We want to partner with you!

As a team we can prepare Kitsap's Vulnerable Population for any disaster

1. Join our Vulnerable Population Committee (meetings are held twice a year).
2. Contact our office for help. We have trained staff that will meet with you at your facility to help develop your emergency plan.
3. Let us conduct a hazard hunt at your workplace. Together we can not only find the hazard but teach you how to mitigate the hazard.
4. Sign up for KCDEM's Alert and Warning Program to get emergency notifications and monthly preparedness tips: www.kitsapdem.org (look for this logo).

Sign Up For Alert & Warning Program

Kitsap County 2009/10 Vulnerable Population Planning Steering Committee

- Abiding Home Care
- Angel Advocates
- Comfort Keepers
- Communitas
- Gentiva
- Kitsap County Area Agency on Aging
- Kitsap County Department of Emergency Management
- Kitsap County Health District
- Kitsap Home Care Services
- Kitsap Mental Health
- Kitsap Immigrant Assistance Center

KCDEM
Kitsap County Department of Emergency Management

911 Carver St. • Bremerton, WA 98312 • 360.307.5870
www.kitsapdem.org • e-mail: dem@kitsapdem.org

Planning for Kitsap County's Vulnerable Population

KCDEM
Kitsap County Department of Emergency Management

Are You Prepared?

Because you are the expert in working with your vulnerable clients, your organization has an important role when disaster strikes.

Kitsap County Emergency Management needs you to:

- Return to work after disaster strikes.
- Develop a system to assure your clients are OK, before, during, and after a disaster.
- Plan jointly with Emergency Management to develop plans and procedures to be in communication with us during the disaster. You are not alone!

Who Is Vulnerable?

At-risk or hard to reach individuals that may require specialized communications and/or transportation during an emergency. Specifically they are:

- Older adults or young children
- Economically disadvantaged
- Reliant on public transportation
- Isolated by culture or religion
- Living in or attending licensed facilities
- Limited in English proficiency
- People with disabilities
- Sensory impairment

For more information, please visit our website:
www.kitsapdem.org

History

For many years, Kitsap County Emergency Management (KCDEM) has been working with vulnerable population providers to assure that together we can provide basic human services to all no matter how devastating the disaster. Since Hurricane Katrina, Kitsap County has identified the need to do more robust preparations and here is what we did.

- In early 2007, the Kitsap County Health Care Coalition was formed to address the areas' medical needs during and following a catastrophic event.
- In late 2008, KCDEM partnered with Kitsap County Area Agency on Aging to assist in preparing providers who serve the vulnerable population to take care of themselves and their clients.
- And most recently, 35 organizations who serve the vulnerable came together to begin developing the "Vulnerable Population Emergency Preparedness Plan".

The Vision:

By working collaboratively with community partners, Kitsap County's initiative ensures that no one group is more impacted than another in an emergency.

The Goal:

- To assure access to preparedness, response and recovery information and services for the most vulnerable and hardest-to-reach residents in Kitsap County.
- To be achieved through developing mutually respectful relationships with vulnerable populations and the organizations that serve them.

Preparedness Steps for Your Organization

1. Develop an emergency plan.
2. Prepare your employees for any hazard that may impact Kitsap County.
3. Assign each employee an emergency role.
4. Prepare clients to be as self sufficient as possible.
5. Prepare clients, to the best of their ability, for any emergency or disaster that may impact Kitsap County.
6. Develop the capability to ensure the safety of your clients.