

THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Inclusion of people with disability in planning for emergencies



Easy Read

www.sydney.edu.au

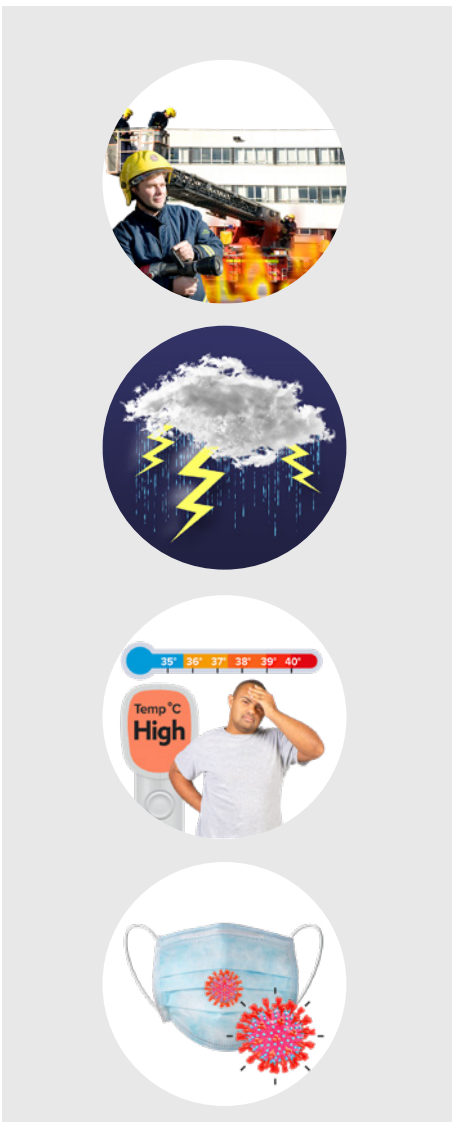


This is an Easy Read summary of a big report.

Summary means that we only tell you the most important things from the big report.



The report is about people with disability and planning for emergencies.

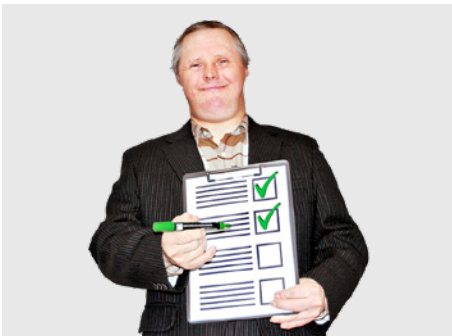


Emergencies are dangerous things that can happen like

- Bushfires or house fires
- Flood and bad storms
- Heatwaves
- Pandemics like Covid-19.
A **pandemic** is when a new disease spreads over the whole world.



When there is an emergency it is important to know what to do.



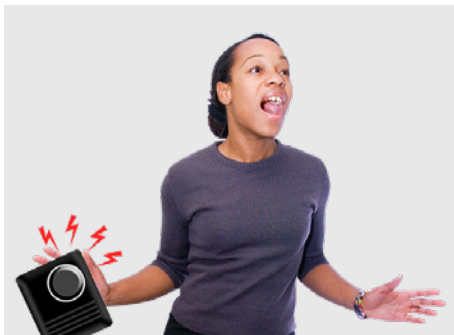
Everyone should have a plan that says

- What to do in an emergency
- Where to go to be safe
- Who to ask for help.



People with disability are often not part of making plans for emergencies.

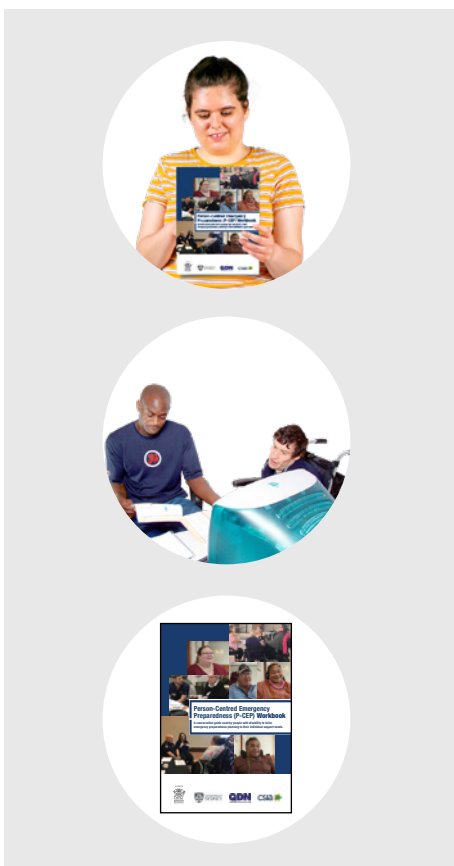
6 big issues



There are lots of things that make emergencies harder for people with disability.



We found out that there are 6 big issues for people with disability.



This information will talk about

- The big issues for people with disability and getting ready for emergencies
- How people with disability can be more part of making plans for emergencies
- A tool that we made called P-CEP.

