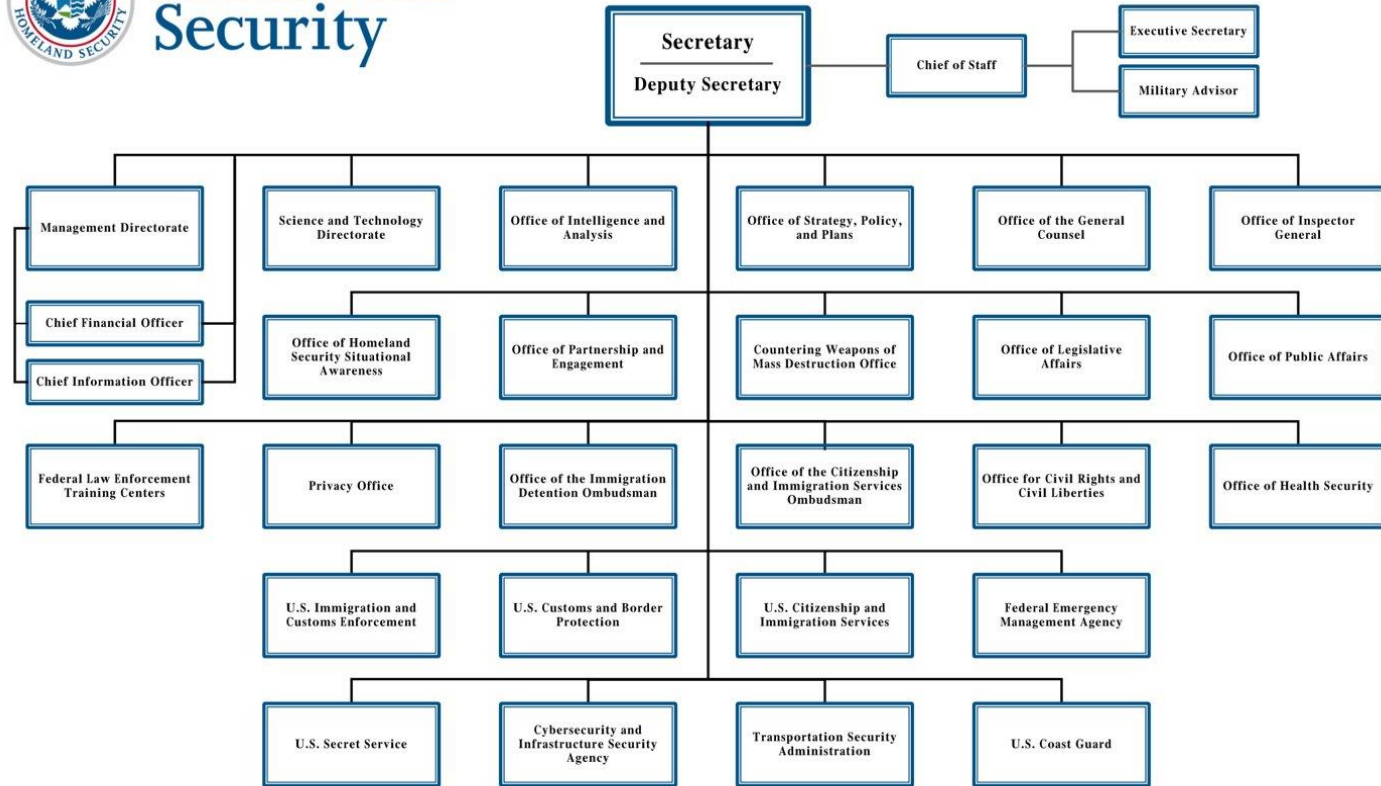
September 2021

years of the is where





Homeland Security



Levels to this...

