

FAST

- **Functional**
- **Assessment**
- **Service**
- **Team**

Department of Homeland Security Course Approval (CA-049-REST)

Introduction

- California's Efforts to meet the sheltering needs of all populations
- Functional Assessment Service Teams (FAST) description
- Current status of FAST project and next steps
- Questions and Answers

Background

- People with Disabilities and the Elderly (PWD/E) project
- Lessons from Katrina / 2007 California Wildfires
- Key stakeholders / project participants
- Outcomes:
 - ✓ PWD/E Annex to Care and Shelter Plan
 - ✓ FAST

Common problem -
disability is often
viewed through
medical eyes

Assessment



**“...it would have been nice to have
‘someone’ local provide a list of
resources in the area, rather than
taking staff many hours on
phones trying to find equipment.”**

FAST can help shelter personnel distinguish between people who need assistance in maintaining their health, medical stability & mobility, from those who need medical help.

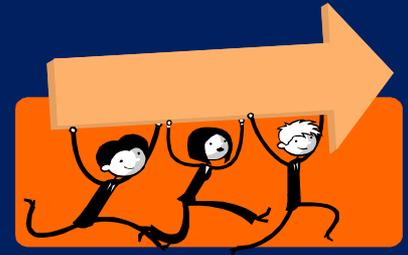
FAST



- Corps of trained government employees & CBO/NGO/FBO personnel
- Deployed as shelters open & work until no longer needed
- Cover several shelters & may also work in Disaster Assistance Centers (DACs)
- In depth knowledge of populations they serve, their cultures, & service networks.
- Each FAST has a Leader

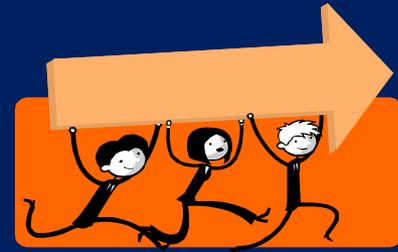
FAST Experience

- **Members have combined experience in:**
 - **Mental Health**
 - **Hearing & visual disabilities**
 - **Developmental Disabilities**
 - **Physical Disabilities**



FAST Experience

- **Members have combined experience in:**
 - **Cognitive Disabilities /Traumatic Brain Injury**
 - **Aging Services**
 - **Substance abuse**
 - **Nurse (able to dispense prescription medications & address infectious disease control issues)**



