

# Coalition on Inclusive Emergency Planning (CIEP)

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with the  
Washington State Independent Living Council  
(WASILC)

# Objectives

**Develop** an in-depth understanding of CIEP as a statewide resource for applying best practices on serving the Whole Community.

**Apply** disability rights laws as it relates to Access and Functional Needs before, during, and after disasters.

**Identify** local and state partners, organizations, and community members to collaborate with to ensure inclusive and effective emergency preparedness.

# History

CIEP is a statewide disability advisory group that provides technical advice on inclusive emergency planning.

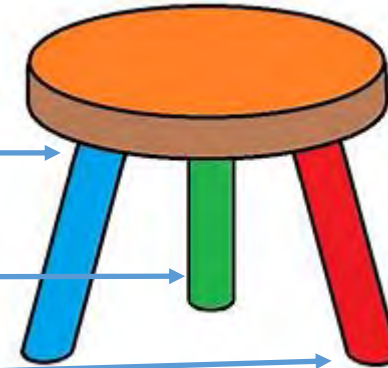
Creating partnerships that work for a more effective quality planning, response, and recovery.

Funded through a federal grant from DOH; first grant began in July 2015. Now in 4<sup>th</sup> year.

# Inclusive Planning

## 3 Pillars of Accessibility:

- Effective Communication Access
- Programmatic Access
- Physical Access



Like a 3-legged stool, each pillar supports the other pillars

# Using the Whole Community Approach

## Access and Functional Needs:

- Communication
- Medical
- Independence
- Security, Support, Self-Determination
- Transportation

# Statistics on Americans with Disabilities

- US Census: 57M people living with a disability in 2010  
<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/miscellaneous/cb12-134.html>
- About 20% of Americans, 48 million, report some degree of hearing disability.  
[http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/news/media/releases/one\\_in\\_five\\_americans\\_has\\_hearing\\_loss](http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/news/media/releases/one_in_five_americans_has_hearing_loss)
- More than one million Americans are legally blind and 12 million have low vision.  
<https://www.cdc.gov/healthcommunication/toolstemplates/entertainment/tips/Blindness.html>
- About 1 in 68 children has been identified with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).  
<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/data.html>
- Approximately 61.6 million individuals, foreign and U.S. born, spoke a language other than English at home ... 41% (25.1 million) were considered Limited English Proficient (LEP). <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/limited-english-proficient-population-united-states>



# Disability Policy Timeline

**1973** – **Rehabilitation Act** as amended requires Federal agencies to make their services and electronic and information technology (EIT) accessible to people with disabilities.

**1990** – **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)** Title II (government) and Title III (public accommodations)

**1988** – **Stafford Act** prohibits discrimination on the basis of disabilities while carrying out disaster relief assistance.

**2000** – **FCC** requires all broadcasters to make TV emergency bulletins accessible visually and aurally

**2004** – **Executive Order 13347** ...strengthen emergency preparedness with respect to individuals with disabilities...

**2006** – **Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act** establishes FEMA Office of Disability Integration and Coordination to lead the agency's efforts to promote inclusiveness in disaster planning, response, and recovery. Also **Executive Order 13407** ...include in [IPAWS] the capability to alert and warn all Americans, including those with disabilities and those without an understanding of the English language...

**2010** – **Communications and Video Accessibility Act (CVAA)** requires advanced telecom equipment to be accessible. Emergency Access Subcommittee recommends Text-to-911 as an interim measure to restore direct access by text to 911.

**2017** – **SB-5046** WA Governor requires all state and local emergency agencies to submit plans on how they will inform people who don't read/speak English during emergencies – ASL included.

# Why Inclusion of People with Disabilities

Planning for and not with people with disabilities reflects an old paradigm “a lot about us without us.”