Department of Homeland Security



Federal



NEW YORK
STATE OF
OPPORTUNITY™

Department of Homeland Security
& Emergency Services

State

Department of Homeland Security
& Emergency Services

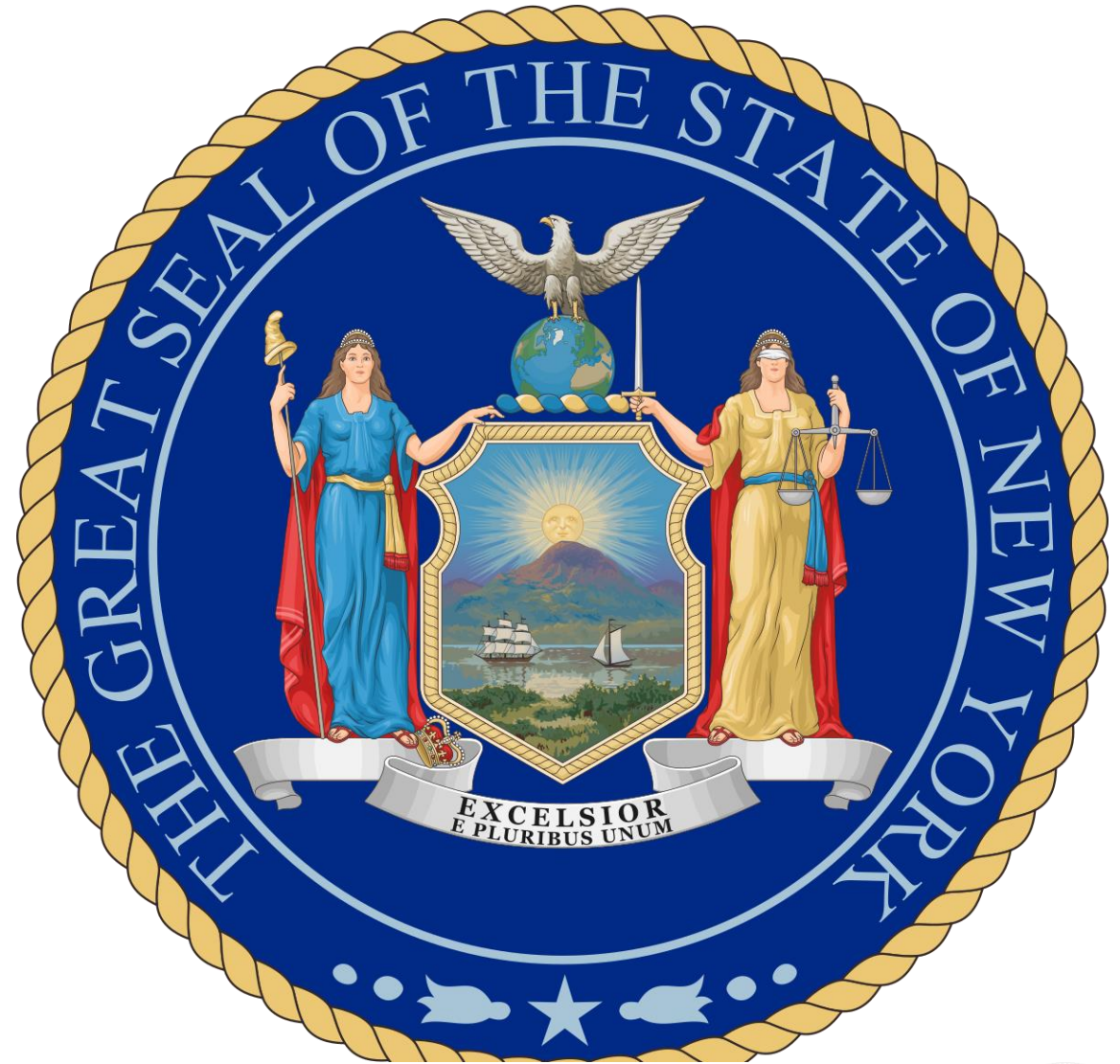


Local

NEW YORK STATE ARTICLE 2B

State and Local Natural and Man-made Disaster Preparedness

- a. "disaster" means occurrence or imminent, impending or urgent threat of wide spread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or man-made causes, including, but not limited to, fire, flood, earthquake, hurricane, tornado, high water, landslide, mudslide, wind, storm, wave action, volcanic activity, epidemic, disease outbreak, air contamination, terrorism, cyber event, blight, drought, infestation, explosion, radiological accident, nuclear, chemical, biological, or bacteriological release, water contamination, bridge failure or bridge collapse.



