Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Be Prepared in 2015

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Objective

- Faith Community Nurses and Health Ministers will have a starting point, toolkit, to aid them in developing programs and providing education for their congregants and communities.
- Faith Community Nurses and Health Ministers will build on their resource list and reference materials used to educate their congregants and communities.

Emergency

What is an emergency?

- An unexpected event that poses a threat to health, life, or property
- An event that requires immediate action to stabilize the situation or individual and reduce negative outcome

Disaster

What is a disaster?

- A catastrophic event, especially one occurring suddenly and causing great loss of life, damage, or hardship, as a flood, airplane crash, or business failure.
- Natural disasters such as earthquakes, fires, thunderstorms, flooding, and drought.
- Man-made disaster including gas-pipe explosions, terrorist attacks, and chemical leakage from oil refineries (water poisoning and air pollution).

Why prepare

Preparing for emergencies or disaster can mean survival for you and your family.

You and your loved one may be spared fear, anxiety and loss during an emergency or disaster.

How to Prepare

- Get Informed
- Make a Plan
- Get a Kit

Be informed

- Learn the types of emergencies or disasters that are likely in your area
- Agencies such as the American Red Cross, <u>www.redcross.org/prepare/</u>, and the Federal Emergency Management, http://www.ready.gov/,
- Provide information on warning mechanisms and resources in you area
- Know the numbers for emergency assistance in your area (usually 911)
- Keep a list of family contact numbers

Make a plan

- The entire family, faith community need to know what to do during an emergency or disaster.
 - Meeting place in your neighborhood and outside your neighborhood
 - Establish a evacuation plan from your home and area
 - How you will communicate with family and friends in your area and outside of your area

Make a kit

- Gather and maintain a kit of items needed if you must leave your home or community
- Your survival kit should be easy to carry
- Contain at least 3 day supply if you must leave home and a 2 week supply if you must remain in your home
- For a list of recommended items: American Red Cross,

www.redcross.org/prepare or www.Ready.gov/build-a-kit

Resources

- American Red Cross http://www.redcross.org/?&MSG=InvZip
- Church Safety
 - http://www.churchsafety.com/downloads/cs64.pdf
 - http://churchexecutive.com/archives/top-four-tips-for-starting-a-disaster-shelter-at-your-church
- The Federal Emergency Management Agency http://www.ready.gov/
- ► The Salvation Army http://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/www_usn_2.nsf
- Ready.gov www.ready.gov