



# DC HSEMA Disability, Access, and Functional Needs (DAFN) Program

**DDS Community & Provider Forum Meeting**

Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The District's population is projected to continue growing, while becoming older and more racially diverse over the next 15 years

More than 8% (1 in 12) of District residents reported themselves as having a disability of some form

# Stay Informed

AlertDC allows you to pick the type of emergency alerts and updates you receive.



AlertDC is your personal connection to real-time updates and instructions to protect yourself, your loved ones, and your neighborhood.



[alert.dc.gov](https://alert.dc.gov)



[hsema.dc.gov](https://hsema.dc.gov)

<https://hsema.dc.gov/page/alertdc>



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# Make a Plan



It's crucial to plan for your daily needs and know what you would do if they become limited or unavailable

## Plan ahead for accessible transportation



## Carry printed cards with language preferences

### I Speak Spanish.

I need assistance and have the right to receive assistance in my spoken language. Please provide me with an interpreter and note my spoken language in your permanent records. Thank you.

District law requires that agencies provide you with information and assistance in your language for free. If you do not receive help in your language, please call the DC Office of Human Rights at (202) 727-4559 and press 0.



[www.ohr.dc.gov](http://www.ohr.dc.gov)



# Care for Your Community



During emergency events, it is always a good idea to check on your family, your neighbors, and anyone else who may need a hand

Create a **support network** of family, friends, and others who can assist you during an emergency

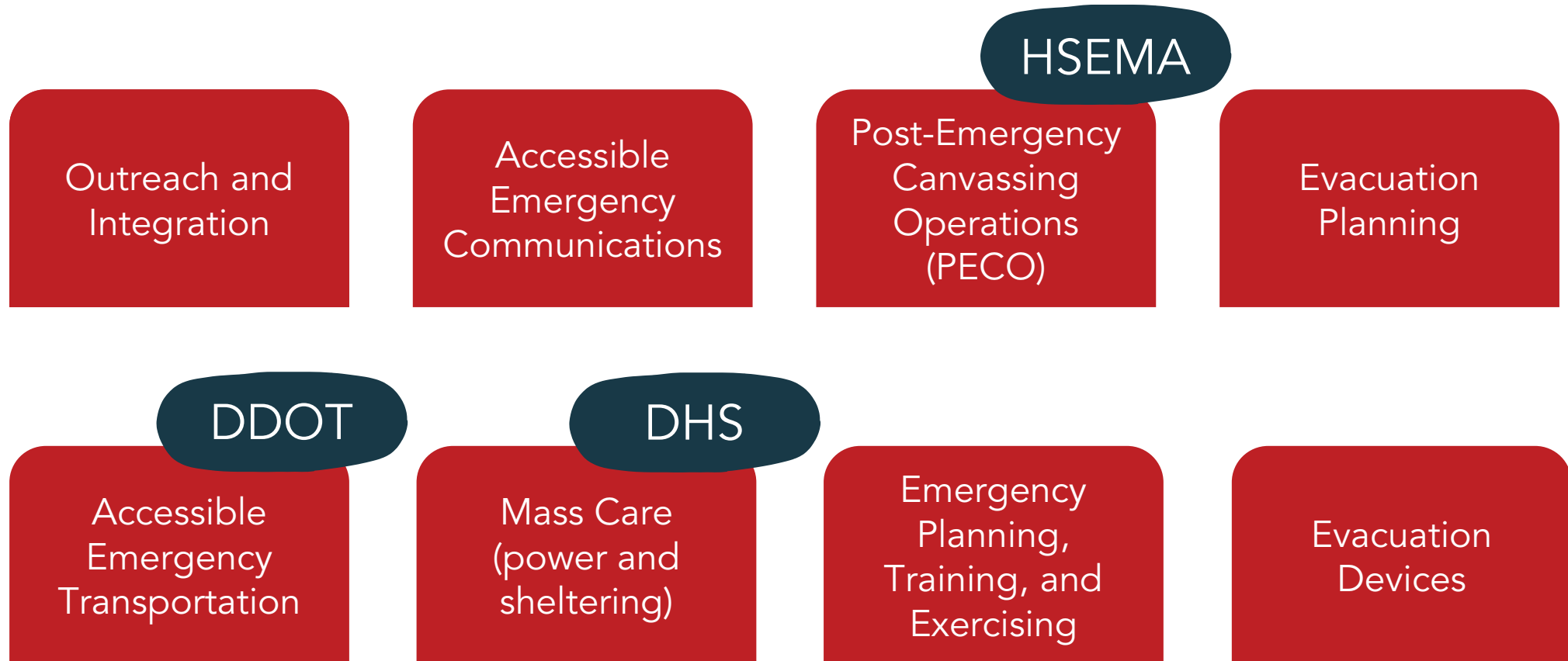


Keep a contact list in a watertight container in your emergency kit or on your electronic devices