Erie County – Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Services

Core Mission: *“Disaster Preparedness and Response relief before, during and after any type of natural disaster, man-made disaster, or wartime situation.”*

- Maintains functionality of the Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) during, before and after emergencies.
- Alerts for responders during activation of the EOC
- Support communication and coordination efforts with various levels of government





Erie County- Incident Command

Unified Command –from County Executive, Homeland Security, Erie County Sheriffs, Department of Public Works and other departments through collaborative partnerships make up a unified command



Once activated the Emergency Operations Center becomes the working station for representatives from:

- Local municipalities
- State entities
- Police Departments
- City of Buffalo
- Emergency Managers
- Contractors

Okay cool...but then what

- A policy group composed of unified command and other meets and gathers all real time current information and outlines the objectives for the operational shift period (12hrs)
 - This is accomplished by triaging the needs based on life and safety needs first
- As the needs during this missions grow and take shape various components that are needed for effective response
 - Access to medical and critical infrastructure facilities
 - Road clearance priority is assigned in tandem with these tasks
- This is typically when specialty resources through various Emergency Support Functions (ESF) are dispatched



Whose job is it anyways?

- Preparedness
- Response
- Mitigation
- Recovery



Keep your family and loved ones

SAFE.



**Prepare
with Pedro!**

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



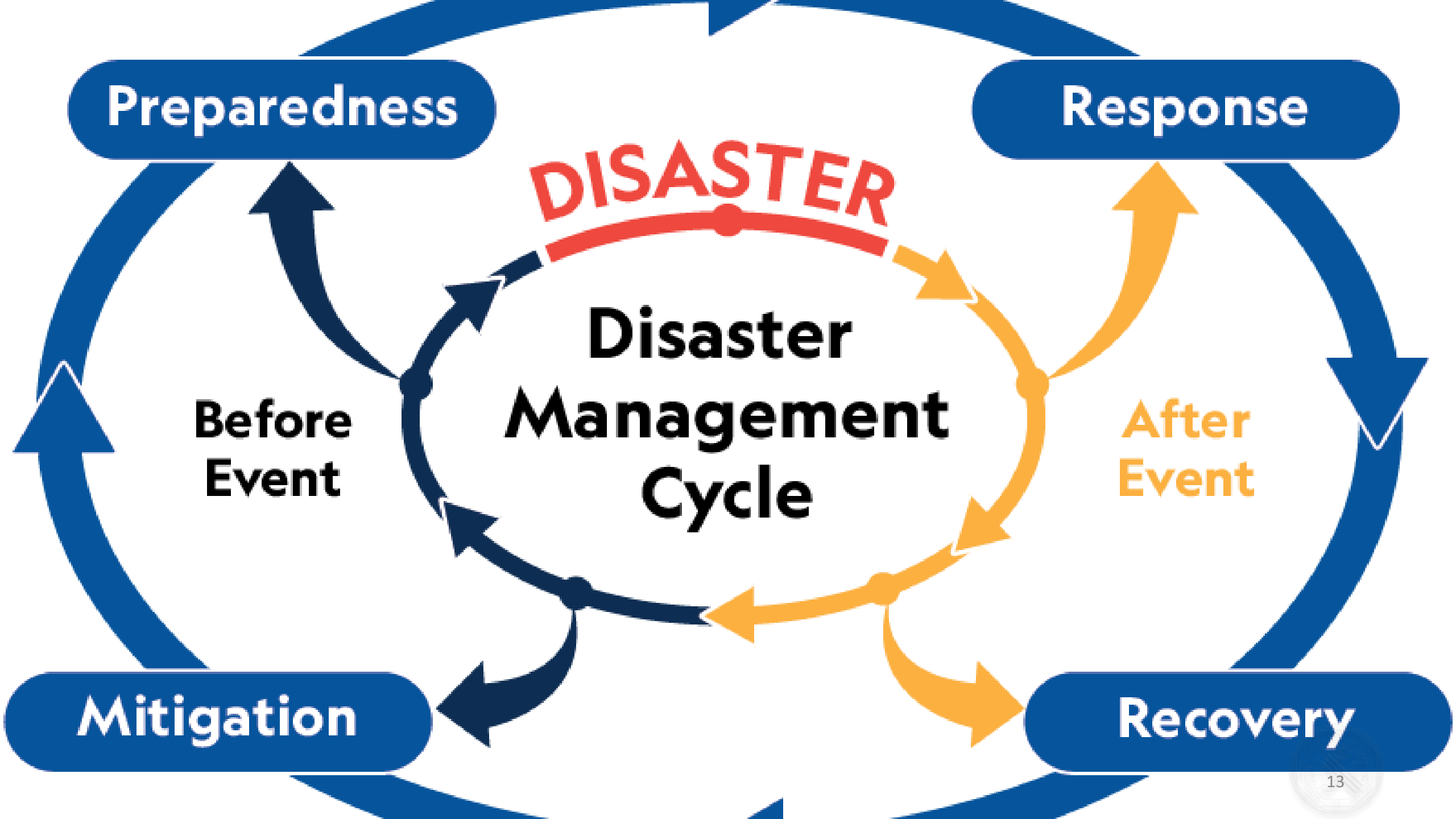
MAKE A PLAN



BUILD A KIT



BE INFORMED



What is Preparedness?

