



The Intellectual
and Developmental
Disabilities Council
of Tarrant County

Welcome!

Disaster and Emergency Preparedness

Presented by Justin Cox, Cassandra Davila, Tabettha Kwasnica, Grace
Ramazani, and Sandra Youngblood
North Central Texas Council of Governments

March 6, 2024

To transform the region into an inclusive community where individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) thrive.

Disaster and Emergency Preparedness

North Central Texas Council of Governments
Community Resilience Team

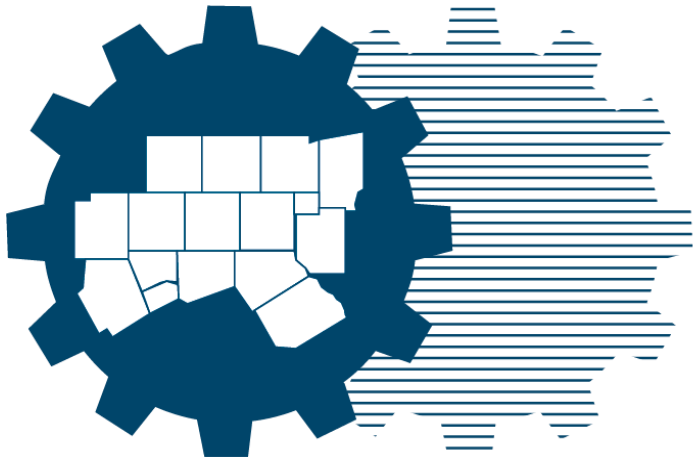
Justin Cox, Cassandra Davila, Tabettha Kwasnica,
Grace Ramazani, Sandra Youngblood

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Agenda

- NCTCOG
- Community Resilience Project
- KnoWhat2Do
- Severe Weather
- Emergency Plans and Kits
- Resources
- City & County Emergency Notification Programs
- Q/A



North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)

Introduction to North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)

Regional Planning Organization

NCTCOG facilitates collaboration among over 230 local governments, addressing regional challenges through integrated approaches in transportation, environmental issues, and emergency preparedness, ultimately enhancing community resilience and safety across North Central Texas.



NCTCOG Emergency Preparedness Department: Mission and Responsibilities

Strengthening Community Resilience



NCTCOG's mission emphasizes enhancing community resilience through coordinated emergency management efforts, ensuring that local governments are equipped to handle various hazards effectively and efficiently.

Comprehensive Resource Development



The department focuses on creating and distributing essential resources, including training programs and educational materials, to support local jurisdictions in their emergency preparedness initiatives.

Emergency Preparedness Campaigns



NCTCOG leads campaigns to raise public awareness about emergency preparedness, empowering residents with knowledge and tools to protect themselves and their families during disasters.



2024 Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP)

*Enhancing Disaster Preparedness & Community
Resilience*

Why This Project Matters

Escalating Threats:

- North Texas has experienced COVID-19, Hurricanes Harvey & Laura, Winter Storm Uri, severe storms, and wildfires.
- Disasters are becoming more frequent and more severe.

Vulnerable Communities:

- The region includes 1,351 census tracts identified as disadvantaged via the Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool.
- These communities face compounded risks: economic challenges, limited healthcare access, language barriers, and inadequate emergency resources.



RCPGP Overview: Three Years / Three Phases

Phase I – Awareness & Preparedness:

- Enhance Public Outreach:
 - Update the “KnoWhat2Do” campaign with new videos, brochures, and digital materials that detail local threats and climate impacts
- Begin Developing Communication Tools:
 - Create a Language Access Toolkit to ensure critical emergency information is accessible to non-English speakers and other vulnerable groups
- Establish a Regional Planning Group:
 - Bring together emergency managers, community leaders, and VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster) partners to coordinate training and information sharing

Phase II – Strengthening Emergency Response Plans:

- Equity & Risk Assessment:
 - Conduct detailed community surveys to identify specific evacuation needs and assess current insurance coverage gaps

