



## **“Whole Community Inclusive Emergency Planning” Online Course**

### **Lesson #4 Learning Guide**

Each lesson of this online course has an associated Learning Agenda. The learning agendas aim to inform three guiding questions when working to increase inclusion in your local emergency preparedness effort:

1. What do you already know?
2. What do you still need to know?
3. What projects and resources will you need to fill the gaps?

Although optional, the learning agendas will allow you to record your answers to questions and reflections used throughout the course, engage in additional exercises to help you dig deeper into the Prepared4ALL process, and transform the concepts introduced in the lessons into actionable next steps. The learning agendas will help you move forward in your efforts to get a seat at the table with your local emergency planners and use a strengths-based approach to allow for continued reflection and adaptation along your journey.

## Learning Objectives

- Identify the parts of the American emergency management system
- Describe the parts of the local emergency management system and how they work
- Explain how disability issues fit within the emergency management system

## Reflection Questions within Lesson #4

1. Think about making a point in different ways depending on who you're interacting with. Think about a challenge you faced and how you made your point. Why did you choose that strategy? Was your strategy successful? Why or why not?

*Feedback:* Did you think about making an important point at work or friends and family? When the issue was very important to you? When the issue was less important? Action Teams should vary their strategy based on the particular challenge, the customs of the community, and their own comfort level.

2. Think about your community's emergency planning. How might disability could get lost or forgotten during the planning process? Reflect in the space below.

*Feedback:* Disability can get lost because there is confusion about legal responsibilities. In whole community emergency planning, local planners involve and partner with people with disabilities, disability organizations, and service providers. The idea is that if people with disabilities are represented, their needs won't be ignored. If people with disabilities are at the local emergency planning table, then they and their allies will speak up so that disability needs are addressed. With whole community planning, local public health and emergency management planners include the whole community so that no one is left behind.

3. The local American emergency management system is challenged by silos (separations) between emergency and public health preparedness planners. Think about a time when you worked bring separate groups together. What strategies were successful? How would you apply those strategies to your Prepared4ALL work?

### Beyond the Lesson: Application & Action Steps

1. Who in your community does emergency preparedness work and what relationship does your organization have with them, if any? If you are having trouble finding your local emergency managers or public health planners, feel free to access our resource, "[Finding Your Local Emergency Management and Public Health Agencies and Your Local Emergency Plan\(s\)](#)" to get started in the right direction. Please also see our resource "[Telephone Guide Talking Points](#)" for a phone script to make outreach.
2. How do you and your team tailor conversations regarding disability for different audiences? What types of messaging work best for different groups? Consider making a list or chart of communication strategies for different groups such as emergency managers, public health planners, community members, or students.
3. Reflect on a time when your team was met with resistance when trying to collaborate with a potential partner, but successfully overcame the challenge in the end. What was the situation? How did your team navigate this situation? Which team members' strengths were used to successfully move forward and how were they leveraged?