

Disaster Preparedness for Parents with Disabilities

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FOR SOCIAL POLICY
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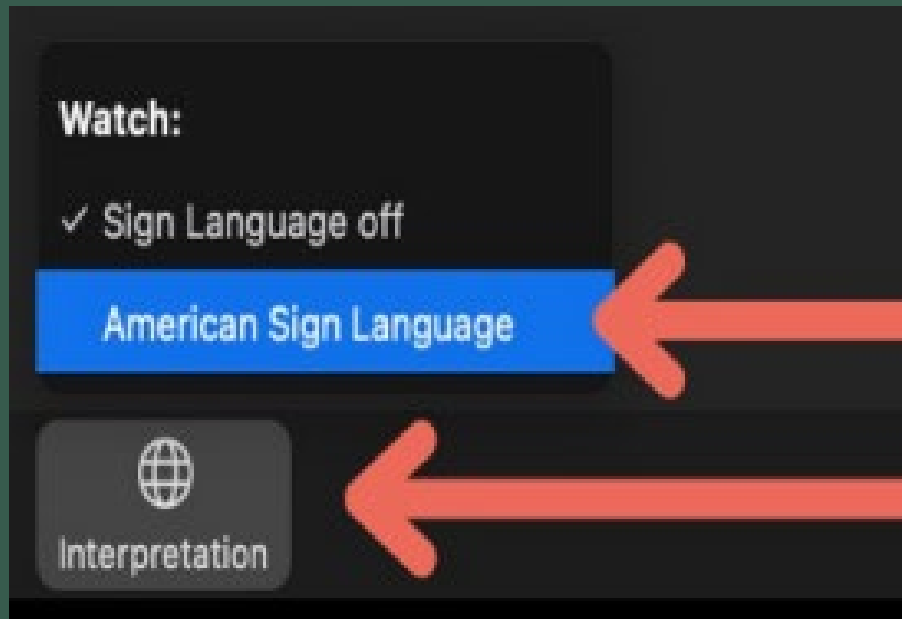


National Research Center for
Parents with Disabilities

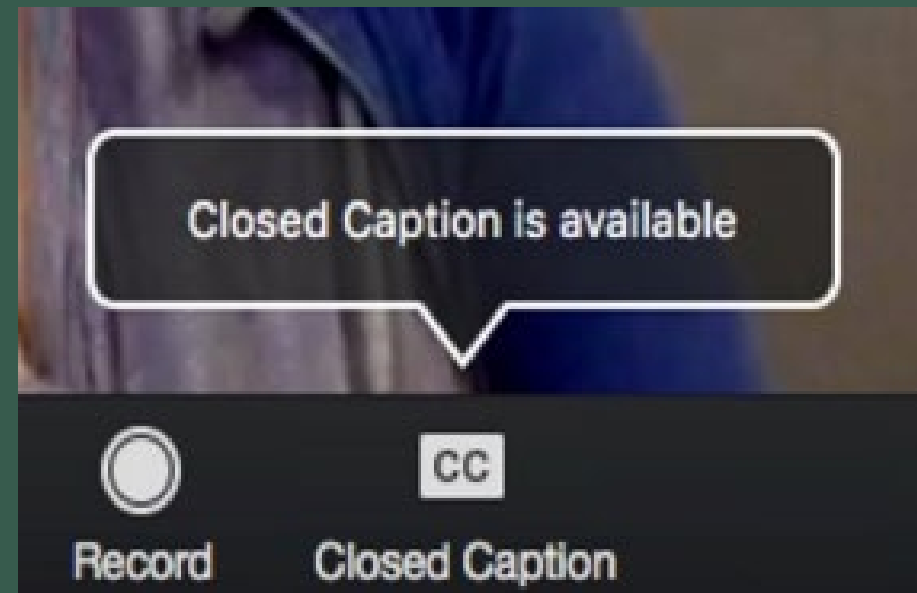
Centro Nacional de Investigación para
Padres con Discapacidades

Accessibility

ASL & Spanish



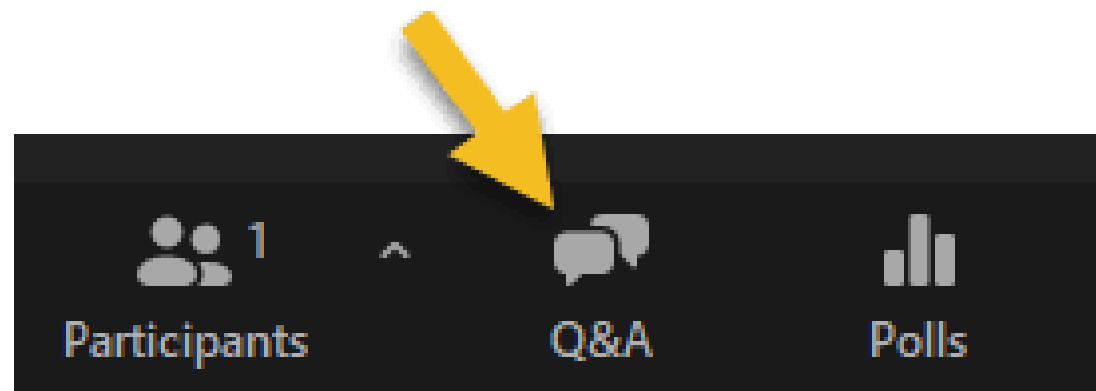
Zoom Closed Captions



Using the Q&A Function

Please use the Q&A function (not the Chat) to ask questions.

