

Fall 2021



CIEP ALERT

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AFN STILL STRONG AS CR-22 SCALED BACK

Cascadia Rising 2022 (CR-22), the National Level Exercise scheduled for next June has been revised. CR-22 was originally planned as a full-scale operational exercise in a hypothetical response to a possible 9.0M mega-quake off the Pacific Coast. CR-22 was to pick up on the following day after Cascadia Rising 2016 (CR-16), a previous operational exercise left off six years ago. The After Action Report for CR-16 by Washington Emergency Management Division (EMD) said nothing about people with disabilities or other Access and Functional Needs (AFN), but recommended that there needs to be better inter-agency coordination among those involved in Mass Care, Emergency Support Function #6 or ESF-6. CIEP was one of many observers in CR-16.

Fast forward to 2021. As we plan for CR-22, we found that because of Washington State's ongoing COVID-19 response and personnel changes at EMD, this exercise is being redesigned as a tabletop discussion focusing on two major issues: Critical Transportation and Mass Care. For Critical Transportation, the WA State Dept. of Transportation needs to restore priority routes to expedite evacuations and to bring in emergency supplies. This helps to fulfill a critical need for people with some disabilities who depend on access to medical equipment and services. The Mass Care workgroup consists of state agencies and other community organizations that work together to provide mass care, emergency assistance, temporary housing, and human services to support the delivery of life-sustaining assistance to disaster survivors.

The scenario for CR-22 begins on the fifth day after the earthquake. Communication networks have been restored. Some but not all the priority routes have reopened to emergency traffic carrying survivors and goods to community shelters. In the real world, we now have the ShakeAlert! Earthquake Warning System that went live in Washington State earlier this year.

Thanks to the many partnerships that CIEP has developed over the years since CR-16, the awareness surrounding AFN now has a prominent place in EMD planning groups where volunteers from the American Red Cross, other state, tribal, and local partners learn how to adapt and accommodate marginalized communities through best practices in AFN.



Pacific Northwest Seismograph Network scientists assess damage following the Nisqually earthquake in 2001.

Prepare for Floods

Floods are the most common and widespread of all natural disasters. If you live in an area where floods occur, you should know the following.

What to do before a flood

- Plan for evacuation including where you are going to go and the route you will follow.
- Prepare your home for a flood. Call your local building department or office of emergency management for information.
- Purchase flood insurance.
- Keep all insurance policies and a list of valuable items in a safe place.
- Take photos or a videotape of the valuables you keep in your home.
- Listen to your radio or television for reports of flood danger.
- Keep your car filled with gas.

What to do during a flood

- **Do not** try to walk or drive through flooded areas. Water can be deeper than it appears and water levels rise quickly. Follow official emergency evacuation routes. If your car stalls in floodwater, get out quickly and move to higher ground.
- Stay away from moving water; moving water six inches deep can sweep you off your feet. Cars are easily swept away in just two feet of water.
- Stay away from disaster areas unless authorities ask for volunteers.
- Stay away from downed power lines.
- If your home is flooded, turn the utilities off until emergency officials tell you it is safe to turn them on. Do not pump the basement out until floodwater recedes. Avoid weakened floors, walls and rooftops.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and clean water if you come in contact with floodwaters.

What to do after a flood

- Wear gloves and boots when cleaning up.
- Open all doors and windows. Use fans if possible to air out the building.
- Wash all clothes and linens in hot water.
- Discard mattresses and stuffed furniture. They can't be adequately cleaned.
- Wash dirt and mud from walls, counters and hard surfaced floors with soap and water. Disinfect by wiping surfaces with a solution of one cup bleach per gallon of water.
- Discard all food that has come into contact with floodwater. Canned food is alright, but thoroughly wash the can before opening.
- If your well is flooded, your tap water is probably unsafe. If you have public water, the health department will let you know—through radio and television—if your water is not safe to drink. Until your water is safe, use clean bottled water.
- Learn how to purify water. If you have a well, learn how to decontaminate it.
- Do not use your septic system when water is standing on the ground around it. The ground below will not absorb water from sinks or toilets. When the soil has dried, it is probably safe to again use your septic system.