RCPGP Overview: Three Years / Three Phases

Phase II – Strengthening Emergency Response Plans continued:

- Plan Enhancements:
 - Revise and update emergency response and evacuation plans to incorporate survey findings, ensuring plans are inclusive and equitable
- Regional Table-Top Exercises
 - Conduct table-top exercises to highlight areas prone to disaster impacts and to focus on the needs of vulnerable populations

Phase III – Community Resilience Workshop:

- Two-Day Workshop:
 - Host a comprehensive workshop for community leaders, emergency responders, and key stakeholders
- Sharing Best Practices:
 - Present deliverables from Phases I and II, discuss challenges, and align on best practices to improve regional disaster resilience



North Central Texas Regional Community Resilience Project

Enhancing lasting partnerships through preparedness and collaboration.



Enhanced Resiliency

Strengthened region's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters

Phase
03

Strengthen Emergency Plans

Identify Gaps in Response and Evacuation Plans

- Create new resources

Bringing it All Together

Community Resilience Workshop (2 days)

- Highlight best practices, lessons learned, and continual readiness

Phase
02

Raise Awareness

Utilize Whole Community Approach

- Training sessions, workshops, community events

Phase
01



KnoWhat2Do

KnoWhat2Do Program Overview



www.KnoWhat2Do.com

Think.Prepare.Act.

www.KnoWhat2Do.com

Collaboration of our North Central Region

- Preparedness Program
- Promotes Think, Prepare, and Act strategies
- Promotes whole community emergency preparedness
- Protect your personal safety and the safety around you
- Educates users to prepare themselves
 - Severe Weather
 - Local Hazards
 - See Something, Say Something
 - Epidemics/Pandemics

KnoWhat2 Do



[www. KnoWhat2Do.com](http://www.KnoWhat2Do.com)

AL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OR VISITING THEIR WEBSITE.

KnoWhat2Do

menu

+
make a
PLAN



DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?

YOU ARE YOUR OWN BEST PROTECTION

SEVERE WEATHER

LOCAL HAZARDS

SEE SOMETHING. SAY
SOMETHING!

EPIDEMICS/PANDEMIC

FIND OUT ABOUT LOCAL ALERTS AND WARNINGS



close



ver sitio en ESPAÑOL

SEVERE WEATHER

STORMS | FLOODS | HEAT, DROUGHT & WILDFIRE | WINTER WEATHER

MASS VIOLENCE

SEE SOMETHING. SAY SOMETHING. | TERRORISM | SHOOTING

LOCAL HAZARDS

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS | HOUSE FIRES | CARBON MONOXIDE | GASWELLS & PIPELINES | HOLIDAY SAFETY | MANAGING A POWER OUTAGE

EPIDEMICS & PANDEMICS

SAFETY PLANS

EMERGENCY PLAN | EMERGENCY KIT | EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN | PEOPLE WITH FUNCTIONAL NEEDS | PETS & LIVESTOCK | DISASTER RECOVERY

RESOURCES

VIDEO GALLERY | BE INFORMED | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT | RESOURCES | CONTACT

FIND OUT ABOUT LOCAL ALERTS AND WARNINGS BY CONTACTING YOUR LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OR VISITING THEIR WEBSITE.

KnoWhat2Do

menu


make a
PLAN



PEOPLE WITH FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

PLACEMENT

DESIGNATE

Keep support items in a designated place so they can be found quickly

HELP

INCLUDE

Caretakers should be included in the planning process

PLAN

ALTERNATIVE

Provide the power company with a list of all power-dependent life-support equipment and plan for an alternate power source in advance

SUPPLY

FOOD

Create an adequate emergency food supply for those with special dietary needs



Severe Weather

FIND OUT ABOUT LOCAL ALERTS AND WARNINGS

close

make a
PLAN



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SEVERE WEATHER

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RESOURCES

VIDEO GALLERY | BE INFORMED | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT | RESOURCES | CONTACT

Severe Thunderstorms

- Emergency Terms
 - Severe Thunderstorm **Watch**
 - Favorable conditions for the development of severe thunderstorms
 - Severe Thunderstorm **Warning**
 - Issued when a severe thunderstorm is detected. National Weather Service defines a severe thunderstorm as one that produces **58** mph winds or stronger and/or hail one inch in diameter or larger
- Protective Actions
 - Seek shelter inside a sturdy building and stay away from windows

Difference Between Thunderstorm Watch and Thunderstorm Warning



Thunderstorm Watch

It's an alert given by the weather forecasting team to the public, so they could prepare themselves in advance for extreme conditions.



