

## **The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan Development Policy**

Larimer County ensured that in every aspect, facet, and feature of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan it considered any potential barriers that might exclude or limit the opportunity for people with disabilities to participate in and benefit from the plan. This policy extends to any and all public or private entities and organizations in conjunction with the county managed response to and recovery from emergent situations.

Larimer County recognizes that emergency management is wide-ranging. It includes all programs, services, and activities related to emergencies and disasters, including, but not limited to the following:

- Preparation – advanced planning for emergencies and disasters
- Testing of Preparedness – staging emergency simulations and other approaches to testing the effectiveness of emergency preparedness
- Notification – alerting the public to emergencies and disasters and to available programs, services, and activities
- Ensuring the functional operation of emergency notification systems, including texting capacity, and captioned warning announcements on television and websites
- Provision for auxiliary aids and services necessary for effective communication at all planned emergency shelters
- Community Evacuation and Transportation
- Emergency Shelter Programs
- Temporary Lodging and Housing
- Social Services and Emergency or Disaster-Related Benefit Programs
- Emergency Medical Care and Services
- Emergency food, water, and medical supplies
- Relocation Programs, Activities, and Services
- Transition and Transportation Back to the Community Following an Emergency or Disaster
- Emergency and Disaster Recovery Programs, Services, and Activities
- Remediation of Damage Caused by Emergencies and Disasters – repairing and rebuilding damaged facilities, removing debris, and relocation and re-introduction of state and local government programs, services, and activities following an emergency or disaster

Larimer County Office of Emergency Management has developed a resource database to provide the necessary capacity to transport, shelter, and provide any other necessary services for this population. Larimer County Office of Emergency Management, in partnership with United Way 2-1-1, has also created a voluntary Whole Community Emergency Network for citizens requiring additional assistance because of age or disability, during an emergency.

Utilizing a Whole Community approach, additional considerations for people with disabilities are made throughout this Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.