/prē'per(ə)dnəs/

General Definition; to remain in a phase of ready or made ready for use

FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security; "a continuous cycle of planning, organizing, training equipping, exercising, evaluating, and taking corrective action in an effort to ensure effective coordination during incident response."



What can you do to be prepared



Have multiple ways to get information



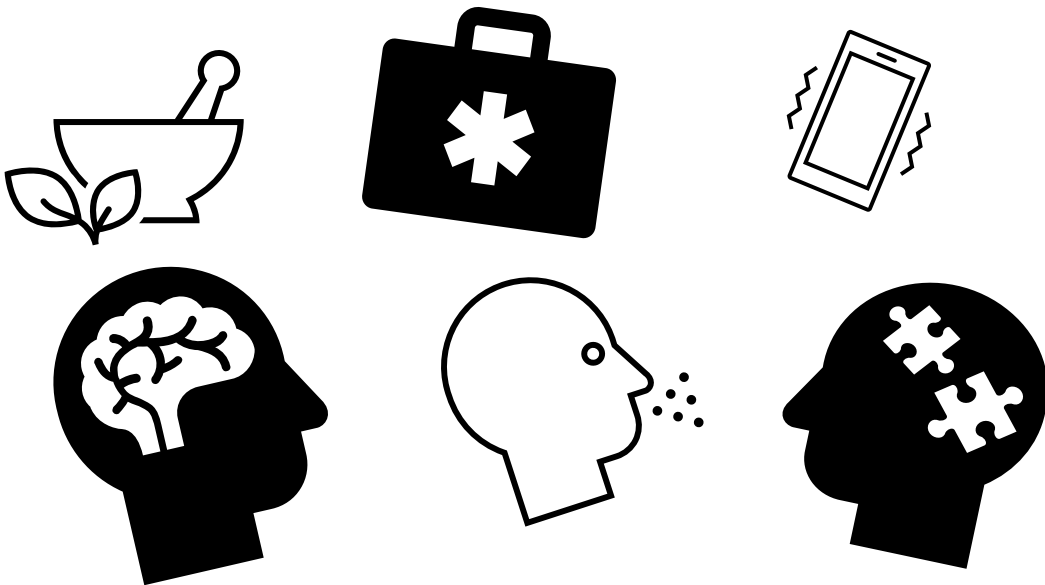
Prepare your household or business



You are the help until help arrives

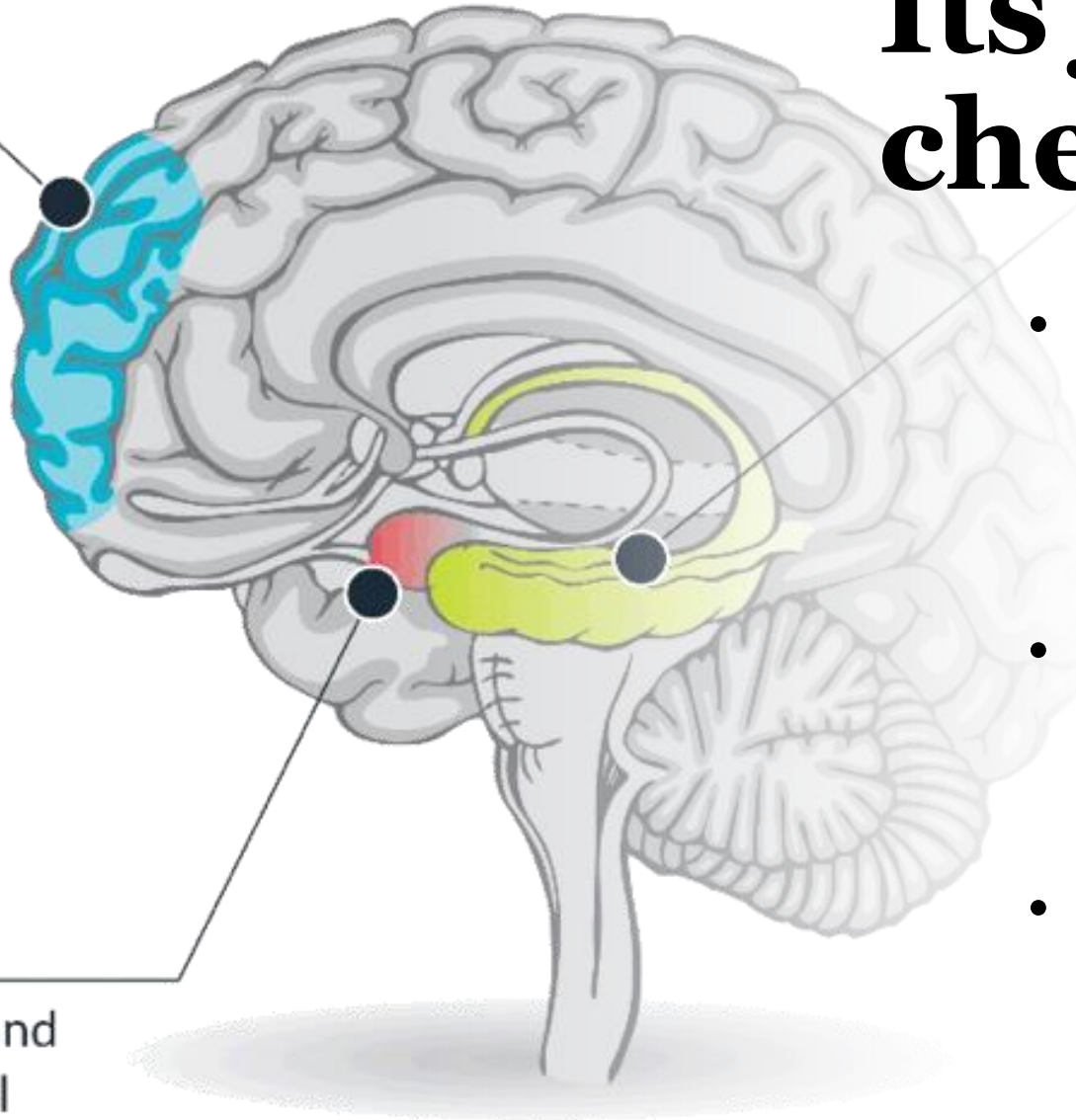
The human response to stress

- Safety first
 - Emergency Personnel are always trained to put life and safety needs first
- What is safety as a provider...
- Common safety maintenance methods;
 - Lethality checks
 - Welfare checks
 - Medication counts
 - Coping skills
 - Safety planning



Prefrontal Cortex

Regulates thoughts, emotions, behavior



Amygdala

Reacts to stress and emotional arousal

Its just neuro-chemical...

- Exposure to a triggering event such as a disaster the brain redirects it's energy
- Moving energy away from Executive functioning
- Produces Flight, Fight or Freeze

You don't know till you know...

The range of possibilities is endless!

Responses are shaped by:

Culture

Creed

Nationality

Social Economic Status

Exposure

General health

Perceived social class

Table CORE - 1 Common Signs & Symptoms Following Exposure to Trauma

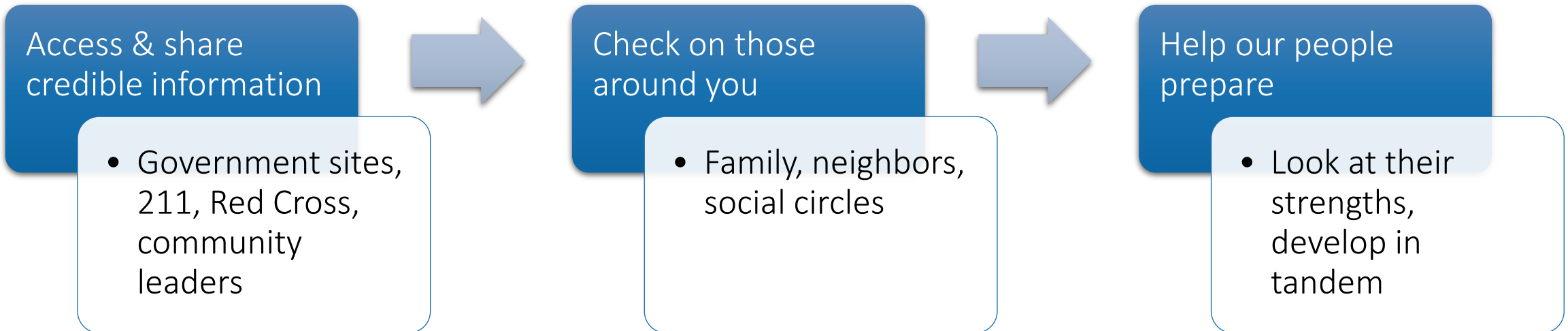
Physical	Cognitive/Mental	Emotional	Behavioral
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chills• Difficulty breathing• Dizziness• Elevated blood pressure• Fainting• Fatigue• Grinding teeth• Headaches• Muscle tremors• Nausea• Pain• Profuse sweating• Rapid heart rate• Twitches• Weakness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blaming someone• Change in alertness• Confusion• Hyper-vigilance• Increased or decreased awareness of surroundings• Intrusive images• Memory problems• Nightmares• Poor abstract thinking• Poor attention• Poor concentration• Poor decision-making• Poor problem solving	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agitation• Anxiety• Apprehension• Denial• Depression• Emotional shock• Fear• Feeling overwhelmed• Grief• Guilt• Inappropriate emotional response• Irritability• Loss of emotional control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased alcohol consumption• Antisocial acts• Change in activity• Change in communication• Change in sexual functioning• Change in speech pattern• Emotional outbursts• Inability to rest• Change in appetite• Pacing• Startle reflex intensified• Suspiciousness• Social withdrawal

Equity in Preparedness

- Communities are living in emergent circumstances, daily
- Expectations vs Reality
 - For both community and government
- What does preparedness means in each community
 - Office of Health Equity resources