ACCESS & FUNCTIONAL NEEDS RESOURCES

[WA Emergency Management Division—Access & Functional Needs](#)

[WA Emergency Management Division—Disaster Ready Washington](#)

[WA Emergency Management Division—Alert & Notification Warnings](#) listed by County

[WA State Local Emergency Management Agencies](#) listed by County

[WA State Local Health Jurisdictions \(LHJs\)](#) listed by City/County

[WA State Department of Ecology – Emergency Planning Committees](#) listed by County

[The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies](#)

[CDC Disability and Health Emergency Preparedness](#)

[COVID-19 Accessible Resources Home | Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation](#)

[Inclusive Emergency Lifelines | Wireless Inclusive RERC | Georgia Institute of Technology](#)

[Individuals with Disabilities | Ready.gov](#)

[Disaster_Preparedness_for_Seniors-English.revised_7-09.pdf \(redcross.org\)](#)

[Must-Have Emergency Supplies for Babies and Young Children - WeHaveKids](#)

[Pet Disaster Preparedness | ASPCA](#)

NEW: [FEMA | PHE Functional Needs Support Services Guidance](#)

NEW: [HHS | TRACIE Topic Collection: Access and Functional Needs](#)

NEW: [Disabilities or Access and Functional Needs | DisasterAssistance.gov](#)

NEW: [CDC Access and Functional Needs Toolkit](#)

More Flooding Resources:

- [When flooding is in the forecast. Climate change makes floods more... | A blog by Washington State Department of Health \(DOH\)| Nov, 2021 | Medium](#)
- [Flood Preparation for Individuals with Access & Functional Needs | FEMA \(Contractor\)](#)
- [Flood Cleanup | DOH](#)
- [Toilet Use During Emergencies | DOH](#)
- [Flood Safety Tips | NCEH | CDC](#)
- [Septic Systems - What to Do after the Flood | EPA](#)
- [Flood Safety - | National Weather Service \(pdf\)](#)



WASILC Solidarity Statement

The Washington State Independent Living Council (WASILC) stands in solidarity with the Black Community and all Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities. We fully support the Black Lives Matter movement and condemn systemic racism, oppression, and injustice. Achieving our mission requires us to educate and advocate for systemic changes for all people with disabilities, which includes the intersectionality of race and disability. We recommit to this vital work and will hold ourselves accountable to become better allies. We know we cannot elevate the disability community without elevating the BIPOC communities we serve.

About CIEP

CIEP is a statewide advisory group that brings expertise into disaster planning based on access and functional needs (AFN) faced by people with disabilities in three areas: 1) Effective communications, 2) Programmatic Access, and 3) Physical Access. We welcome any suggestions for future issues of the quarterly **CIEP ALERT** newsletter. Past issues since 2018 are available at <https://www.wasilc.org/newsletter>.

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COMING EVENTS

CIEP Stakeholder Calls (Response to COVID-19 and other Disasters)

WHEN: First Wednesday every month at 10am until further notice.

WHERE: Email Jim.House@dshs.wa.gov for details. [12/1/21 Zoom](#)

Note: All CIEP Stakeholder calls are held on the first Wednesday of each month from 10am to 11am. [Here is the Zoom link for 2022.](#)



Washington State Independent Living Council (WASILC) Quarterly Meetings

WHEN: Thursday, January 20, 2022 10:00am - 2:45pm

WHERE: [Zoom](#) — Email WASILC@dshs.wa.gov or call 360.725.3693 for more information.

Note: Due to the status of WASILC's COVID-19 ongoing response, this Quarterly Meeting will be held virtually. The finalized meeting agenda will be announced soon.

All CIEP Stakeholder Calls and WASILC Quarterly Meetings are virtual until further notice and open to everyone. ASL interpreters and CART will be provided. For other reasonable accommodation requests, please contact us through either email as early as possible prior to the meeting to ensure availability.