Today it is

**“Nothing about us without us!”**



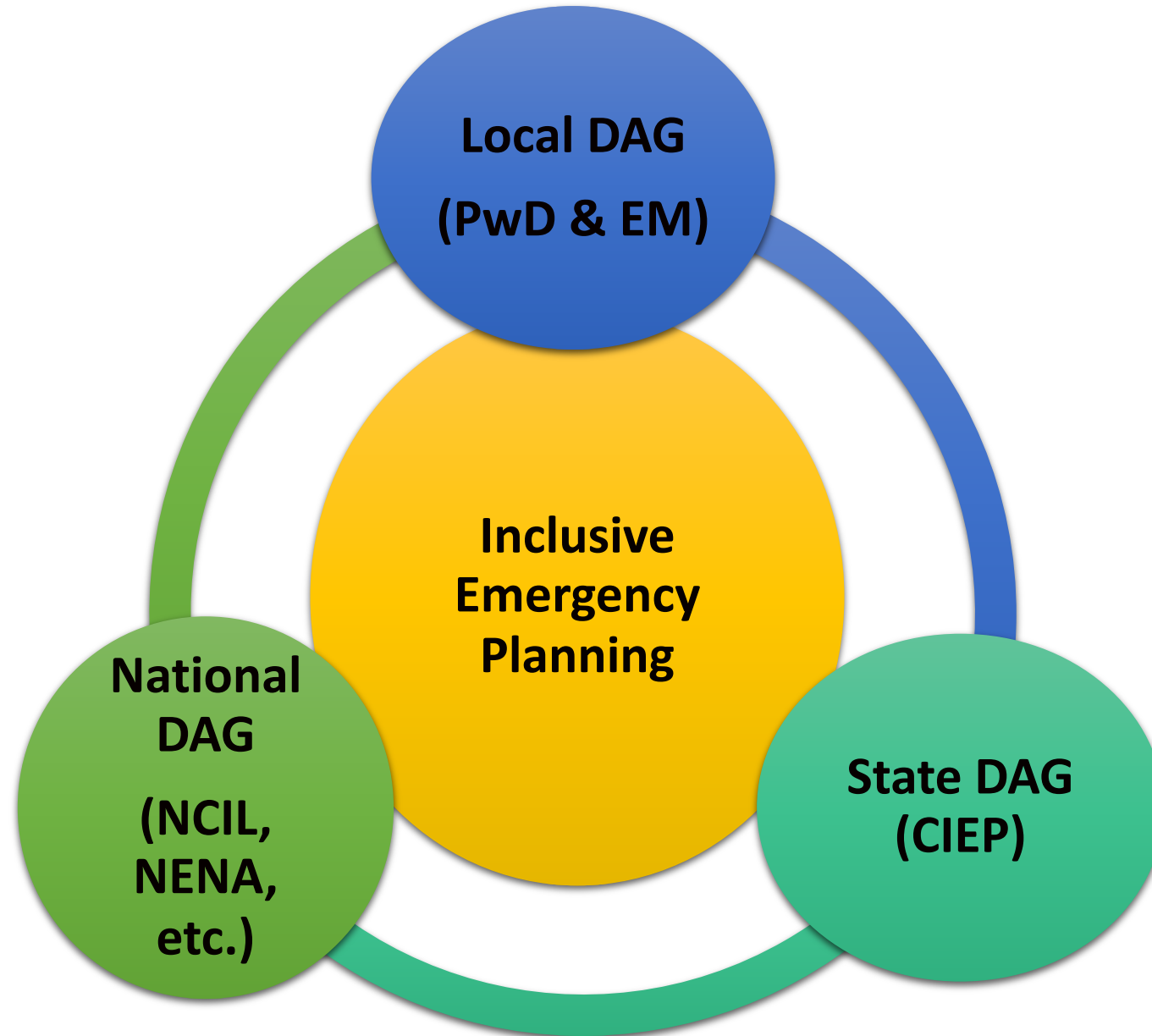
# Why Inclusion of People with Disabilities

- Knowledge of services, resources and supports (difference between service and advocacy)
- It is important to include people with disabilities as contributors and collaborators
- Qualified advisors who understand and can think through issues from disability, access, functional needs and universal design perspectives.
- Are connected to and actively involved with segments of national, state or local constituencies of disability communities.

# People with Disabilities are Subject Matter Experts

- Knowledge of services, resources and supports (difference between service and advocacy)
- It is important to include people with various disabilities as contributors and collaborators
- Qualified advisors who understand and can think through issues from disability, access and functional needs, and universal design perspectives.
- CIEP can help make connections and expertise

# Disability Advisory Groups



# CIEP Disability Partners in Washington

- American Red Cross
- Disability Rights Washington
- Northwest ADA Center
- Regional Alliance for Resilient and Equitable Transportation
- Washington Department of Health
- Washington Centers for Independent Living
- Washington Department of Social & Human Services
- Washington Office for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Washington State Assistive Tech – Reuse programs
- Washington State Services for the Blind
- and more...