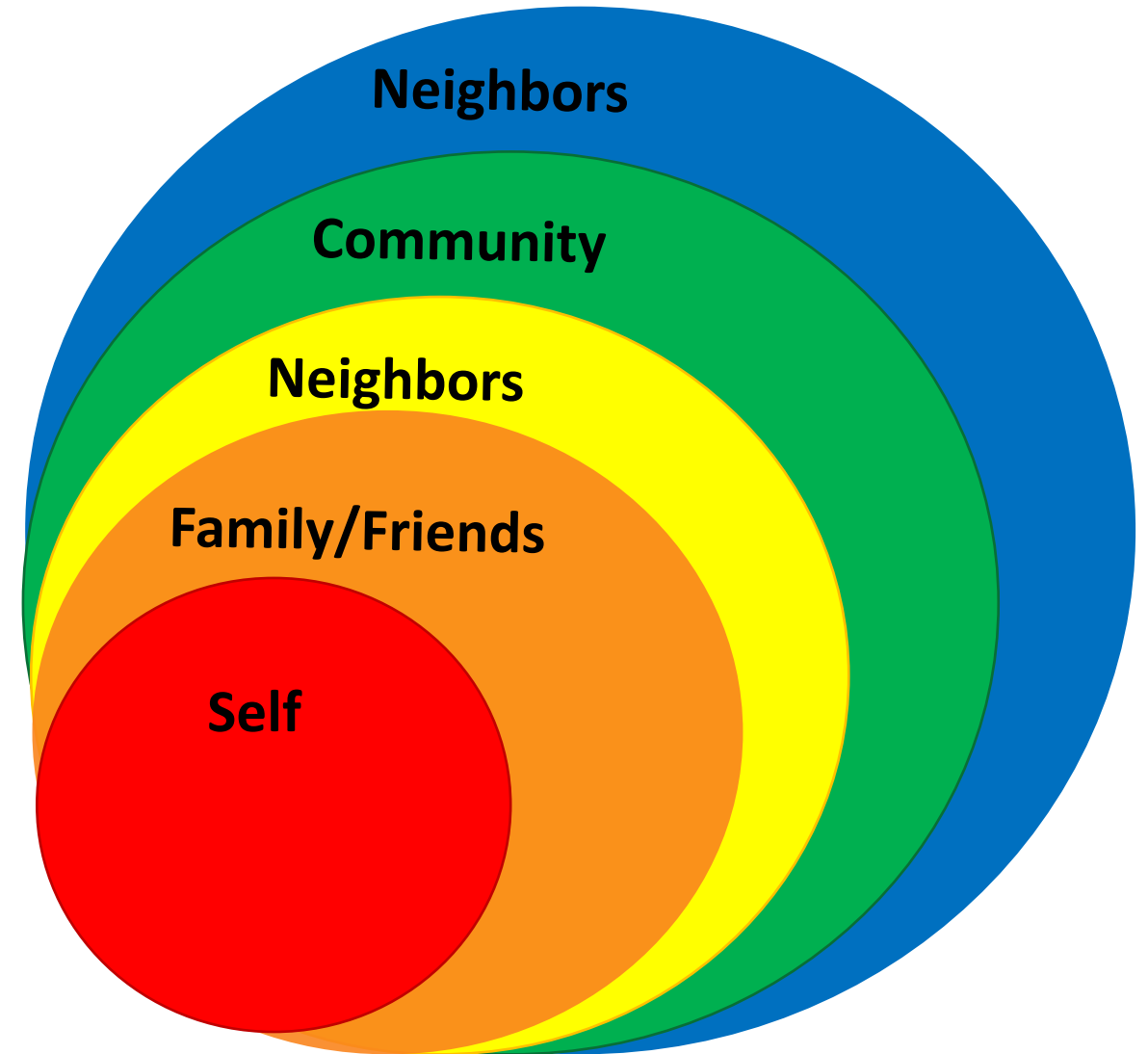


How to help



Circle of Support

Since birth, we have been creating an intricate network of people in our lives; friends and/or family who are there for us in times of trouble, sorrow, and celebration. Those friends take an interest in us and our lives because we share common threads that bind us to one another. This group is called our Circle of Support or Friends. (Davis, 2005)






As professionals...folks working in service of others

- It is on us to know how to provide information to consumers
- We have the power to provide access to information
- Understand where the client is and how their needs may impact their abilities
- This doesn't mean we talk to people during every interaction about preparedness
 - It may not even be the right moment!
 - Alas...
- Can we use the moments of silence, or an intake, or a crisis engagement, or filler conversation, or rapport building...

The assessment is on us

READY, SET, ✓ CHECK!

Get Started with these first steps. As you complete each step, check the box for that step. Share your progress on  or  and you'll be entered for another chance to win a preparedness starter kit! Be sure to include: [#PreparedInPA](#)



Be Informed ready.pa.gov/BeInformed		Be Involved ready.pa.gov/BeInvolved	Be Prepared ready.pa.gov/BePrepared	
<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Know what to prepare for Flooding, tornadoes, landslides, sink holes. Learn about risks in your community.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Talk with those who know Contact your local or county emergency management agency for guides, tips and help.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Help at home Find organizations in your community that are active during disasters and get involved!</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Start with the basics... Create a home fire escape plan and test your smoke alarms. Visit your local fire department for guides and tips.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>then the "Not-As Basics" Prepare for risks that can threaten your safety. Download the ReadyPA Emergency Preparedness Guide to get started.