Thunderstorm Warning

It's a warning issued when a thunderstorm has been seen already and emergency action needs to be taken.

Severe Winter Weather

- Emergency Terms:
 - Winter Storm Watch
 - Conditions favorable for heavy sleet, ice, heavy snow
 - Winter Storm Warning
 - Significant winter weather to include snow, ice, sleet
 - Black Ice
 - Cold rain droplets forming clear ice on roadways, creating slick conditions
- Protective Actions:
 - Winterize your vehicle at the beginning of the season Keep spare blankets and provisions in your vehicle in case you get stranded
 - Wear several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing instead of one heavy layer of clothing



Extreme Heat

- Emergency Terms:
 - Extreme Heat Watch – Be Prepared!
 - Issued when conditions are favorable for an excessive heat event in 24-72 hours
 - Extreme Heat Warning – Take Action!
 - Issued when temperature is expected to be 105° or higher for 2 consecutive days
 - Heat Advisory – Take Action!
 - Issued when temperature is expected to be 103° or higher for 2 consecutive days
- Protective Actions
 - Drink plenty of water
 - Limit sun exposure and stay inside during the warmest hours
 - Protect face
 - Muscle pains & spasms are first indicator of heat exhaustion
 - Heatstroke, potentially life-threatening, heat-related problem



Tornadoes

- Emergency Terms
 - Tornado Watch
 - Conditions favorable to form, remain alert/monitor weather
 - Tornado Warning
 - Tornado has been spotted. Take **immediate ACTION!**
- Protective Actions
 - Seek shelter if a tornado is imminent or in progress
 - Know your designated shelter location for your home or work location
- Tornado Shelter Characteristics
 - Basement or ground floors
 - If underground shelter is unavailable, move to an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor
 - Make sure to stay away from windows
 - Lower-level interior bathrooms provide good protection

TORNADO SAFETY



Tornado Watch - Tornadoes are possible in the area you live in. Listen to the radio or watch the television for updates. Be prepared to move to safety.

Tornado Warning - A tornado has either been spotted by Doppler radar or one is on the ground. You should find shelter immediately!



During a Tornado -

- Go to a basement
- If there is no basement, go to a room in the center of the building, on the lowest floor, with no windows. (A bathroom or closet if possible.)
- Get under the sturdiest piece of furniture if you can.
- If you are in a mobile home, GET OUT! (There is little protection there.)
- Do NOT try to outrun a tornado in a car. It is safer to get out of it and leave it to seek shelter.
- If you are outside, go to a low lying area, like a ditch, and lie down flat.
- Do NOT go near fallen power lines or damaged areas from the tornado.



www.cloudsandpelicans.com

Floods

- Emergency Terms

- Flash Flood Watch

- Current or developing conditions that are favorable for a flash flooding; not certain or imminent

- Flash Flood Warning:

- Flash flooding is imminent or already occurring

- Protective Actions

- TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN!
 - **SIX** inches of fast-moving water holds enough power to knock over an adult
 - **TWO** feet of water can carry away most vehicles
 - Avoid areas that are flooded or prone to flash flooding during heavy thunderstorms





YOUR LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OR VISITING THEIR WEBSITE.

KnoWhat2Do

menu

+
make a
PLAN



DO YOU HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED?