FAST Duties

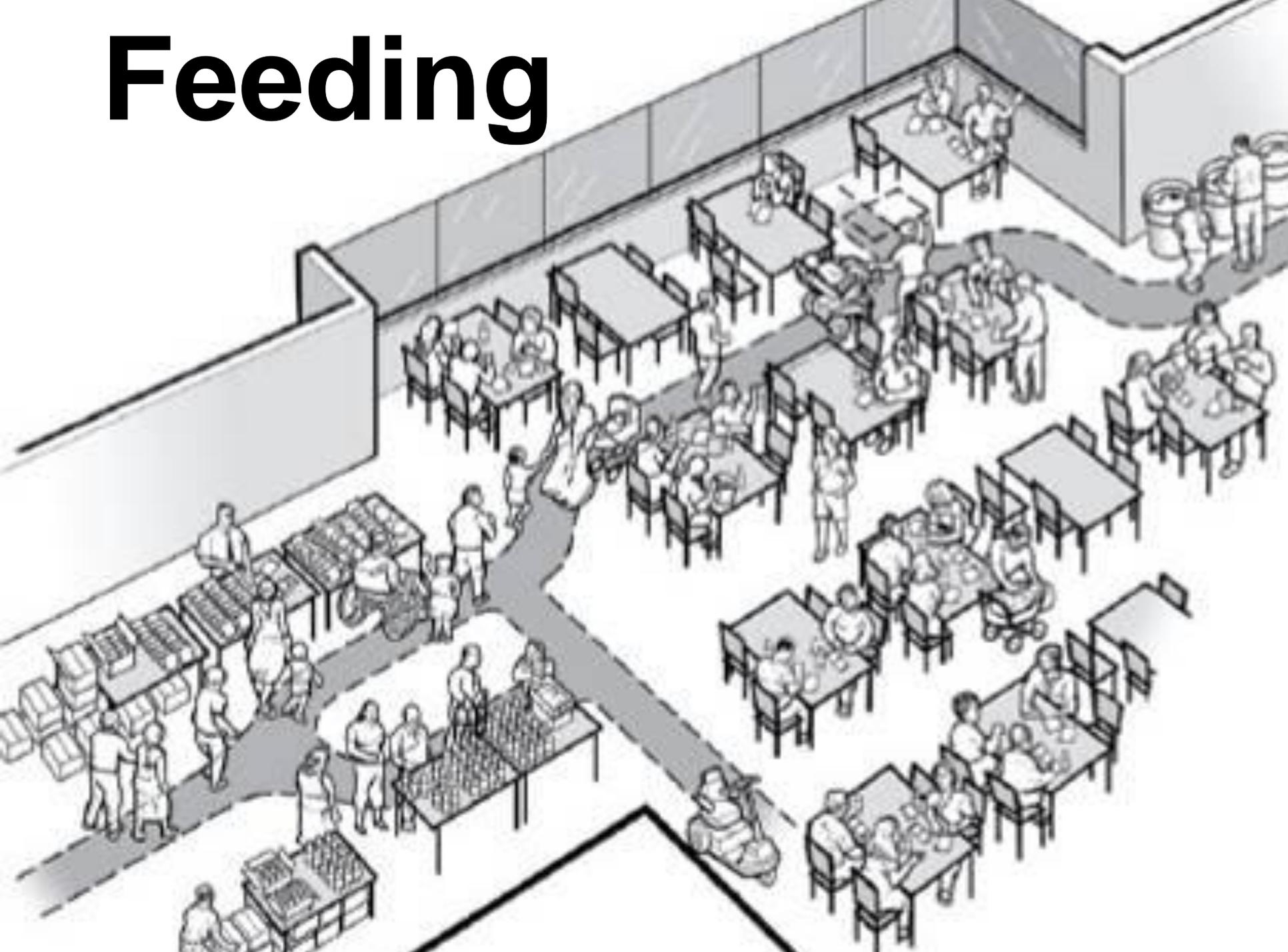


- **Conduct a functional assessment after arrival at shelter to identify & track functional needs that can be supported such as:**
 - **Personal Assistants (PAs),**
 - **Durable medical equipment (DME),**
 - **Consumable medical supplies (CMS), &**
 - **Essential medications**
 - **Communication access**

