FEMA Hosts Meetings to Help People With Disabilities Cope with Disasters

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GUAYNABO, Puerto Rico – During the month of August 2018, FEMA's Core Advisory Group Disability Integration Team will host seven briefings across Puerto Rico. These briefings will identify issues and barriers and develop strategies for promoting inclusion and integration throughout all phases of emergency management.

The goal of the Core Advisory Group is to promote inclusive emergency management by encouraging collaboration and partnership among members of the whole community including, disability agencies and organizations and emergency managers.

Participants will include nonprofits, service providers, caregivers, persons with disabilities, emergency managers, first responders and community leaders who will collaborate to provide equal services to people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs.

The Core Advisory Group concept was developed two years ago, led by FEMA's Disability Integration unit in collaboration with FEMA's Caribbean Area Division. FEMA will launch this initiative in Puerto Rico with briefings in August.

The sessions, which are open to the public, will run from 9 a.m. to noon. Here is the schedule.

Aug. 14

FEMA Branch IV field office, 2040 Ave. Rafael Cordero Santiago, Ponce, 00716

Aug. 15-16



Page 1 of 3

FEMA Distribution Center (Nestlé), PR-1, km 25.3, San Juan, 00926

Aug. 17

Inter-American University, Parque Batey Central, Calle Unión PR-195, Fajardo, 00738

Aug. 20

FEMA Distribution Center (Nestlé), PR-1, km 25.3, San Juan, 00926 Aug. 21

Universidad de Puerto Rico Arecibo, Ave. Carr. 653 km. 0.8 Sector Las Dunas, Arecibo 00614

Aug. 22

FEMA Branch I, Aguadilla Mall, Ave. Los Corazones, PR-2, km 126, Aguadilla, 00603

For information, please contact Evelyn Medina, evelyn.medina@fema.dhs.gov or 202-286-1470 and Lourdes Cabrera, Lourdes.cabrera@fema.dhs.gov, 787-296-3525.

If you need a reasonable accommodation such as American Sign Language, interpreters, braille, large print, or any other accommodation please email <u>FEMA-CAGs-PR@fema.dhs.gov</u>.

For more information on hurricane season preparedness, visit fema.gov/disaster/4339/hurricane-preparedness.

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Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-FEMA (3362) 711/VRS - Video Relay Service). Multilingual operators are available. (Press 2 for Spanish). TTY call 800-462-7585.



Page 2 of 3

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Page 3 of 3

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