MAKE A PLAN

BUILD A KIT

Emergency Plans & Emergency Kits

Reminder: When disaster strikes, city services may be cut off and local disaster relief and government responders may not be able to reach you

- Emergency Plans

- Having an emergency plan in place can aid while you wait
- A little preparation could protect your life and the lives of those around you
- Emergency plans include:
 - Information on household members
 - Pets
 - Meeting places for each hazard
 - Emergency numbers

- Emergency Kits

- Pack supplies in a duffle, storage container that is easy to access
- Emergency kits include:

Water	Radio
First Aid Kit	Maps
Food	Flashlight
Personal Items	Cash
Medications and medical supplies	



Resources

Texas Ready

- Texas Ready is a website with emergency preparedness information on natural disasters
- There is information on how to build a disaster supply kit, things to consider when planning, and tips on how to stay



**Are you
#TexasReady?**

Texas Ready



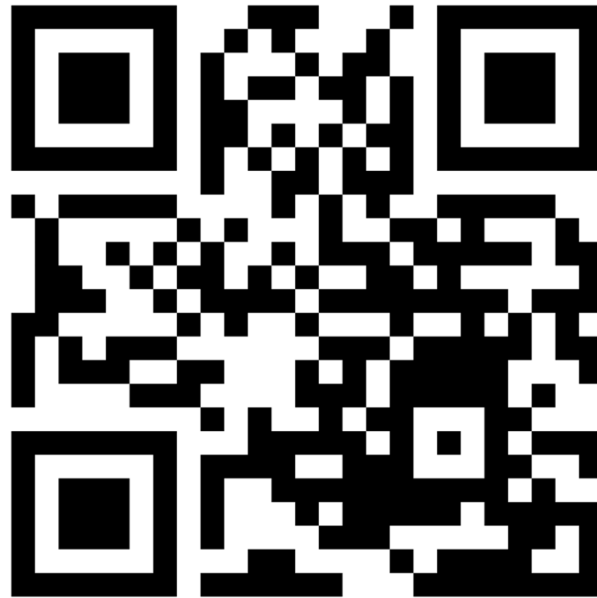
[Texas Ready](#)

STEAR

- The **State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR)** program is designed for residents that may need assistance during an emergency
- Registering in STEAR DOES **NOT** guarantee you will receive a specific service during emergencies



STEAR



[STEAR](http://www.stear.be)

ONCOR'S CHRONIC CONDITION AND CRITICAL CARE

- Oncor residents can apply to be designated as a Critical Care Customer or a Chronic Condition Customer
- This **DOES NOT** guarantee that the power supply will not be interrupted
- Applications must be submitted by a physician



ONCOR CHRONIC CONDITION, CRITICAL CARE



[CHRONIC CONDITION, CRITICAL CARE, CRITICAL LOAD](#)

The background features two large, stylized, curved lines. One line, on the left, is composed of several overlapping layers in shades of green and blue, curving upwards from the bottom left towards the top center. Another similar line is on the right, curving upwards from the bottom right towards the top right. The text is centered between these two decorative elements.

City & County Emergency Notification Programs



Fort Worth

Code Red & Accessible Hazard Alert System

- Fort Worth uses CodeRED Mobile Alerts to keep residents informed of emergencies in the City
- Fort Worth has partnered with Deaf Link to provide accessible emergency alerts for the residents



Code Red & Accessible Hazard Alert System



[CodeRED Mobile Alerts –
Welcome to the City of Fort
Worth](#)



[Accessible Hazard Alert
System- AHAS](#)

Outdoor Warning System

- The outdoor warning sirens (OWS) are designed to alert the community of dangerous outdoor conditions
- Monthly testings happen the first Wednesday of the month at 1 PM





Tarrant County

Health Alert Network (HAN)

- Tarrant County's official Health and Safety Notification System
- Accurate actionable information when local disasters or emergencies occur
- Customizable to the alerts you wish to receive and how you wish to receive them



Health Alert Network (HAN)



[Tarrant County Public Health-Health
Alert Network \(HAN\) - Sign Up](#)



[Tarrant County Health Alert
Network-Website](#)



Q&A



Thank You

Contact Information

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meet & greet



Take this opportunity to introduce yourself to new faces in the room.