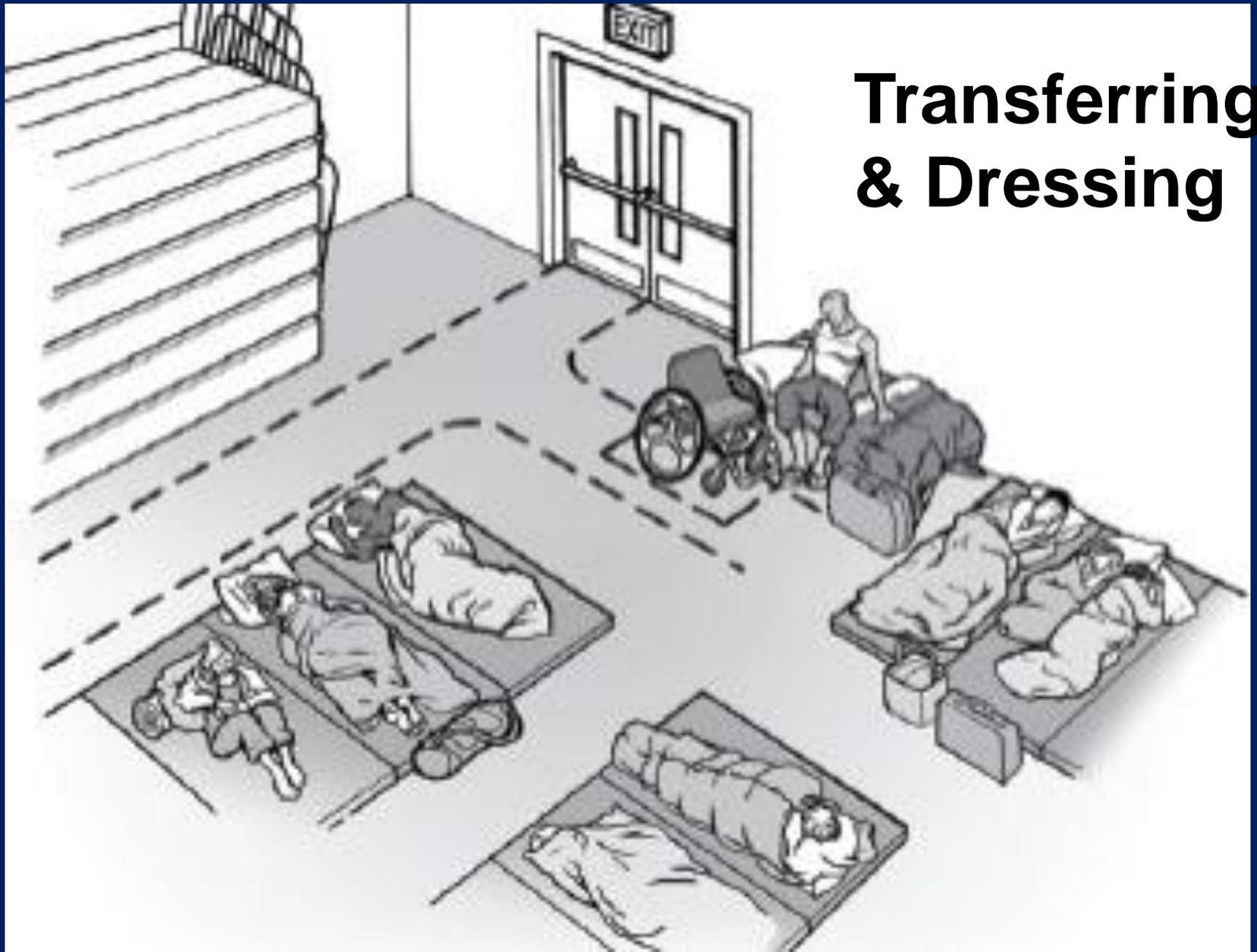
Personal Assistants (PAs)

**Volunteers or Homecare Providers
partnered with individuals needing
assistance with:**

Feeding



Transferring & Dressing



PA's

- **Toileting**
- **Lifting**
- **Completing forms**
- **Other duties**



Functional Assessment Service Team

- Independent Living Center
- Public Authority (IHSS/Personal Assistance)
- County Mental Health
- Dept. of Rehabilitation
- Dept. of Social Services



Shelter Needs/Issues

- First priority is to determine evacuees personal needs.
- There is minimal planning/preparedness for sheltering people with disabilities.
- Evacuees with disabilities need non-medical personal assistance in the shelter and motels.

- Universal/Accessible cots needs to be incorporated with general allocation.
- Durable Medical Equipment (DME) needs to be incorporated with other medical supplies.
- Medical staff must accept responsibility for refrigerating evacuee's medications for the first few days.

➤ Criteria:

- Height – 17 – 19” (without the mattress)
- Width – minimum 27”
- Weight capacity – 350+ pounds
- Flexible head and feet positions
- Rails, if any, must be positioned, or moveable, in such a way to allow for wheelchair access.
- No IV pole.









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Equipment/Devices Needed

- Wheelchairs (multiple types)
- Walking Canes
- White Canes for the Blind
- Walkers
- Shower Chairs
- Toilet Chairs
- Raised Toilet Seats
- TTY's
- Wireless Communication
- Interpreter Boards
- Magnifiers

Current Status

- Four training sessions held so far, three more scheduled this year
- State deployment processes completed
- Planning with counties underway
- Strong relationships built with local government and non-governmental partners

Next Steps

- Identification Cards
- Background checks
- Credentialing
- Exercise - Golden Guardian 2010
- Additional planning and training leading to FAST in counties throughout California

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