

# Visual Disabilities

## BEFORE A DISASTER HAPPENS...

Keep extra canes (if you use them) in secure and consistent locations at home, work, school, or anyplace you spend a lot of time in so that you can get around obstacles and hazards if you need to.

Place security lights around travel paths if you have some vision.

Think about how you will navigate without audio cues, which you might not be able to rely on during or after a disaster.

Label supplies with large print, fluorescent tape, or Braille so that you can access items easily.

Secure special equipment such as electronic magnifiers or computers.

Remind news outlets to not only show important phone numbers on screen during an emergency, but to announce them slowly and repeat them for people who cannot read the screen.

## ITEMS TO ADD TO EMERGENCY KITS

- Big Print Address Book
- Book light
- Cell phone magnifier
- Extra batteries, alternate power source or charging system
- Extra glasses
- Have high-powered flashlights with wide beams and extra batteries
- Liquid Level Indicator
- Magnifiers
- Mark your disaster supplies with fluorescent tape, large print or Braille
- Signature guide
- Talking watch
- Talking clock/calendar

## GUIDANCE FOR EMERGENCY PROFILE

- Include your name as it appears on your most current medical file.
- Make secure copies of your important documents- do NOT place original documents in ANY of your emergency kits
- Storage of documents- if you can, store your documents electronically, either on a cloud server, or a secured thumb drive.
- Consider multiple thumb drives- to give to your personal network.
- Thumb drives can be password protected.
- Keep your password(s) available in your wallet, or other place that you may know, but most people would not.
- United Policy Holders has an app that will allow you to take photos of your home, and its contents, and store them on their cloud. If you have the ability to utilize their app, it is built to assist you with navigating insurance needs during an emergency or when making a claim.

## DOCUMENTS TO INCLUDE IN YOUR KIT(S)

- Marriage License/Divorce paperwork
- Any legal documents with specific instructions (restraining orders, child support, legal directives, etc)
- Insurance information- Home, vehicle, and any others you may have- also include a phone number for your insurance agent.
- A piece of mail with your current address on it-preferably a utility bill
- Lease, mortgage and/or rental agreements for your home or your property
- Prescriptions, doctors note and/or any supporting medical paperwork that may aid you in receiving needed assistance.
- Preferred hospital, primary care information, home health provider contact information, medical equipment contact, etc.
- Veterinary care information for your pet/service animal.
- Tax information from one year prior
- Hard Maps, with routes marked for exit out of your community. Two or more exit routes is ideal.
- Any important contacts within your Personal Support Network that you may need to access if your phone is unavailable.