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# Oregon Health Authority

Oregon Inclusive Emergency Planning:

Summary & Next Steps



# Access and Functional Needs

The term “**access and functional needs**” refers to individuals with and without disabilities, who may need additional assistance because of any condition (temporary or permanent) that may limit their ability to act in an emergency. Individuals with “access and functional needs” do not require any kind of diagnosis or specific evaluation. These may include but are not limited to:

- individuals with disabilities,
- individuals with limited English proficiency,
- individuals with limited access to transportation,
- individuals with limited access to financial resources,
- older adults and
- others deemed “at risk” (CDC)

# Dialysis in Oregon

- OHA and CMS regulate dialysis centers, which are required to have emergency preparedness plans.
- OHA often facilitates use of emPOWER data by local emergency response partners. This helps them identify and provide additional support to people with disabilities, including dialysis patients.
- OHA supported emergency staffing needs of private dialysis centers during the delta and omicron surges .
- There are significant issues with dialysis care capacity in the health care system (hospitals, outpatient dialysis facilities and home dialysis) during and following in the wake of the pandemic.

# Dialysis in Oregon

- Though there is no statewide dialysis disaster plan per se. OHA response in COVID demonstrated the all-hazards plans are supportive, but specific state investment in planning may still be needed.
- The state has a mechanism the disabilities community to engage in planning for those with access and functional needs, including dialysis patients.

# Interagency project



- Oregon Health Authority
- ESF-8



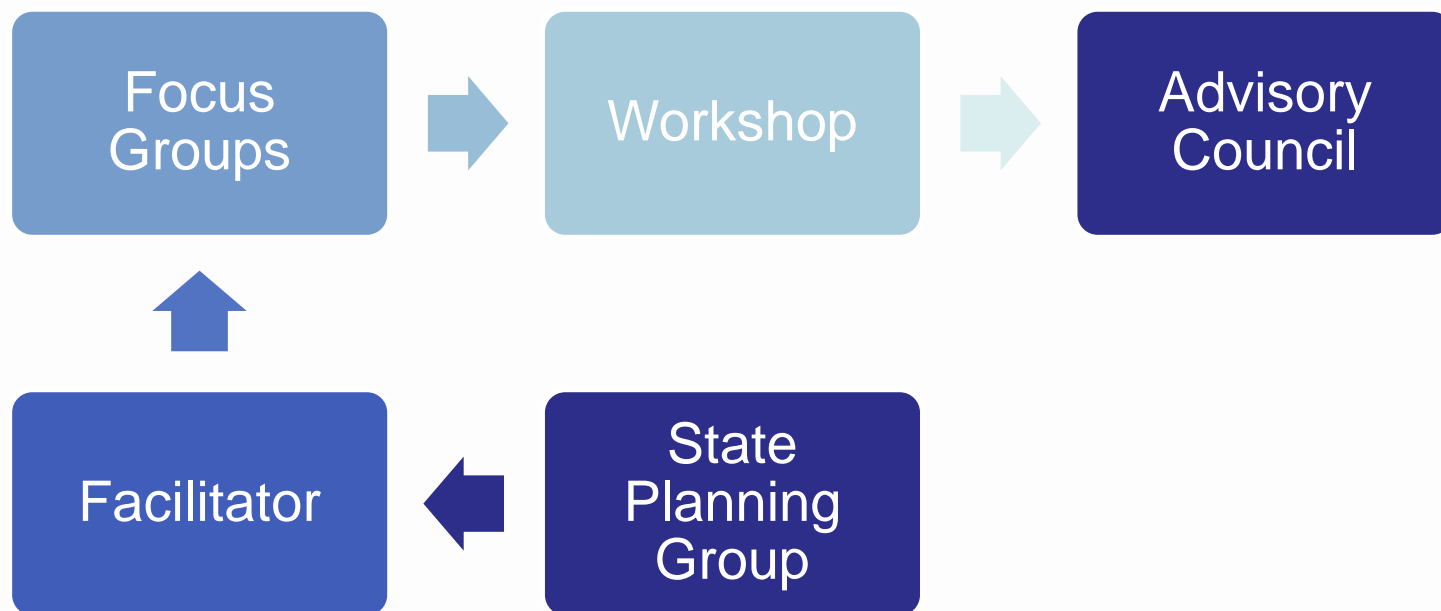
- Department of Human Services
- ESF-6 and ESF-11



- Office of Emergency Management
- Response coordination

(Enter) DEPARTMENT (ALL CAPS)  
(Enter) Division or Office (Mixed Case)

# Planning for a disability advisory council



# Council Participants and Members

## People with Disabilities

- Diverse disability representation
- In-person and remote
- Personal care assistants

## Emergency Management Professionals

- Public health / PHEP
- County and city emergency managers
- OEM, OHA, ODHS
- FEMA (technical support)

## Disability Service Professionals

- Advocates
- Care providers
- Independent living
- Housing
- Human services
- Transportation

# DEMAC Committees

## Communications

Focusing on the flow of information both ways – how information is sent out and how the state gets information about what people need.

## Emergency Response and Recovery

Making sure that emergency managers and anyone else who may be implementing emergency management practices are aware of disability issues.

## Emergency Preparedness

Making sure that people with disabilities are aware of and involved in all preparatory activities.



# Additional tools and resources

There are several recommended tools for the disabilities community and emergency managers to help ensure access and functional needs are met including:

- Pacific ADA offers general preparedness resources for people with disabilities and resources to support emergency planners: <https://adapacific.org/emergency-preparedness-publications-resources>
- Nationally, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is funding the Kidney Community Emergency Response to provide tech assistance to many organizations specifically related to Emergency response for patients receiving dialysis services. <https://www.kcercoalition.com/en/about-us/>
- The National Kidney Foundation has emergency preparedness resources for those with kidney disease: <https://www.kidney.org/search-results?solr-keywords=emergency>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Access and Functional Needs toolkit: [https://www.cdc.gov/cpr/readiness/00\\_docs/CDC\\_Access\\_and\\_Functional\\_Needs\\_Toolkit\\_March2021.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/cpr/readiness/00_docs/CDC_Access_and_Functional_Needs_Toolkit_March2021.pdf)