- ❖ Who are you?
- ❖ How can you assist?
- ❖ What do you need assistance with?

WELCOME 2025 NEW/RENEWED MEMBERS

- Shelly Lemman
- Iris Tule
- Erin Fogarty
- Melissa Dupree
- Steve Brooks
- Whitney Dragon
- **Premier Partner:** Cook Children's Medical Center
- *Your Name/Organization Belongs Here*

Welcome

www.IDDCouncil.org/join-us



Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Council of Tarrant County

WWW.IDDCOUNCIL.ORG/JOIN-US

All IDD Council members have access to monthly meetings, job fairs, transition fairs, and access to information and resources via our monthly newsletter, social media, and IDD Council website.

ANNUAL BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO MEMBERS

\$5000+ (ALL BENEFITS FROM \$2500 LEVEL, PLUS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING):	\$2500+ (ALL BENEFITS FROM \$1000 LEVEL, PLUS CHOOSE 1):	\$1000+ (ALL BENEFITS FROM \$500 LEVEL, PLUS CHOOSE 2):
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logo with link on website, ability to put our logo on their website with prior approval • Keynote speaker at Celebrating YOU Employer Recognition luncheon OR another premier event • Access to the benefits of the individual membership level for all families/employees affiliated with your organization • Guest feature (e.g., ad, article, profile) in an issue of the IDD Council newsletter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization's name on IDD Council website • Tailored 1-hour training for your organization's staff or stakeholders (CEUs may be offered for an additional fee) • Present at a Caregiver Education session • Recognition in all IDD Council publications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly social media posts (1 image of your choice) • Speaker spot at a monthly membership meeting • Request of a custom topic for a Caregiver Education session; priority selection over non-member and non-custom requests • Recognition in select IDD Council publications
\$500+ (ALL BENEFITS FROM \$250 LEVEL, PLUS CHOOSE 2):	\$250+ (ALL BENEFITS FROM \$25 LEVEL, PLUS CHOOSE 2):	\$25 INDIVIDUAL MEMBER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banner with logo at all 4 Making Connections Disability Resource Fairs OR at April Cool's Day • Organizational info table at Sensory Santa • Permission to distribute information at events (e.g., in bags, or at the doorway) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizational info table at one* of the following events: April Cool's Day, CapeAbilities Job Fair, a Caregiver Education session, OR a Making Connections event • Choose 1 topic for a monthly Caregiver Education session from a pre-set list of topics. Priority selection over non-member requests <p>* May select two organizational table events as benefit option.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free training (non-CEU) • Collaboration and networking among agencies, caregivers, and other advocates • Recognition of membership on website and newsletter • Access to members-only portal with a resource directory and video/audio recordings of select presentations

...additional customized benefits available a-la-carte to meet your organization's needs!

CEUs may be offered for an additional fee at individual events.

Members at all levels will receive a discount on CEUs.



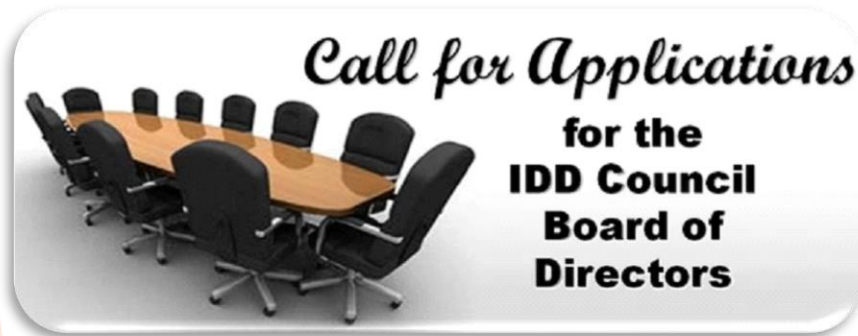
Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Council of Tarrant County