Share your disaster plans with them and practice



**Goal:** Ensure the needs of people with disabilities and other access and functional needs are met before, during, and after disasters

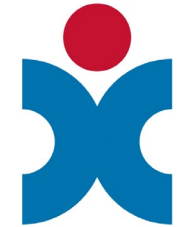




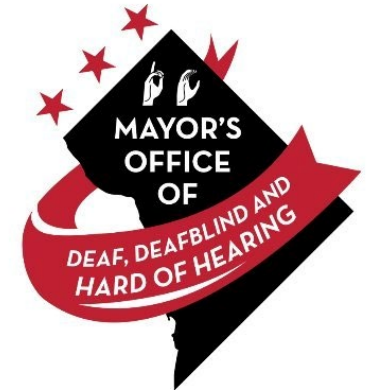
# HSEMA DAFN Program Collaboration



American Red Cross



DC | DEPARTMENT of HUMAN SERVICES



DC | HEALTH



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## Goals

- Provide disability-specific perspective and recommendations on emergency planning efforts
- Advise on the District's Disability, Access, and Functional Needs program



## Scope

- Review plans, training, and other materials
- Identify resources and subject matter support
- Serve as non-political advocate for DAFN program





# EASE (Equity & Accessibility Support in Emergencies) DC Email List



**DREAMCENTER**



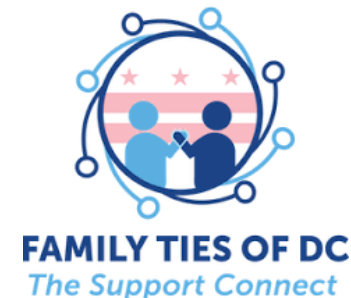
**CARECEN**



dcgreens



**DC APPLESEED**

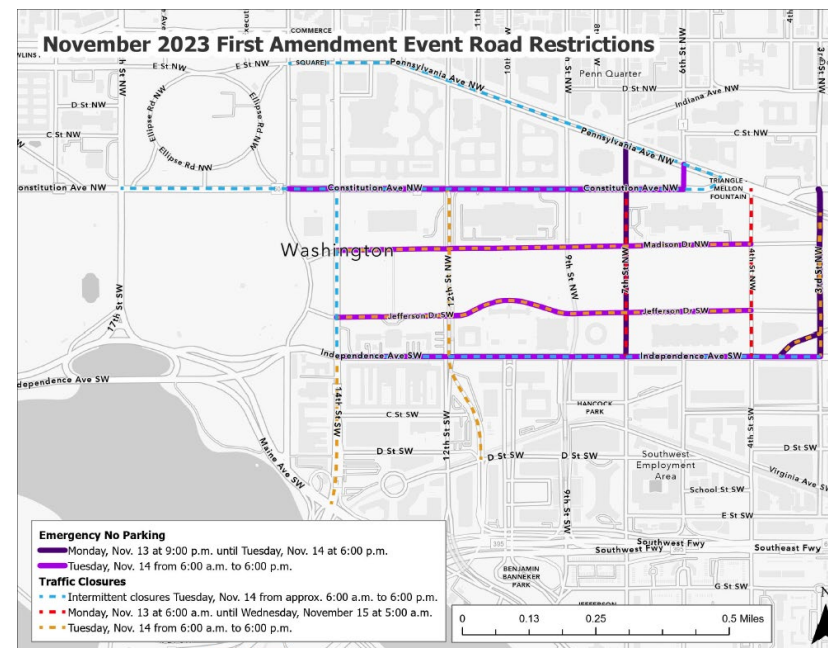


## Sample message

Good evening everyone,

MPD has released an updated list of road closures (beginning 6 AM tomorrow) and parking restrictions (beginning 9 PM today) for Tuesday's event on the National Mall. The full press release is available [here](#) and the map is posted below. The primary permitted event on the National Mall is scheduled for 1 PM – 3 PM, with a pre-program event on site at 11:30 and gates scheduled to open at 10 AM. Further updates will be sent out over social media and other platforms.

Please reach out to us if any associated road or sidewalk closures or conditions affect accessible travel for you or your constituents, or if any other issues are experienced as a result of this event.



**Please click on this link to subscribe to the Equity & Accessibility Support in Emergencies (EASE) DC email list:**

**<https://forms.office.com/g/yacUtmN60B>**

## What's Next?



“There are two primary choices in life: to accept conditions as they exist or accept responsibility for changing them”

- Denis Waitley



# THANK YOU!

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Contact Rosemary McDonnell [rosemary.mcdonnell@dc.gov](mailto:rosemary.mcdonnell@dc.gov) with any questions about the HSEMA DAFN program