Issue 1.

Emergencies are more dangerous for people with disability



Studies show that emergencies are more dangerous for people with disability.



In emergencies people with a disability die or get hurt more often.



They lose their home or their things more often.



Sometimes in emergencies people with disability cannot get to a safe place quickly.



Why emergencies are more dangerous for people with disability

People with disability are often not part of the community like everyone else.

This makes it harder for them to get support when they need it.



They might not be able to get to services or call for help.



People with disability often do not want to ask for help.

They are afraid people will say no.

They do not want to make it hard for others.



Some people do not want to tell others about their disability.

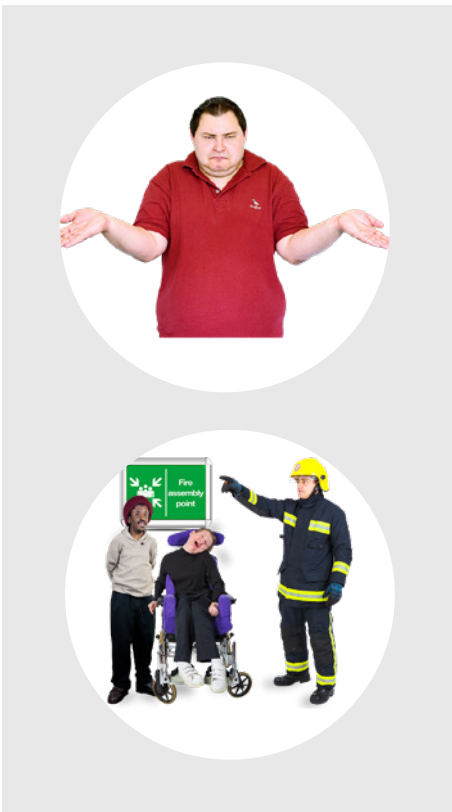
People need to know about your disability in an emergency to keep you safe.

Issue 2.

People with disability are not part of making plans for emergencies

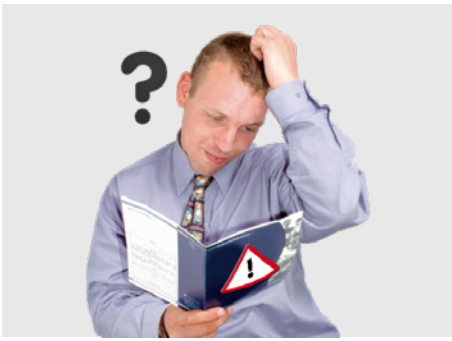


People with disability are often not part of making plans about what to do if there is an emergency.



This means in an emergency

- People with disability do not know what to do
- Emergency services do not know what people with disability need.



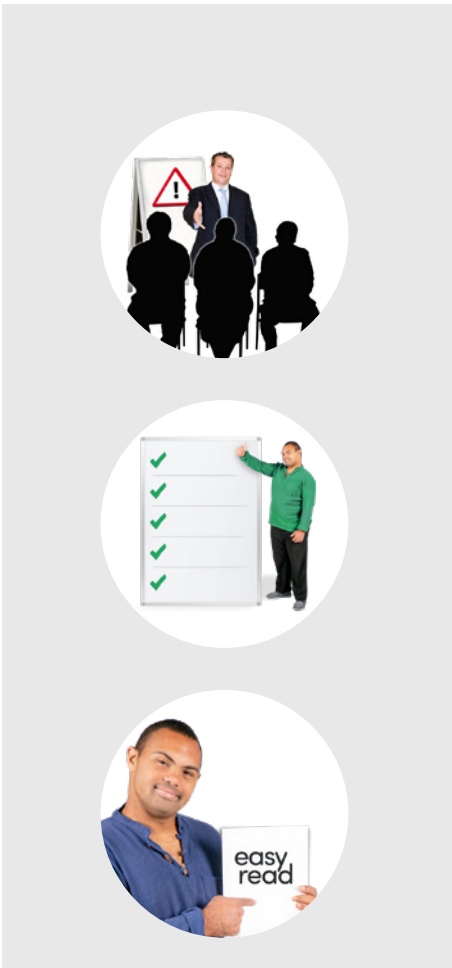
People with disability need information to know what to do in an emergency.

Information is often not in a way people can understand.

What needs to change

We must

- Make information and plans together with people with disability.
This is called **co-design**.
- Make sure emergency plans include all support needs of people with disability
- Make sure information is in a way people can understand like Easy Read.



Issue 3.