Join a Committee

- ❖ **COMMUNICATIONS & PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE:** The Committee is responsible for identifying and scheduling topics of interest for Council events and helps to create and distribute information important to members of the Council and community through written and electronic media. Meets hybrid as needed.
- ❖ **SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE:** Calling all party planners and entertainers! Help us identify and plan programs that add value to the community, advocates and creates awareness of IDD. This committee selects speakers, locations and topics for special events. Special Events currently include CapeAbilities Job Fair, April Cools Day, Sensory Santa and Making Connections resource fairs. The committee is looking for parents, providers, community leaders and event planners to join us in finding and creating new opportunities. Meets hybrid as needed.
- ❖ **TRANSITION COMMITTEE:** develops strategies that support families and students in schools and secondary education and provides educators the opportunity to collaborate and discover resources to share with families in the path to adulthood. The committee is looking for school counselors, transition specialists, parents and advocates interested in establishing or advancing opportunities for people with disabilities after high school. Meets the 2nd Friday of the month from 9 - 10:30am.



Intellectual and
Developmental
Disabilities Council
of Tarrant County



The IDD Council is seeking applications from outstanding leaders to serve as Board members so that the Council may continue to grow and prosper in its work.

Info: <https://www.iddcouncil.org/board-member-info>.



Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Council of Tarrant County



CAREGIVER EDUCATION WEBINAR

March 25, Noon-1 pm – Summer Camps and Day Programs - Bring on the fun!

MONTHLY MEETINGS – 1ST THURSDAY EACH MONTH 9-10:30 a.m.

April 3 – Disability Issues at the Capitol: An Update on the 89th Texas Legislature - TCDD

TRANSITION COMMITTEE MEETINGS – 2ND FRIDAY EACH MONTH, 9-10:30 a.m.

April 10 – My Health My Resources – 1300 Circle Drive, Fort Worth

UPCOMING EVENTS

Egg My House!

Fundraiser supporting The Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Council of Tarrant County

Let us 'egg' your house with candy and toy filled eggs or surprise your neighbors and friends and spread Easter joy! Plastic filled eggs will be placed in the yard or in a basket the evening of your choice the **Thursday, Friday or Saturday before Easter.**

ORDERS DUE BY MONDAY, APRIL 14

Delivery is limited to Tarrant, Johnson, Denton and Parker Counties.
Contact Rita@IDDCouncil.org for special considerations.



The Intellectual
and Developmental
Disabilities Council
of Tarrant County

PLACE ORDERS AT:

www.iddcouncil.org/eggs

Sponsored by: **25**



PRICES:

25 Eggs for \$35

50 Eggs for \$55

100 Eggs for \$80 *

Each Additional Dozen: \$5

**Eggs can be hidden for
an additional fee**

There are more than 200,000 people in Tarrant County who have an intellectual or developmental disability (IDD). IDD includes many severe, chronic conditions that cause mental and/or physical impairments. Because of the many factors that lead to the development of IDD, any family is only an accident, a birth or a trauma away from an IDD diagnosis. Visit www.IDDCouncil.org to learn more.



Intellectual and
Developmental
Disabilities Council
of Tarrant County

SHOP AND SUPPORT THE IDD COUNCIL



Kroger Shopper Card Community Rewards: <https://bit.ly/2Sw9WX1>

Rosa's Cards \$20 value / \$20 each: Email request with Qty: Rita@IDDCouncil.org

More info and ways to support our mission: <https://www.iddcouncil.org/partners>

PAYMENTS MADE EASY WITH ZELLE, PAYPAL, OR ON OUR WEBSITE!



zelle®



<https://paypal.me/IDDCouncil>



<https://myqrcode.mobi/d2648a48>
(www.IDDCouncil.org/gift)



Intellectual and
Developmental
Disabilities Council
of Tarrant County

Thank you for joining us today!

**Before you leave, take time to
visit, network, share contact and
program information.**

Rita Stevenson
Executive Director
Rita@IDDCouncil.org
www.IDDCouncil.org