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The National Research Center for Parents with Disabilities: About Us

The National Research Center for Parents with Disabilities is a cross-disability initiative guided by the ethos of the disability community, “**nothing about us without us.**” Through trainings, research, and advocacy, the Center provides information and support for parents with disabilities and their families. The Center is part of the Lurie Institute for Disability Policy at Brandeis University, and is supported by the National Institute for Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research.

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Who are Disabled Parents?

- About 7% of parents are disabled. 1 in 10 children in the US have a parent with a disability
- Are disproportionately impacted by disasters and are more likely to live in disaster-prone areas
- Are more likely to have child welfare involvement, and more likely to experience TPR than non-disabled parents



Panelists



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Learn More/Contact Us



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THE PARTNERSHIP
FOR INCLUSIVE DISASTER STRATEGIES

Disabled Parents Ready for Disasters

— www.disasterstrategies.org —

Who We Are: The Partnership

The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies is the only U.S. disability-led organization with a focused mission on equity for people with disabilities and people with access and functional needs throughout all planning, programs, services and procedures before, during and after disasters and emergencies.

Your Disability & Disaster Hub

**Civil rights of people with
disabilities are never
suspended, including
during disasters!**

Laws that Protect People with Disabilities

Some laws protect disabled adults and children during disasters and every day:

- The Rehabilitation Act, Section 504
- The Americans with Disabilities Act

Disaster Programs and Services Can't Discriminate Against Disabled People

Programs and services include:

- Planning meetings
- Early emergency alerts
- Transportation
- Shelters
- Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs)
- Exercises and drills

Equal Access to Disaster-Related Programs and Services

Some of your legal protections include:

- Accessible notifications about disasters and during evacuation
- Physically accessible disaster-related services including shelters, disaster recovery centers, mp points of distribution (PODS), and transportation when it is offered to others

Legal Protections, continued

- Effective communication if you have a speech language or hearing disability including sign language interpreters, tactile interpreters, and material in accessible format
- Modification to policies and practices including, admitting service animals, providing quiet space, and offering specific diets

Your Rights as a Disabled Parent

The government can't take away your children on the basis of disaster.

Resource: [Rights of Parents with Disabilities \(ADA\)](#)

Disability Preparedness

🤔 Think about equipment

- Wheelchair, walker, white cane, hearing aids, speech device, breathing machines, any adaptive childcare equipment

🤔 Think through what needs power to function?

What other supplies do you need to maintain your independence?

- Urinary and/or bowel supplies, wound care supplies, gloves, wipes, trach supplies, child or adult diapers/briefs

What needs power to function – your and/or your power wheelchair/scooter, hearing aid batteries, breathing machines, refrigerator to keep meds like insulin cold

Disability Preparedness, continued

What are your and/or your child's communication needs?

- ASL, using a communication device, plain language, large print, braille, etc.

What is your communication plan if you are unable to communicate during a disaster?

- Communication board, support network, paper and pen

**How will you communicate with
your circle of support?**

Who is part of your support network (friends, family, neighbors, members of your place of worship)?

Do you have their contact information (name, phone numbers, maybe their address)?

Building Your Emergency Kit

Important reminders:

- Check on and update your supplies (as needed) every six months
 - Consider updating beginning of winter and start of summer
- Keep your kit in a cool, dry place, out of direct sunlight

Go Bags

Items you need when you evacuate:

- Important documents, like children's birth certificates
- Medication
- Food, water
- Clothing
- Books, coloring books & crayons, puzzles
- Weighted blankets, other comfort objects

Disaster Tips for Parents with Disabilities

- Know your rights.
- Engage your children and other family members in planning.
- Work with a support network.
- Plan transportation for evacuations and routes you will take.
- Don't forget a go bag for your service animals. Include food, water, bowls, any medications or supplements, extra leash or harness.



THE PARTNERSHIP
FOR INCLUSIVE DISASTER STRATEGIES

Thank you!

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Backup Power Devices

Devices that store power for when power is out:

- Solar-powered phone and other small device chargers
- Backup batteries
- Flash lights with extra batteries
- Battery-operated lanterns
- Car inverter may be able to charge power wheelchairs and scooters

Generators as a Backup Power Source

Generators:

- Are not a panacea
- Cannot be used in apartments
- Can be dangerous when not properly used
- Are not affordable for many people

Types of Generators: Portable Generators

Portable generators: Powered by gasoline, propane, or diesel.

Pros:

- Less expensive
- Can be acquired after a disaster

Cons:

- Can be dangerous if not properly operated
- Smaller and only restore limited power
- Can be noisy and have noxious fumes
- Must be refueled

Types of Generators: Whole-House Generators

Pros:

- Safer
- Power a larger area
- Quieter
- No noxious fumes

Cons:

- More expensive