

Deaf or Hard of Hearing

BEFORE A DISASTER HAPPENS...

- Store hearing aids in the same secure place consistently so that you can locate them easily during an emergency.
- If possible, keep an extra hearing aid in your emergency supply kits.
- Store extra batteries for hearing aids or implants in your emergency supply kits. Install both audible and visible smoke alarms in your home.
- Decide how you will communicate with emergency personnel if there are no interpreters available, or if your hearing aids are not available/operational.
- Carry a pre-printed card that reads “I speak American Sign Language.”
- Periodically remind TV stations that they must broadcast all emergency information in open caption format and have interpreters on camera.
- When traveling, make sure hotels have access packets for people who are Deaf or hard of hearing. Ask for them when you check in.

DISABILITY SPECIFIC CHECKLIST

- Store and maintain extra hearing aids and batteries.
- Install both audible and visual smoke alarms.
- Write down key phrases for emergency workers.

ITEMS TO ADD TO EMERGENCY KITS

- Paper and pens
- Cell phone amplifier
- Extra hearing aid batteries
- Portable phone amplifier
- Vibrating watch
- Dry erase board
- Extra cochlear implant batteries
- Extra power cord for your smart phone or pager
- Amplification systems – pocket talker
- Alternate power source or charging system for your smart phone or pager



Consider getting a weather radio with a visual/text display that warns of weather emergencies