Why do I need to be prepared?
You are the best person to plan for your own safety and needs in an emergency or disaster. This means figuring out how to manage on your own for awhile, like having your own food, water, and other supplies for a few days. Responder and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster, but they cannot reach everyone immediately. It is important to create a personal support network to help out.

Who can help me with my emergency planning?
Your service agency, family, friends and neighbors.

What is a support network?
Friends and neighbors who are close by and can help if in an emergency. It is important to know neighbors and talk to them about your emergency plans and, if they agree, how they can help. Show them how you use assistive and communication devices and where you keep your personal emergency kit.

Should I have a medical alert tag (bracelet) to identify my disability?
Yes. This helps emergency responders, like fire fighters and police, find out quickly what you may need.

Should I practice giving important instructions to rescue workers?
Yes, it helps to give clear and complete information quickly so practicing can make you feel confident.
FEELING SAFE, BEING SAFE
Frequently Asked Questions

How do I get more information?
Ask your city or county emergency information management office about community response plans and emergency shelters.

Many communities ask people with a disability to register, usually with the local fire or police department or emergency management office so help can be provided quickly in an emergency.

Is there a training class to learn about Feeling Safe, Being Safe?
Yes, The Department of Developmental Services offers no cost community trainings. The training shows people how to use the Worksheet, Magnet and create a personalized emergency kit. The training is offered to Providers, Staff, Families and Advocates in the community.

If we sponsor a training, what is our responsibility?
An agency is asked to provide a training space large enough to accommodate up to 25 participants. Agencies are asked to invite community providers, support people and staff.

Are there trainers available?
Yes, DDS CAC has certified trainers throughout the state. If you would like to host a training, please contact DDS at 916-654-1888.