

EMERGENCY PLANNING

FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTHCARE NEEDS

All children have unique needs during an emergency. For some children, preparedness planning is often more complicated. It is important to consider the needs of children with complex healthcare needs in a disaster or emergency.

!!! BE INFORMED

- Talk with your child's primary care provider about your child's needs in a disaster or emergency. Consider asking the following questions:
 - If power fails, how will I keep my child's refrigerated medications cool?
 - Can I get an emergency supply of medications for my child?
 - If our back-up power fails, where can we go?
- Pay close attention to evacuation alerts from local authorities.

BE PREPARED

- Build an emergency kit!

You don't have to have everything in your kit right away. Start with the things you have on hand and add new items to your kit over time.
- Write down your "talking points" about your child's disability/needs to share with first responders or shelter staff.

MAKE A PLAN

- Talk with your family about what can happen in disasters.
 - Register for emergency alerts in your county!
 - Consider registering to let first responders know your child may need additional help during an evacuation due to mobility, hearing speech or other issues.
- Create an emergency preparedness plan for your child to share with your child's caregivers, primary care provider and school.
- Have information on our child's specific medical conditions in one place. Keep a copy in your child's readiness kit, your care and give to others who care for your child.

Follow us on social media for more emergency preparedness tips!



Learn more by visiting: <https://www.cdhd.wa.gov/health/children-and-youth-with-special-health-care-needs>

Always Working For A Safer And Healthier Community