# State Disaster Disability Integration Manager Role

- Immediate disability resource identification, contact and advice
- Shelter accessibility collaboration with Functional Assessment Service Teams (FAST)
- Technical assistance to (but not limited to) emergency management organization for their Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for review/development on inclusion of Access and Functional Needs
- Reaches into short-term and long-term community recovery efforts

# Key Components

- Integration - Emergency programs, services, and activities typically must be provided in an integrated setting.
- Program Modifications - modifications to rules, policies, practices, and procedures necessary to provide people with disabilities equal access to emergency programs and services.
- No Charge - People with disabilities cannot be charged for modifications or accommodations

## Steady State

- Agency Preparedness
- Individual Preparedness
- Inclusive Emergency Planning



## CIEP Operation in a Disaster & Recovery

- First Phase: Relationships
- Second Phase: Situational Awareness via exchange of primary and secondary information
- Third Phase: Operational organization: Roles and responsibilities in:
  - response
  - recovery
  - long term recovery



# Operation in a Disaster & Recovery: Identifying Resources

- People
- Funding
- ADA legal expertise
- Accessibility expertise
- Connect Dots – Reach higher
- Knowledge of Durable Medical Equipment
- Knowledge of Assistive Tech
- Telecommunication Relay Service Information
- Disability Cultural Awareness
- Technical Assistance on services and programs for people with disabilities
- Information & Referral

# ESF-8 Inclusive Public Health Considerations

- Ensure plans are available for people to help meet mental health needs related to the disaster, including effective communication via interpreters, captioning, and assistive listening technology.
- Coordinate plans and activities with local Public Health Directors and Public Health Response Coordinators (PHRCs) to ensure full community inclusion in disaster response planning
- Coordinate with local organizations like Alzheimer's Association or Foundation, aging groups, ARC, Centers for Independent Living, deaf centers, homeless advocates, Disabled American Veterans (DAV), Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), Veterans Administration (VA), etc., to identify available supports and services
- Collaborate with public and private health and mental health agencies to ensure full community inclusion in disaster response planning
- Pre-identification and planning for people who depend on electricity such as those with airway diseases, e.g., senior centers and veterans centers
- Include individuals with disabilities and/or disability support and service providers with local jurisdictions to ensure full inclusion in all plans to address whole community access and alternatives

# ESF-6 Mass Care Considerations

- Ensure consideration of appropriate supports for individuals who may be hospitalized or were placed in nursing homes but lived independently or with personal care assistance or personal care services (PCA/PCS) services prior to disaster
- Ensure ARC, state and local agencies are aware of services available through disability provider networks
- Engage and embed VAL and VOAD partners with the disability community for collaborative efforts in meeting unmet needs and to identify resources and plans for meeting needs
- Feeding-availability of special diets, tube feedings, formulas, etc.
- Accessible shelters with Generators, Personal Care Assistances, Service Animals, Bariatric equipment, accessible cots, FEMA FNSS guidance
- Access to and shelter storage for medications, DME and CMS
- Maintain awareness of shelter status to assist or effect referral to disabilities partners in identifying needs, resources and services
- Link FEMA, state, local, VOADs and disability Partners to collaborate quickly and effectively and help meet needs of all survivors

# Individual Preparedness

- Preparedness planning needs to be very specific and individualized
- Identify abilities
- Identify areas where further planning needs to occur
  - What would this look like in an emergency?
  - What resources are needed?

# Individual Preparedness Resources

## **Individual Planning:**

<https://www.ready.gov/individuals-access-functional-needs>

## **Earthquake:**

[http://www.shakeout.org/centralus/downloads/ShakeOut\\_mobility\\_impairments.pdf](http://www.shakeout.org/centralus/downloads/ShakeOut_mobility_impairments.pdf)

## **Partners and Local Resources:**

Alliance of People with disAbilities: <http://disabilitypride.org/wordpress/>

Center for Independence: <http://www.centerforindependence.org/>

Central WA Disability Rights: <http://mycwndr.org/home.html>

Spokane Center for Independent Living: <http://scilwa.org/>

Disability Action Center NW: <http://dacnw.org/>

Hearing, Speech & Deaf Centers [www.hsdcc.org](http://www.hsdcc.org) (Puget Sound)

Tilikum Deaf Centers <https://www.tilikum.agency/> (Southern & Eastern Washington)

# Best Practices



- **Before an emergency**

- Recruit & engage local subject matter experts with disabilities in CERT training, planning, development, etc.
- Require or encourage local businesses that have public TV sets to display captioning during business hours.
- Upgrade technology to take advantage of new and emerging accessibility features.

- **During or after an emergency**

- Remember to consider readability and comprehension when composing text and graphics
- Frame qualified deaf interpreters with officials in the video during televised press conferences
- Provide honest feedback to providers and offer solutions if possible

# Contact Information

## Join CIEP Today

- Jim House, Disability Integration Manager
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- Washington State Independent Living Council (WASILC)
- (360) 339-7435 Office
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- (360) 407-3899 Fax
- [housej@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:housej@dshs.wa.gov)
- <http://www.wasilc.org/InclusiveEmergencyPreparedness.html>