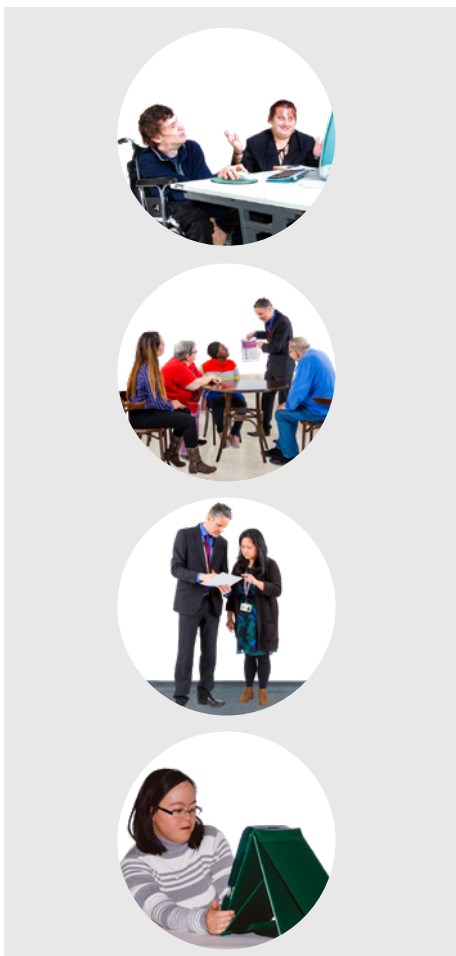
People with disability need more support and information



It is important to have an emergency plan.



It can be hard for people with disability to make an emergency plan.



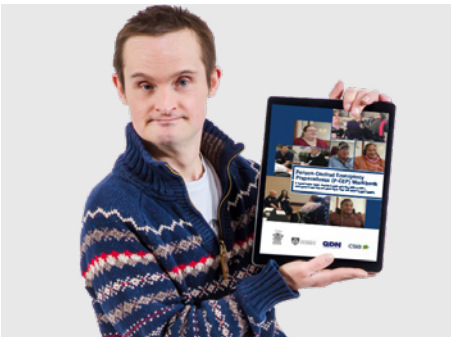
This is because

- The plan might change if support needs change
- Other people must be part of the plan like support workers
- Different support services might have to work together
- There is not a lot of accessible information.



People with disability can make their own emergency plan if they have

- More information that they can understand
- Support from other people
- The right tools like P-CEP.



About P-CEP

P-CEP is short for person-centred emergency preparedness.



P-CEP is a tool that helps people with disability and services get ready for an emergency.



P-CEP was co-designed with people with disability and their support services.

P-CEP helps



- Emergency services work together with people with disability and their support services
- People with disability make their own emergency plans
- People with disability, families and carers think about emergencies
- Emergency services give people with disability information they can understand and use.



For more information about P-CEP go to www.collaborating4inclusion.org/pcep

Issue 4.

Support Services are not well prepared for emergencies



People with disability must work together with their support services to be safe in an emergency.



This can be difficult when they get support from different service providers.



All service providers must work together.

What services providers can do



- Look at who lives in areas that might have more emergencies



- Make lists of the support needs of people with disability



- Help people make their emergency plans



- Put together emergency kits with information and things people will need



- Practice with people what they need to do in an emergency.



Service providers must prepare themselves for an emergency.

They must

- Have their own emergency plans
- Look into their own risks.



Risks are the bad things that could happen.



Service providers should get training.

The training should be

- Put together by people that know a lot about emergencies, health and inclusion
- Co-designed by people with disability and their support people.



Issue 5.

People with disability might need extra support



Sometimes people with disability need different supports every day.



If there is an emergency they might

- Not get the support they need
- Only get some support.



We need studies to find out what extra supports people with disability need.

We need to find out things like



- What supports people with disability need in an emergency and after



- Do the warnings about emergencies work for people with disability.

Can people hear and understand them?



- Is it easy to get out of the home or work place



- Does everyone have a safe place to go to



- Are there things people with disability need that might be hard to get in the safe place.

Issue 6.

Everyone must do their part to be safe



People with disability and community organisations can do their part to be safe in emergencies.



To do their part people with disability must

- Think about the things that could happen
- Have an emergency plan
- Do what the government and emergency services tell them to do.



People with disability can make their own emergency plan that is right for their support needs.

They can use P-CEP to make their emergency plans.



Disability organisations can help emergency services understand what people with disability need.



Communities must have their own emergency plan.



The emergency plans tell emergency services what they need to know about that community.



P-CEP is a good tool to bring together

- Emergency services
- Disability services
- The community
- People with disability



If everyone works together people with disability will be much safer when there is an emergency.

What needs to change?



Lots of things must change so that people with disability are part of planning for emergencies.



People with disability need information to make their own emergency plans.

This must be information that is easy to find and understand.



We need studies to find out what people with disability need in an emergency and after.



People with disability must be included in all parts of planning for emergencies.

More information



Contact us if you have any questions about this information.



You can contact Michelle Villeneuve.

You can call her on **02 9036 7438**

You can email her on
michelle.villeneuve@sydney.edu.au

You can also ask Michelle for the big report if you want to read it.



For more information you can also look at Disability Advocacy Resource Unit.

Their website is
www.daru.org.au/resources

CID made this document Easy Read.

You need to ask CID if you want to use any of the pictures.

Contact CID at **business@cid.org.au**