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Be informed when skies are blue... Sign up for the Ready PA Monthly Newsletter</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>and when they're gray. Sign up for weather alerts in your area.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Help your neighbors Local volunteer fire departments need help with ALL skills including newsletters and fund raising. Contact your local fire department to find out.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Safe at home... Pick 3 items from the emergency or "go kit" list to have handy. Update the location of your kit on the back of this card.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>and on the road. Pick three items from the PennDOT travel emergency kit list to have in your car.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Get Social! Follow PA Emergency Management on social media. Check your community website for emergency preparedness information.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>You don't have to live in a flood zone to be at risk Learn your risk of flooding Where it can rain, it can flood.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Be the <u>help</u> until help arrives Take free training provided by FEMA to learn 5 simple steps.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Protect your loved ones... Everyone's needs are unique. Consider additional preparations needed for older adults, younger kids, those who have a disability and pets!</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>and your belongings Homeowners and renters insurance does not cover damage from flood. Talk with an insurance agent to learn about possible lower cost options.</p>

- Thinking about functioning level and what it means for how individuals strengths may aid them.

- Ask – What do you have to bring you comfort? (try to push past technology)

- Who can be your "disaster buddy" or people you can check on?

Know the resources

- Places to get information
 - 211
 - 858-SNOW
 - National Weather Service
- Social Media?
 - Stick to government sights and trust resources
- Supportive warm line?
- Shelters may not be an option!
- What is around and available?
- How can the individual bring all their preparedness items to the place?
- Do you have pets/animals?



Rumors

Thank you and
questions please!